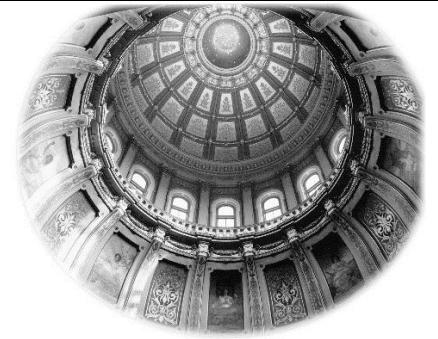


# CAPITOL NEWS UPDATE

WEEK OF October 3, 2016

*Integrity, Individual Attention. Precision Strategy. Proven Results*



## **SUPREME COURT SAYS 'NO COMMENT' ON PRIVATE SCHOOL FUNDING**

The Michigan Supreme Court has denied Gov. Rick Snyder's request for an opinion about the constitutionality of a private school funding provision in the School Aid Budget, writing that it was "not persuaded that granting the request would be an appropriate exercise of the Court's discretion."

Snyder requested the opinion after signing this year's School Aid Budget which included about \$2.5 million for reimbursement of state-mandated expenses—such as fire drills and criminal background checks—at private schools.

Snyder likely requested the opinion in hopes that the controversial statute could be vetted by the court and approved.

"I think the court said we are going to have to deal with a very specific, fact-based case," said Richard McLellan, former legal advisor to Gov. John Engler.

Supporters of the funding, including the Michigan Catholic Conference and the Great Lakes Education Project, were disappointed that the courts did not issue an opinion, and believe that the funding doesn't violate the constitution.

## **MI DEMS PUSH TO ADD FLINT FUNDING TO FEDERAL WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT**

After Democrats in the U.S. House warned that they would not support a continuing resolution to keep the federal government running, the House voted to allow the inclusion of \$170 million of funding for the Flint water crisis recovery into the Water Resources Development Act.

U.S. Representatives Dan Kildee (D-Flint), John Moolenaar (R-Midland), and Mike Bishop (R-Rochester), as well as Flint Mayor Karen Weaver and Gov. Rick Snyder all made statements praising the agreement.

The U.S. Senate version of the Water Resources Development Act was passed earlier in September and included \$220 million for Flint and other cities dealing with significant lead contamination. The House, however, originally left out help for Flint in its version. Kildee and Moolenaar made the amendment to add the Flint funding to HR 5303, which passed 284-141.

## **NEW LAW TO STRENGTHEN LAW ENFORCEMENT – COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Gov. Rick Snyder recently signed into law legislation to bolster police training and proactively work to avoid incidents like the racial protests in Ferguson and other places around the country.

The training will focus on building community relationships, de-escalation techniques, implicit bias, and dealing with mental health issues.

The Michigan State Police director says the lessons learned from Ferguson show "how quickly things can get out of control."

The 17-bill package became Public Acts 289-305, and updates requirements for law enforcement in Michigan and responsibilities related to the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES).

The Governor also signed an executive directive as part of the package that asks MCOLES to produce a public report addressing the topic of fostering public trust in law enforcement. The study and report must be produced in 120 days.

"Given recent national events that have strained relationships, it is more important than ever to focus on the people's trust of public safety officers in our state and their cooperation with law enforcement. We must take steps to build and promote faith in law enforcement in Michigan," Snyder said.

The bill signing ceremony at the Michigan State Police Headquarters was attended by a bipartisan group of lawmakers.

## **MM&A BRIEFS**

### **Clinton to visit Detroit Monday to push voter registration**

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton will be campaigning in Michigan on Monday, Oct. 10 for the second time since her nomination in July.

Clinton will speak at 2:45 p.m. at the Wayne State University Matthaei Center in Detroit, where she is expected to push for voters to register ahead of Michigan's Oct. 11 deadline and promote her economic policies.

### **Nine new GOP field offices open in Michigan**

The Michigan Republican Party Chair Ronna Romney McDaniel recently announced that Michigan will be home to nine new field offices, in coordination with the Republican National Committee and Donald J. Trump for President. The additional offices will be opening in Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Cheboygan, Clinton Township, Escanaba, Midland, Monroe, Mount Pleasant, and Saginaw.

### **AT&T employees work with legislators to deliver backpacks to students in need**

A volunteer group of AT&T employees and retirees, the AT&T Pioneers, are working with Michigan legislators and educators this Fall to distribute more than 2,600 backpacks filled with essential school supplies to students in need.

Michigan Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) has worked with the group to deliver the backpacks to schools in his area. "Not every family can provide everything they need for kids, and schools are strapped as it is," Ananich said. "So anytime we can find a community group or organization such as AT&T, it's always beneficial in continuing to build our local communities through these efforts."

## **Calendar of Important Events**

- Oct. 9      The 56th Annual Phil Hart Dinner (Sponsored by Oakland County Democratic Party)  
Location: 4 p.m., Farinas Banquet Center, Berkley
  
- Oct. 9      101<sup>st</sup> House District Candidate Dan Scripps Evening Reception  
Location: 6 p.m., L. Mawby Winery, Suttons Bay Township
  
- Oct. 9      23<sup>rd</sup> House District Candidate Darrin Camilleri Evening Reception  
Guest Speakers: Congressman Dan Kildee  
Location: 6:30 p.m., Home of Laurent and Erica Chappius, Grosse Ile
  
- Oct. 10     Rep. Brian Banks (D-Harper Woods) Evening Reception  
Location: 5 p.m., Bootleggers, Grosse Pointe Park
  
- Oct. 12     Rep. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) Breakfast Reception  
Location: 8 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing

- Oct. 12 Rep. Phil Phelps (D-Flushing) Evening Event  
Location: 5 p.m., Jacks Place Flushing Lanes, Flushing
- Oct. 12 Rep. Scott Dianda (D-Calumet) Fundraiser  
Location: 5 p.m., Kellys Downtown, Lansing
- Oct. 12 106<sup>th</sup> House District Candidate Robert Kennedy Evening Reception  
Location: 6 p.m., John A. Lau Saloon, Alpena
- Oct. 13 101<sup>st</sup> House District Candidate Dan Scripps Brunch Reception  
Location: 10 a.m., Home of Rick and Schrock, Manistee
- Oct. 13 57<sup>th</sup> House District Candidate Harvey Schmidt Cocktail Reception  
Location: 6 p.m., Mezzevino Mediterranean Kitchen and Bar, Ann Arbor
- Oct. 13 39<sup>th</sup> House District Candidate Michael Stack Evening Reception  
Guest Speakers: Congressman Sander Levin and Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence  
Location: 6 p.m., Home of Renee and Ed Chelian, Wolverine Lake
- Oct. 15 Rep. Pam Faris (D-Clio) Fall Breakfast  
Location: 8:30 a.m., Clio Country Club, Clio
- Oct. 16 52<sup>nd</sup> House District Candidate Donna Lasinski Lunch Reception  
Location: 1 p.m., Home of Kathy Griswold and Joe MacHaks, Ann Arbor
- Oct. 17 Senator Mike Kowall (R-White Lake) Evening Reception  
Location: 5:30 p.m., Fireside Lounge at The Hyatt Place, Novi
- Oct. 18 Rep. Robert Wittenberg (D-Oak Park) Brunch Reception  
Location: 10:30 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing
- Oct. 18 Fundraiser for Senator Curtis Hertel, Jr. (D-East Lansing)  
(Sponsored by Curtis Hertel, Jr. Take Back the Senate Fund)  
Location: 5 p.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, Lansing
- Oct. 19 Dome Magazine – Capitol Morning Brew  
Guest Speakers: House Campaign Chairs Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton) and Rep. Adam Zemke (D-Ann Arbor); Trump Campaign State Director Scott Hagerstrom; Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon; Pundit Predictions by Bill Bollinger and Susan Demas, Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge)  
Location: 7:30 a.m., Radisson Hotel, Lansing
- Oct. 19 Fundraiser for 18<sup>th</sup> House District Candidate Kevin Hertel for State Representative  
Location: 8 a.m. Michigan Municipal League, Lansing
- Oct. 19 Rep. Leslie Love (D-Detroit) Lunch Reception  
Location: 11 a.m., MOctichigan Health and Hospital Association
- Oct. 19 Rep. Robert Kosowski (D-Westland) Evening Reception  
Location: 11:30 a.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, Lansing
- Oct. 20 Rep. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) Breakfast Reception  
Location: 8 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing
- Oct. 20 Rep. Jeremy Moss (D-Southfield) Lunch Reception  
Location: 11:30 a.m., McAlvey Loft, Lansing

- Oct. 20 20<sup>th</sup> House District Candidate Colleen Pobur Evening Reception  
Location: 5 p.m., La Casa, Detroit
- Oct. 21 101<sup>st</sup> House District Candidate Dan Scripps Brunch Reception  
Location: 10:30 a.m., Home of Betty Scott, Arcadia
- Oct. 23 61<sup>st</sup> House District Candidate John Fisher Afternoon Reception  
Location: 3:30 p.m., Latitude Brewing Company, Portage