

# Driving Michigan's Comeback

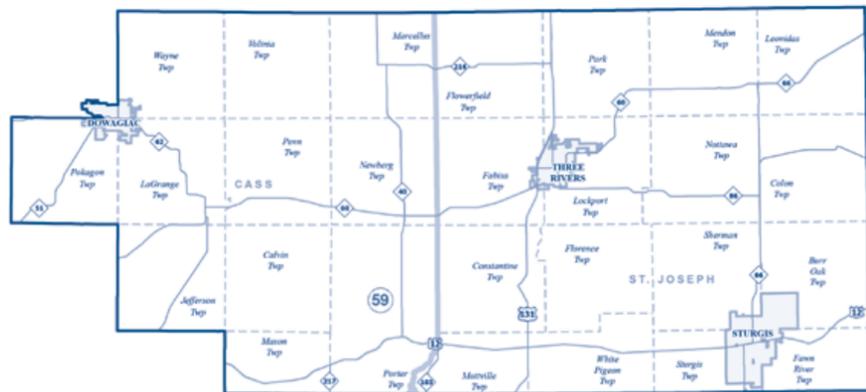
The state continues to receive good news about its economic comeback. The reinvention of Michigan's business climate through Republican policy reforms has received national attention, and more importantly, given all Michigan residents hope for a better future.

Recent good news includes:

- Michigan has created 420,000 private sector jobs in the last four years. The state is No. 1 in manufacturing jobs and No. 5 in total private sector job creation.
- Michigan's unemployment rate fell below the national average for the first time in 15 years in September.
- Michigan's economy was designated as the Fastest Growing in the Midwest in August.<sup>1</sup>
- For the past three consecutive years, Michigan has ranked among the top seven states for major new corporate facilities and expansions.<sup>2</sup>
- Nearly 2,000 state rules and regulations have been eliminated since 2011 to encourage job growth.



<sup>1</sup> according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago    <sup>2</sup> according to Site Selection



State Representative  
**AARON MILLER**  
 (877) 262-5959 • AaronMiller@house.mi.gov  
 www.RepAaronMiller.com

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State Representative  
**AARON MILLER**  
 P.O. Box 30014  
 Lansing, MI 48909-7514



## Want to Stay Up-to-Date?

Yes! Please send me Rep. Miller's e-mail updates

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please cut out form and mail in an envelope to:

State Rep. Aaron Miller | P.O. Box 30014 | Lansing, MI 48909-7514

## Booklets Available Upon Request

- Getting to Know Michigan  
 Michigan Map  
 Peace of Mind  
(Statutory will/patient advocate law/organ donation info)
- Portraits of Michigan  
(History and facts on Michigan)  
 Services for Seniors  
 Veterans Benefits

# WORKING FOR YOU IN 2015 A MID-TERM UPDATE

Dear Friend,

As your state representative, I consider it a great honor to go to work for the approximately 90,000 people in our district every day. As a new father this year, it is my greatest priority to help enact or repeal legislation that will help Michigan be a positive place for working, living, and raising a family.

My staff and I always keep constituents as our number one priority. I always look forward to hearing about citizens' concerns and I am a regular at township, village, city, and other community meetings. You can find out when your township, village, or city meets by going to either the St. Joseph County or Cass County websites. There you will find information on when local governments meet. I encourage you to get involved.

So far, upon request over the last year, I have met with several individuals over a concern or problem with state government. If anyone has questions and needs answers from me, my staff refers their phone number to me and I make a direct phone call to see if I can help, often on my way home from Lansing. Most importantly, I commute home nightly after session because my home is in the district and my priority is home. For any concerns, questions, or comments, contact our office and you'll receive a timely, thoughtful reply.

Sincerely,



**AARON MILLER**  
 State Representative, 59th District

Sit down, share your thoughts, and have a cup of joe.  
 All are welcome to attend.



**DISTRICT COFFEE HOURS**  
 WITH YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**AARON MILLER**

Dates, times and locations vary. Please visit my website for upcoming events.

(877) 262-5959 • AaronMiller@house.mi.gov  
 www.RepAaronMiller.com

# Historic Agreement to Fix Michigan Roads Signed into Law

In November, the Michigan Legislature approved a road funding package. While it wasn't perfect and didn't include everything I would have liked, all new revenue will be going to roads, something that Proposal 1 did not accomplish.

The Michigan House fought for fewer tax increases in the plan and ended up crafting a plan that rededicated a portion of the General Fund (current dollars) to roads while keeping tax increases to a minimum compared to what other plans have been.

Building off the \$400 million GF road funding in this year's budget, starting in 2019 GF funds will be dedicated to roads, eventually reaching \$600 million annually in road funding dedicated from the General Fund. A 7.3-cent gas tax increase and an 11.3-cent diesel tax increase will go into effect on January 1, 2017, matching regular gasoline and diesel fuel at the same per-gallon tax. The per-gallon taxes will rise and fall tied to inflation starting in 2022.

Also in 2017, vehicle registrations will increase by about 20%, something I fought to keep as minimal as possible. This means that a vehicle with an \$80 registration will now be paying about \$96 starting in 2017. This percentage will not change with inflation.

To check out the rest of the package and all the details that were included, please visit [www.house.mi.gov/HFA](http://www.house.mi.gov/HFA) to see analysis by the House Fiscal Agency. Governor Snyder ultimately signed the bills into law on November 10.

## THE PLAN:

- ✓ Allocates \$600 million in existing funds to fix roads and bridges
- ✓ Generates \$600 million in new revenue for roads and bridges
- ✓ Provides \$200 million in tax relief by expanding the Homestead Property Tax Credit for middle-class families, low-income residents and seniors
- ✓ Funds our roads with responsible, targeted dollars

# Listening to You Strengthening Michigan

State Representative Aaron  
**MILLER**

## Medical Marijuana Clarification Package



On October 7, the Michigan House approved a set of bills that would clarify the Medical Marijuana Act of 2008, which was passed by Michigan voters into law. One major problem since 2008 has been the fact that the original act left so many questions, making things confusing for growers, police, and those who want to use medical marijuana within the confines of the law.

This new package clarifies what is permissible and what is not permissible and would make very clear the penalties for not following the law. That way everyone knows what is expected. Growers no longer have to guess as to when they are following the letter of the law and police will know what to enforce specifically.

Lastly, in addition to law enforcement, this set of bills would allow for the creation of a new panel within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs that would administer rules and oversee the medical marijuana program.

This package of bills will make the Medical Marijuana Act clearer and more sensible and easier to follow for Michigan residents. I was in favor of the bills for that very reason. These bills are currently in the Senate and await approval.

## MAKING THINGS CLEAR AND TRANSPARENT

## WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

*If you have a concern with state government that I can assist you with or if you have an issue you would like to share with me, please contact my office.*

## Useful Organization Phone Numbers

Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline.....	855-444-3911
Community Access Line.....	211
Domestic Violence Hotline .....	800-799-SAFE
Medicare Assistance.....	800-MEDICARE
Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange .....	800-589-6273
Michigan Attorney General's Consumer Protection .....	877-765-8388
Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development.....	800-292-3939
Michigan Dept. of Community Health .....	517-373-3740
Michigan Dept. of Education.....	517-373-3324
Michigan Dept. of Human Services.....	855-ASK-MICH
Michigan Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs.....	517-481-8000
Michigan Dept. of Treasury .....	517-373-3200
Michigan State Parks Reservation Line .....	800-447-2757
Michigan State Police Hotline.....	800-525-5555
Michigan Student Financial Aid	
MI-LOAN.....	888-643-7521
Michigan Education Trust.....	800-MET-4-KID
Michigan Education Savings Program .....	877-861-MESP
Scholarships and Grants .....	888-447-2687
Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.....	800-MICH-VET
Michigan Veterans Trust Fund .....	517-284-5299
Poison Control Center/Medication Overdose.....	800-222-1222
Pollution Emergency Alert System .....	800-292-4706
Social Security Administration.....	800-772-1213
Telemarketing "Do Not Call" Enrollment.....	888-382-1222
U.S. Internal Revenue Service.....	800-829-1040
Veterans Benefits Administration .....	800-827-1000

Governor Rick Snyder.....	517-373-3400
Lt. Governor Brian Calley.....	517-373-6800
Secretary of State Ruth Johnson.....	888-767-6424
Attorney General Bill Schuette.....	517-373-1110
Congressman Fred Upton.....	269-385-0039
State Senator John Proos.....	517-373-6960
Michigan Legislature.....	legislature.mi.gov
House Fiscal Agency .....	www.house.mi.gov/HFA
St. Joseph County website.....	www.stjosephcountymi.org
Cass County website.....	www.casscountymi.org

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