

Focused on Michigan's Future

Legislative Update | Summer 2016

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As always, I am committed to working hard for our district while moving Michigan forward. This legislative term has been dedicated to fostering job growth, preparing students for the future and making government more accountable. We are making significant progress and I'm confident that with our continued efforts we can stay on this positive path.

My colleagues and I worked to pass a fiscally responsible budget — months ahead of the October deadline — to ensure schools and local governments have ample time to plan their own budgets for the upcoming fiscal year. To keep Michigan moving in the right direction, we prioritized funding to critical areas such as education, infrastructure and public safety.

With this newsletter, I would like to take the opportunity to share some of our recent achievements and invite you to get involved in the process. Your opinions matter and I welcome your input. Please don't hesitate to contact my office at any time. I am ready to listen and assist in any way I can.



Sincerely,

AARON MILLER

State Representative, 59th District



State Representative
AARON MILLER

P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514



PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LANSING, MI
PERMIT NO. 1200

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:



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

AARON MILLER

(877) 262-5959

AaronMiller@house.mi.gov

www.RepAaronMiller.com



Focused on Michigan's Future

Legislative Update | Summer 2016

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

AARON MILLER

HOUSE DISTRICT 59

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

www.RepAaronMiller.com

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

www.RepAaronMiller.com

Reducing Government Regulations

Job creation has been my number one priority since taking office. From our state's booming agricultural industry to small-business owners across Michigan, I am looking for ways to repeal and deregulate unnecessary laws to spur job growth in our local communities. Removing these outdated regulations helps job providers become more efficient.



4.8%

UNEMPLOYMENT

MARCH 2016

**More jobs. Lower unemployment.
A better future for Michigan.**

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

AARON MILLER

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

www.RepAaronMiller.com

Reforming Civil Asset Forfeiture

The governor recently signed a bipartisan House package of bills reforming Michigan's civil asset forfeiture laws. This common-sense reform creates new reporting requirements for all government agencies that seize private property, closes loopholes and raises the burden of proof for prosecutors when a case is tried. In the worst cases of civil asset forfeiture abuse, private property has been seized and kept by government officials even when the owner is never charged with a crime, much less prosecuted or convicted. The reforms bring transparency to the system by raising standards at the law enforcement and prosecutorial level, making sure everyone is on the same page to ensure the sanctity of individual rights and the lawful seizure of property by authorities.

Increasing Transparency in Lansing

You deserve to know what's happening in your state government. That's why I support a bipartisan 10-bill package to remove barriers to transparency and give the public better access to internal documents and records within both the governor's office and the state Legislature.

House Bills 5477-78 subject the governor to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), while House Bills 5469-76 create the Legislative Open Records Act (LORA). LORA mostly mirrors the existing FOIA laws people know, but it does not require citizens to pay significant court and attorney fees to appeal an unreasonable fee or denial of their request.

Investing in Michigan's Future

Our goal is to make Michigan the best place to live, work and raise a family. My colleagues and I have supported legislation to improve education and ensure a more prosperous future for generations to come.

Michigan currently ranks 40th in the nation in reading proficiency, which is why I supported legislation to create an improved early literacy system. This system monitors the progress of a student's reading proficiency from kindergarten through third grade with regular literacy screenings, intervention programs, additional classroom time dedicated to reading, and "read-at-home" plans.

I value the importance of a quality education, which leads to greater job opportunities and a brighter future for students. Last year, the Michigan House of Representatives expanded our state's career vocational programs and dual enrollment. This will improve the standard of living in our state and ensure talented, hard-working residents have the right skills to succeed.



Providing Tax Relief to Michigan's Workers

I supported legislation that provides tax relief for hard-working taxpayers. As part of the road repair funding passed last year, we included an income tax cut, which benefits every single worker in the state. We also strengthened the Homestead Property Tax Credit and expanded it to more people. This credit specifically benefits low-income residents, seniors on a fixed income and the middle class.