Dear Neighbor,

I’ve been extremely busy at the Capitol fighting for issues important to all of us. I’m committed to moving our communities forward in several different ways. Since January, we’ve worked to strengthen skilled trades training and education, increase funding for public safety, and most importantly create an environment where jobs can grow and flourish.

During my regular office hours, I’ve enjoyed hearing about the priorities and concerns of many families in our district. Since taking office I have held over 35 public meetings in Montcalm and Gratiot counties where anyone can come and ask questions or express concerns. In addition, I have regular phone conversations with members of our community on my commute to and from Lansing.

We’ve come a long way as a state over the last few years. However, there is still much more work to be done. Too many people in Mid-Michigan are still struggling to get by. That is why I’m dedicated to fighting for reforms that will bring jobs, better access to training, and more public safety resources to our part of the state. Inside you will find a summary of our efforts and accomplishments so far.

As always, if I can provide assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office at any time. My staff and I are here to serve you.

Sincerely,

JIM LOWER
Your State Representative

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SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

As chair of the Local Government committee, I sponsored legislation that would create a Sheriff Patrol Assistance Grant Program (HB 4423). Sheriff offices in Michigan have experienced recent reductions in services and staffing, making it hard for law enforcement to protect the public. In order to have a vibrant community and society, people need to feel safe. My bill would allow counties to apply for and receive grant funding to support hiring up to four additional sheriff deputies. More sheriff deputies will increase the services and safety of citizens across the state. They will also help us combat the opioid and drug abuse epidemic facing many communities across our region.

MAKING FUNDING AND ACCESS TO SKILLED TRADES TRAINING MORE AVAILABLE

Education should not be a one-size-fits-all approach. With continuous advances in technology and workforce needs, I’m working to ensure our students obtain the necessary skills to be successful in a career and in life. We improved access to skilled trades training through career and technical education so students are prepared for high-paying, in-demand jobs. In addition, we’re sending the most amount of funding ever to K-12 schools in the state of Michigan. Making sure Michigan residents are prepared for the jobs of today and tomorrow remains one of our top priorities.

CREATING MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR JOBS AND BIGGER PAYCHECKS

I have been hard at work fighting for families who are living paycheck to paycheck. Good paying jobs and job security are what we need in Michigan. Unemployment in Michigan is now the lowest it’s been in 17 years, but there is still more work to be done. Many families are still making less than they did before the lost decade. Some are still faced with uncertainty in terms of their employment. I will continue to support policies that encourage job growth and lead to more prosperity for hard-working people across our state. I also continue to support reducing the taxes working families pay so they can keep more of what they earn.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KEEP UP TO DATE?

Sign up to receive my e-mail newsletter by visiting www.RepLower.com