Dear Neighbor,

It has been a busy time at our State Capitol over the first half of the year. I am committed to moving our community and state forward. Since January, we’ve worked to strengthen education, fix our roads and bridges, make government more transparent and approve a responsible state budget.

During my regular office hours, I have heard a great deal about the priorities and concerns of many families in the Greater Rochester area. I have taken that feedback to Lansing as we have discussed many issues during this session.

There is no such thing as good enough when it comes to hard-working Michigan taxpayers, so I am working every day on solutions and reforms that would improve life in our communities. 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,

MICHAEL WEBBER
State Representative
MOST FUNDING IN STATE’S HISTORY NOW ALLOCATED TO FIX ROADS

To help keep Michigan drivers safe and encourage economic growth, we are now allocating the most funding ever to fix roads and bridges in Michigan.

In 2015, the Legislature approved an unprecedented plan to finally fix the problem. This year, we started seeing the results of this plan. For the 2016-17 fiscal year, more than $2.4 billion will be used to improve local, county and state roadways. For the 2017-18 fiscal year, more than $2.6 billion will be dedicated.

Unfortunately, no state general fund dollars were spent to improve our roads from 2002-2011. So as our economy fell into disrepair during that time, our infrastructure did as well. It’s going to take time to properly fix our roads and bridges, but we’re making the right decisions and making it a priority.

WEBBER SUPPORTS GIVING HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN SKILLED TRADES

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.

It’s important to recognize that not all high-school students will go on to college. We improved access to skilled trades training through career and technical education so students are prepared for high-paying, in-demand jobs. This gives young adults the opportunity to choose a vocational career if it suits their skill sets.

There are not enough trained workers available for these jobs. I will continue to support and expand opportunities for high-school students and post-high school graduates to obtain the training necessary to fill and keep these important positions.

HOUSE APPROVES FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE STATE BUDGET ON TIME

I listened to your concerns and fought for a 2017–18 state budget that reflects our priorities. We worked to prioritize spending to improve life for people across Michigan while making state government more efficient, effective and accountable.

We all can agree that it’s time for government because it’s your hard-earned tax dollars. For the seventh year in a row, the budget has been passed long before our Oct. 1 fiscal year begins, providing greater certainty to our schools and municipalities.

The House-approved budget is a fiscally responsible blueprint that properly invests in our state’s future.

Allocating increased Per Pupil funding for K-12 schools.

Improving public safety with additional Michigan State Police troopers.

Paying down debt and adding to the state’s emergency fund for tough times.

Making health care more effective, with an enhanced focus on improving mental health care.
WEBBER DEMANDS HONEST AND OPEN GOVERNMENT

I helped pass common sense legislation in March to increase transparency and accountability in state government. Our bills require the governor to be subject to the Freedom of Information Act. The legislation also creates a similar transparency requirement for all state legislators.

Michigan is one of only two states that still exempts its governor, lieutenant governor and the Legislature from sunshine laws. It’s time we remove these exemptions and help improve government accountability.

The plan:

• **Makes state government more accountable to you**;
• **Opens the records of the governor and Legislature**;
• **Protects your private information**.

WEBBER COMMITTED TO PROTECTING YOUNG PEOPLE FROM OPIOID ADDICTION

The opioid epidemic continues to plague our state and nation. Prescription drug abuse has become one of the fastest-growing public health concerns.

I supported legislation to help protect young people from becoming addicted to opioid medications. The plan requires the Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse Commission to develop recommendations for student curricula addressing the risks associated with prescription drug abuse.

It is our duty to educate young people about the risks and potential for dependence when using opioid medications. We can’t expect this epidemic to go away on its own; it’s up to us to protect the next generation from the life-threatening ramifications of addiction.

I am committed to pursuing other initiatives as well to help ensure that everyone in Michigan is safe.
STATE REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL WEBBER

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FOCUSED ON WHAT MATTERS

MICHIGAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

- Increased Opportunities
- Budget Responsibility
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Fixing Roads
- Honest Government
- Fair, Inclusive School Funding
- Lowest Unemployment Rate
- 3.8% Unemployment

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