Legislative Update, Fall 2017

Dear Neighbor,

I’ve been extremely busy at the Capitol fighting for issues important to you. I’m committed to moving our communities forward in several different ways. 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’ve heard a great deal about your priorities and the concerns of many families. It’s so important for me to travel across the district every week to meet face-to-face with people and local leaders. Listening to you helps me be the best representative possible.

I will continue to put your needs before politics and lobbyists. There is no such thing as good enough when it comes to hard-working Michigan taxpayers, so I am working every day on reforms to 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,

JASON SHEPPARD
State Representative

(855) SHEP-056 • JasonSheppard@house.mi.gov
www.RepJasonSheppard.com
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 dynamic 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.
SHEPPARD FOCUSES ON REDUCING COST OF CAR INSURANCE

Since taking office, I’ve made it my priority to create more efficient and affordable automobile insurance. Under the current no-fault system, Michigan drivers pay the highest prices in the United States. The people in our communities know this too well, with Ohio just a few miles away. Michigan residents deserve to have choices when it comes to auto insurance and the opportunity to lower costs for their families.

The legislation I’ve introduced, House Bill 4488, aims to decrease insurance rates while providing more options for coverage. We need to have auto insurance on the same level as health and home benefit plans, allowing you to choose how much and what type of coverage you have. I’m committed to improving the system so residents have more affordable insurance options. My bill is currently in the House Insurance Committee awaiting consideration.

SHEPPARD 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
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FOCUSED ON WHAT MATTERS

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A Guide to Medical and Legal Decisions

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

Please cut out form and mail in an envelope to:

State Rep. Jason Sheppard | P.O. Box 30014 | Lansing, MI 48909-7514

(855) SHEP-056 • JasonSheppard@house.mi.gov • www.RepJasonSheppard.com