Dear Neighbor,

As your state representative, it is an honor and privilege to serve you. I am dedicated to protecting senior citizens, and will continue to support efforts to improve life for all Michiganders.

This newsletter discusses important grandparent rights and legislation that will help keep senior citizens safe.

My staff and I are committed to serving with integrity and remaining accessible to you. Listening to your concerns and delivering results is an important part of my job. I will continue to work with my colleagues to protect senior citizens in Michigan.

If you have questions or concerns regarding legislation or state government, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL WEBBER
State Representative

(517) 373-1773 • MichaelWebber@house.mi.gov
www.RepMichaelWebber.com

WANT TO STAY UP-TO-DATE?
[ ] Yes! Please send me Rep. Webber’s e-mail updates

E-mail
Name
Address
City
Zip
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Senior Update Fall 2017

Giving You Peace of Mind for the Future

Senior Resources

Abuse and Neglect Reporting ................................................. (855) 444-3911
Do Not Call Registry ............................................................ (888) 382-1222
Legal Hotline for MI Seniors .................................................. (800) 347-5297
Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program ............................. (800) 803-7174
MI Consumer Protection Division ..................................... (877) 765-8388
Social Security Administration .......................................... (800) 772-1213

Medication and Health

Peace of Mind
A Guide to Medical and Legal Decisions

Legal Rights of Senior Adults

Booklets Available Upon Request

Change and Choices

Consumer Protection Guide

Services for Seniors

Veterans Benefits

Veterans in the Civil War

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Avoiding Identity Theft

More than $16 billion was stolen from U.S. consumers in 2016 related to identity theft. In the past six years, identity thieves have stolen over $107 billion.

Identity theft is a silent crime. Experienced criminals may use your identifying information for months or years while you remain unaware. Often, consumers do not learn they are victims until they have been denied credit because of negative entries on their credit reports.

To reduce the risk of identity theft, never give out a Social Security number, account number, or identifying information to someone who calls and demands personal information.

Review records, especially credit card, bank and mortgage statements. Michigan has many ID theft laws to protect victims and prosecute thieves. A victim has a right to file a police report and courts may impose a $25,000 fine and a consecutive sentence of up to five years for offenders.

Giving You Peace of Mind for the Future

Knowing Your Rights as a Grandparent

I want to make sure you realize that Michigan grandparents have visitation rights to see their grandchildren. I believe if a grandparent is responsible when seeing their grandchild, then they should be able to do so.

Visitation rights are awarded if the parents of the grandchild are divorced, separated or a marriage has been annulled. Grandparents may also receive visitation if a parent is deceased. In addition, grandparents may seek visitation if the child is not living with a parent.

If the grandparent shows the court that the child will suffer harm by not seeing him or her, the court must then decide how much visitation is appropriate. The court determines visitation time based on their prior relationship, moral fitness and any other factors relevant to the physical and psychological well-being of the child.

Michigan’s laws regarding grandparent visitation are lengthy and detailed and are there to protect the relationship between a grandchild and their loving grandparents.

House Bill 4493 is under consideration by the House Families, Children, and Seniors Committee.

Ensuring that local units of government are made aware of these facilities in a more timely manner is a common-sense reform. Local emergency responders need to be aware of the type of facility they are responding to, so they can prepare the appropriate response.

Webber Supports Legislation to Help Keep Senior Citizens Safe

I wholeheartedly support legislation requiring the state to immediately notify local communities when an adult foster care facility locates within their boundaries. This will help local first responders be better prepared to respond to any potential health emergencies at those facilities. Notifications by the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs could be sent through electronic or first-class mail before or after a license is issued.

Many families choose to care for aging parents in their homes. Other times, adult foster care may be an option to take care of a relative. Building communication with local authorities and citizens is important, and safety protocols need to be put in place to protect these individuals.

Call the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) toll-free at 1-877-438-4338 or visit www.identitytheft.gov to report identity theft. The FTC will help you develop a recovery plan, including what to do right away; how to place a fraud alert and get your credit reports; and how to file a report with your local police department.

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IF YOU BECOME A VICTIM

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