To you, the people who count,

As my first year as your state representative draws to a close, I would like to share with you what I have been working on here at the state Capitol and some of the issues facing our community.

First and foremost, I made a promise to you that I would never forget my roots as your state representative. The people of Wyoming and Byron Township are on the front of my mind before taking every vote. It makes no difference whether it's a Republican or Democrat idea. If it doesn't improve the lives of the people I proudly represent, it doesn't get my vote. Period. So whether I'm serving you at my small business or serving you at the state Capitol, I always make it my mission to study the details and follow through because that's the way I operate.

This year the House of Representatives has been tackling many issues ranging from the budget to skilled trades legislation. I have the pleasure of serving on the Appropriations Committee, which has allowed me to take an in-depth look at the budget so you have a government that is more efficient, effective and accountable. It is important that we have a budget that forces government to live within its means like families have been forced to do in this economy. My small business made me a frugal person so I could meet payroll – that is why I was chosen to serve on the Appropriations Committee.

All policy decisions have consequences. Every vote will have either a positive or negative impact on the lives of Michigan residents. I make it my priority to fight for legislation that will positively affect the hard-working people of our local community and make decisions to improve life for everyone.

This job reinforces that it is never too late to learn something new. I always encourage your feedback on key state government issues, as that helps me to be an effective representative for our community at the state Capitol.

Sincerely,

TOMMY BRANN
State Representative
(517) 373-2277 • TommyBrann@house.mi.gov
www.RepBrann.com
**Accountable to You**

As your state representative, I have never missed a vote. I have and will continue to provide effective representation for the residents of Wyoming and Byron Township. I am honored to show up and work on the behalf of the people to vote for legislation that will improve the state of Michigan. You brought me here to represent you and I want to be your voice.

In the spirit of making government transparent, I make a point to post my votes and explanations on my State Representative Tommy Brann Facebook page because you deserve to know how your representative votes. The people of Michigan deserve more transparency in their state government, including their elected representatives.

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**Ending driver responsibility fees provides a fresh start, forgives debt**

I voted to eliminate driver responsibility fees and forgive outstanding debt. People affected by the fees will be able to regain their driver’s licenses and re-enter the workforce. I saw one of my employees make a mistake and could not get ahead in life because of the fees. My small business always keeps me in touch with what really happens in life.

The fees didn’t make them better drivers, it didn’t let them put any money in savings. All it did was cause a vicious cycle of poverty and deprivation.

Under the bipartisan package of bills, driver responsibility fees will end on Oct. 1, 2018, and all outstanding debt will be forgiven. Until the fees are eliminated, people required to pay the fees may either take part in workforce development programs or perform community service to fulfill their obligations.

The fees resulted from legislation passed by a previous administration in 2003 scrambling to fill a hole in the state budget. Instead of responsibly budgeting available funds, the Legislature established the burdensome fees that have left many Michiganders at or near the poverty level.

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**State budget more focused on what matters: Schools, public safety and ending debt**

I helped approve a balanced state budget months ahead of the constitutional deadline that controls spending while prioritizing your hard-earned tax dollars on things that matter most.

**This year, we dedicated more state funding to K-12 education than ever before, totaling $14.6 billion. We put special emphasis on skilled trades training through career and technical education.**

**Public safety is also a priority of mine, and we continue to invest in your safety. This budget adds 150 more Michigan State Police troopers, increasing safety on our highways and in our communities.**

I have fought to conserve your hard-earned tax dollars, and this budget spends fewer state taxpayer dollars than last year’s budget. Just like families across the state, we are tightening our belt, reducing the size of government and forcing it to live within its means. This budget also pays down millions of dollars in debt, helping relieve our liability and open the door for a more secure financial future for our children and grandchildren.

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**Brann demands more honest and open government**

I helped pass common-sense legislation 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.

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**The plan:**

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

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**House approves bill to ban taxes on groceries**

I voted in favor of legislation to prohibit local governments from imposing taxes on the manufacture, distribution, and sale of food and beverages.

Purchasing groceries can represent a large portion of a family’s monthly budget, and our bill prevents local communities from placing an undue burden on families and farmers.

Taxes on groceries would have a tremendously negative impact on families who are living paycheck to paycheck and seniors living on fixed incomes.

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**WANT TO STAY UP TO DATE?**

☐ Yes! Please send me Rep. Brann’s e-mail updates

E-mail ____________________________
Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City __________________________ Zip
Phone __________________________

If you could take a moment to fill out this form, I would greatly appreciate it.

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**State Rep. Tommy Brann | P.O. Box 30014 | Lansing, MI 48909-7514**