Dear neighbor,

It is an honor to serve you as your state representative. I have been working hard in Lansing to continue to grow Michigan’s economy and improve the quality of life in our communities.

My staff and I are committed to remaining accessible to you and serving you with integrity. An important part of my job is listening to your concerns and delivering results. Whether you have questions or concerns regarding legislation or you are encountering problems while navigating state government, please never hesitate to contact me.

As 2017 comes to a close, I wanted to provide you with an update of what I have been working on for you, the residents of the 33rd District. I hope you will take the time to read over this update and stay engaged in the legislative process. My priority has always been to work on legislation that will improve the lives of everyone in our community. I will continue to stand up to special interests and lobbyists.

With every piece of legislation I vote on, I ask myself the following question: Will this bill make Macomb County a great place to live and raise a family? That has been my guiding principle in 2017 and will continue to be what I fight for in 2018.

I appreciate the privilege to serve you in Lansing,

JEFF YAROCH
State Representative

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The legislation also creates a similar bill to the Freedom of Information Act. This year, we increased state funding to K-12 education, totaling $14.6 billion. I will continue to fight to ensure that our children receive the education they deserve and that funding returns to pre-recession levels. This year’s budget also puts special emphasis on skilled trades training through career and technical education.

Michigan is one of only two states that still exempts its governor, lieutenant governor and the Legislature from sunshine laws. It’s time that state government follows the same rules that local government has followed for decades. The plan:

✔ Makes state government more accountable to you;

✔ Opens the records of the governor and Legislature;

✔ Protects your private information.

Addressing the high cost of auto insurance

It is no secret Michigan has one of the highest auto insurance premiums in the nation. True reform and relief from high rates rely on transparency within the no-fault system and eliminating “bad actors” within the system. I’ve co-sponsored legislation to support a fraud authority for no-fault and have been working on legislation to shine light on the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Fund. We will see an increase on our premiums for the annual no-fault catastrophic injury fee, without the transparency of how those fees were determined. This must change, and I will continue working to make sure that our community benefits from better transparency within the system. I support a bipartisan solution to the issues in our no-fault system, and I will not stop until we see real, responsible reform that puts money back into the pockets of Macomb County residents.

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

This is why I voted for bipartisan 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.

Public safety is also a priority of mine, and we continue to invest in your safety. We increased funding to local governments, enabling them to add resources to protect your safety. This budget also adds 150 more Michigan State Police troopers, increasing safety on our highways.

I have fought to conserve your hard-earned tax dollars. 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, including $200 million to pay down the unfunded liability in the teachers’ retirement system, and opens the door for a more secure financial future for our children and grandchildren.

Protecting our most vulnerable populations and providing for mental health

When I got to Lansing, Macomb County was losing mental health funding in a plan to redistribute the funds across the state. But I fought for those suffering from mental health issues in our community to ensure that $5 million was restored to Macomb County Community Mental Health. I will continue this fight to ensure that our most vulnerable population receives the services they so desperately need.

Controversial driver responsibility fees eliminated under legislation

It is a bad law. It did nothing to improve driving skills and it’s about time we end this failed policy. The elimination of driver responsibility fees and restoration of driving privileges will help people get back to work so they can earn a living and provide for their families.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KEEP UP TO DATE?

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