Dear Neighbor,

This has been an extremely busy year at the state Capitol. Every decision and vote I make has an impact on the people of our state. My priority is to fight for legislation that will positively affect the hard-working people of our community and make choices to improve life for everyone.

Through legislation I have introduced and supported this year, I am determined to keep fighting for the residents of Midland and Isabella counties. I have worked to help alleviate excessive fees drivers are forced to pay to fix budget shortfalls of the past; ensure high-school students looking to join the workforce after graduation have the opportunities through increased skilled trades training; lower the cost of car insurance while continuing to provide care for those already receiving lifetime coverage after a catastrophic accident and make sure each Michigander knows that their government is open, honest and accountable.

In addition, the state is spending a record amount to fix roads and bridges, which will improve daily commutes and strengthen our economy. The funding allocated this year for K-12 public schools is the most in our state’s history, and gives all students a greater chance at success.

The people in our community are on the front of my mind before taking every vote. I will continue to stick to my guns and stand up to special interests and lobbyists to do what is best for us. That is my promise, you have my word.

Sincerely,

ROGER HAUCK
State Representative

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COLEMAN • LAKE ISABELLA • MT. PLEASANT • SHEPHERD

2017 PROGRESS REPORT

ELIMINATING DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY FEES
MAKING CAR INSURANCE AFFORDABLE
INCREASED SKILLED TRADES OPPORTUNITIES
HONEST & OPEN GOVERNMENT
MOST K-12 SCHOOL FUNDING IN STATE HISTORY
FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE BUDGET
FIXING MICHIGAN’S ROADS
Michigan has some of the highest car insurance rates in the nation. We are number one.

I voted yes to fix Michigan’s broken car insurance system and significantly lower rates for drivers.

Reform plan would cut auto insurance rates, give drivers more choice

Driver responsibility fees were initiated in 2003 as a scheme to plug a hole in the state budget. Since then, hundreds of thousands of Michigan residents have been burdened with the added fees, which have either taken them out of the job market or forced them to drive illegally to support their families.

This is a bad law that should never have been passed in the first place. It did nothing to improve driving skills and it’s time to end this failed policy. That’s why I have sponsored House Bill 5043 to end this burden on Michigan drivers. By removing the fees and providing immediate relief for drivers currently making good-faith payments, those drivers can contribute to the local economy instead of paying the state, and get relief from the financial stress of excessive fees.

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. The legislation completely forgives the outstanding fines owed by more than 300,000 Michigan drivers, ending the ineffective program by Oct. 1, 2018. My legislation recently passed the House and will provide immediate forgiveness to individuals making good-faith payments.

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.

I sponsored 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.

High school students given 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’ve realized the importance for specialized training to prepare students for these careers. I sponsored legislation that seeks to diversify a high school student’s career and technical education options, giving parents and students more choices to help prepare for post-high school opportunities.

Not all high school students will go on to college. I voted to improve skilled trades training through career and technical education so these students are prepared for high-paying, in-demand jobs. There are not enough trained workers available for these jobs right now. I will continue to support and expand opportunities for high school students and high school graduates to obtain the training necessary to fill and keep these important positions.

Controversial driver responsibility fees eliminated under legislation

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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 budget 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.

State budget more focused on what matters: Schools, roads, 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.

This budget also spends more on our roads, bridges and underground water systems than ever before. I know how vital good roads and safe bridges are to families and job creators in Michigan.

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.

Reform plan would cut auto insurance rates, give drivers more choice

I voted yes to fix Michigan’s broken car insurance system and significantly lower rates for drivers.

Michigan has some of the highest car insurance rates in the nation. We are number one for the wrong reasons. The legislation would have lowered the cost of car insurance by offering motorists more coverage options, reinstating in medical costs and fighting fraud.

Michigan’s average full coverage auto insurance premium cost – nearly $2,400 per year – is 82 percent above the national average and twice as high as those in neighboring states.

The reform plan is still under consideration in the House. I remain committed to reforming Michigan’s auto insurance system and delivering lower rates for drivers.

I sponsored 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.

Hauck demands more honest and open government

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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Making Life Better
2017 PROGRESS REPORT

ROGER HAUCK
STATE REPRESENTATIVE