Dear Neighbor,

The policy decisions we make at the state Capitol have consequences. Every vote I take will have either a positive or negative impact on the lives of Michigan residents. My priority is to fight for legislation that will positively affect the hard-working people of our local community and make decisions to improve life for everyone.

For example, we can make life better by limiting the size of government and rejecting the failed policies of the past. I’m proud to say we’ve made the decision to reduce the state’s overall general budget spending and we continue to pay down debt.

In addition, we are making life better by spending a record amount for roads and bridges, which will improve our daily commutes and strengthen the state’s economy. The funding we allocated this year for K-12 public schools is the most in our state’s history, and it makes life better by giving all students a greater chance at success.

And here’s another thing that will make life better: reducing the cost of car insurance. We pay the highest rates in the nation by far. It’s unacceptable. No one should have to decide whether to pay their car insurance or put food on the table for their children. We are closer than ever to implementing a solution to give drivers more choice in coverage, protect medical care for drivers injured in auto accidents, combat fraud and abuse, and lower rates.

The people in our community 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 make life better for the people I proudly represent, it doesn’t get my vote. Period. I will continue to stick to my guns and stand up to special interests and lobbyists to do what is best for us.

You have my word.

Sincerely,

PAMELA HORNBERGER
State Representative

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PAMELA HORNBERGER

reforming Michigan's auto insurance system and delivering lower rates for drivers. The reform plan continues to be under consideration in the House. I remain committed to affordable alternative coverage plans.

The bipartisan legislation continues benefits for Michiganders already receiving lifetime health care after a catastrophic traffic accident. The plan also gives motorists the option to gain a better understanding of programs already available.

We wanted to make sure the people of Michigan were part of the process, so they were encouraged to share their ideas. Information gathered at CARES meetings will help legislators develop solutions to improve services for people experiencing mental illness.

The bipartisan House CARES Task Force was created to help Michigan residents with mental health challenges live happier, healthier and more independent lives. The task force held meetings throughout the summer and early fall to receive input from individuals and professionals around the state. The task force also toured facilities to gain a better understanding of programs already available.

It's about time we end this failed policy. The elimination of driver responsibility fees.

I am supporting legislation to eliminate Michigan's misguided and ineffective driver responsibility fees. Driver responsibility fees were initiated by politicians in 2003 as a scheme to plug a hole created in the state budget. Since then, hundreds of thousands of Michigan residents have been burdened with the fees, which have either taken them out of the job market or forced them to drive illegally to support their families.

I voted in favor of a plan in the state House to fix Michigan’s broken car insurance system and significantly lower rates for drivers.

Michigan now has the highest car insurance rates in the nation. We are number one for all the wrong reasons. The legislation will lower the cost of car insurance by offering motorists more coverage options, reining in medical costs and fighting fraud.

The bipartisan legislation continues benefits for Michiganders already receiving lifetime health care after a catastrophic traffic accident. The plan also gives motorists the option to continue to buy unlimited personal injury protection (PIP) coverage or buy more affordable alternative coverage plans.

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

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.

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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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.

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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