Dear Neighbor,

Every vote in the Legislature will have an impact on the lives of Michigan residents. It is a priority to bring forward legislation that will positively affect our community and make decisions to improve life for everyone.

A record amount of money is being spent 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.

Sincerely,

KATHY CRAWFORD
State Representative
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Breast Cancer Awareness Month

It was my honor and privilege to stand with the First Lady of this great state, Sue Snyder, along with members of the House of Representatives on both sides of the aisle to introduce a resolution to declare October 2017 Breast Cancer Awareness month in the state of Michigan.

No matter your age, continue to get mammograms since cancer risk increases with age. Studies indicate that 77 percent of all cancers are diagnosed in persons 55 years and older.

Since the inception of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in 1985, mammography use across America has doubled and breast cancer death rates have declined.

WANT TO STAY UP-TO-DATE?

Name
E-mail
Address
City
Zip
Phone

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

Booklets Available Upon Request

- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- Fixing Michigan’s Roads
- Increased Skilled Trades Opportunities
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Honest & Open Government
- Most K-12 School Funding in State History
- Services for Seniors
- Peace and Stability
- Changing and Choosing
- Legal Rights of Senior Adults
- Michigan in the Civil War
- Consumer Protection Guide
- Veterans Benefits

www.RepKathyCrawford.com
Governor’s Task Force on Drug and Opioid Abuse

I currently have a bill up for consideration in the Senate that is a result of the Governor’s Task Force on Drug and Opioid Abuse. This bill would amend the Public Health Code to permit pharmacists to decline filling/refilling a prescription if they believe that it was not prescribed in good faith or is being filled for an illegitimate purpose. In addition it would give the pharmacist immunity in the event a civil case followed from the pharmacist’s refusal to dispense the prescription.

House CARES Task Force working to help people with mental health challenges

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. Holding meetings and visiting facilities all across Michigan allowed the team to gather feedback on a wide variety of topics related to mental health care, opioid abuse, rehabilitation programs and vocational training. It is important to make sure the people of Michigan were part of the process. 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.

Controversial driver responsibility fees eliminated under legislation

Driver responsibility fees were initiated in 2003. 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. 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. A key element to the eight-bill package is forgiveness of outstanding fines owed by more than 300,000 Michigan drivers, ending the ineffective program by Oct. 1, 2018.

House approves bill to ban taxes on groceries

The House 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 the 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.

High school students given more opportunities to learn skilled trades

With continuous advances in technology and workforce needs, education should not be a one-size-fits-all approach. Students can obtain the necessary skills to be successful in a career and in life. Not all high school students will go on to college. Access has been improved to 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 post high school graduates to obtain the training necessary to fill and keep these important positions.

State budget focused on schools, roads, public safety and ending debt

A balanced state budget was approved months ahead of the constitutional deadline that controls spending while prioritizing tax dollars.

- This year, we dedicated more state funding to K-12 education than ever before, totaling $14.6 billion. Special emphasis was put 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. Good roads and safe bridges are vital to families and job creators in Michigan.
- Public safety is also a priority, and we continue to invest in safety. This budget adds 150 more Michigan State Police troopers, increasing safety on our highways and in our communities.

This budget spends fewer state taxpayer dollars than last year’s budget. This budget also pays down millions of dollars in debt, helping relieve our liability and open the door for a more secure financial future.

Honest and open government

Common-sense legislation to increase transparency and accountability was passed recently in the State House. The 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 two states that still exempts its governor, lieutenant governor and the Legislature from sunshine laws.

The plan:
- Makes state government more accountable
- Opens the records of the governor and Legislature;
- Protects your private information.

Making Life Better
2017 PROGRESS REPORT
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
KATHY CRAWFORD