For the fourth year, House Republicans will directly address the challenges facing the hard-working people of Michigan.

Because people have the right to know where their elected leaders stand, we are laying out our policy goals and objectives for this legislative term, so that the same level of common-sense, accountability, and success can be expected of us by Michigan taxpayers.

There is no such thing as “good enough” when it comes to fighting for the hard-working families of this state. We believe in better. So let’s look at our track record over the past two years.

The economy is improving, jobs are steadily increasing, and positive change is happening all around us.

Looking ahead, we will continue to focus on solutions, deliver results and prioritize the quality of life of the people we serve.

As our state government becomes more efficient and effective, as personal incomes rise, and as families are reunited by kids and grandkids coming home, people will once again have the confidence to say Michigan’s brightest days are still to come.

Each of the five action areas below represents our commitment to the hard-working taxpayers, families and children of our great state.
The House Republican Caucus’ first priority for the 2013-14 legislative term is to continue policy reforms that foster job growth and a healthy economy. In order to make Michigan a better place to create careers, we need to make it a better place to provide a job—now.

At the same time, we have to make sure Michigan’s incredible workforce—the best in America—is prepared for the job opportunities that will develop.

We will work to improve the job climate by:

• Reforming Michigan’s workforce development programs to adapt to our state’s changing marketplace.

• Promoting Michigan’s Natural Resources to attract job providers and skilled workers to our state.

• Removing barriers to employment and assisting our veterans with job placement.

• Enhancing vocational educational opportunities and preparing our workforce to match employment demands.

• Identifying ways to make Michigan more competitive to maintain and strengthen the health, vitality and vibrancy of our economy.

• Recognizing that every dollar the state spends is a dollar a hard-working taxpayer first worked to earn, we are seeking to adopt tax reform that offers a tax break to Michigan’s working families.
More than 13,000 children in Michigan are in foster care and don’t have either a mother or father nor a place to call home. Adoption rates in Michigan have been stagnant for decades. Michigan’s infant mortality rate is nearly the highest in the country and our state’s rising mental illness plight must be addressed. We will look to improve the quality of life for our most precious generation by:

- Developing early childhood education opportunities to help kids succeed.
- Expediting judicial proceedings for adoptions and enacting other measures to increase Michigan’s adoption rate.
- Provide solutions to address barriers to accessing mental health systems.
- Expanding prenatal care options to help create healthier Michigan families.
- Reevaluating the level and types of assistance for daycare services to help working moms and dads.
- Enhancing vocational educational programs to prepare our young workers for high-skill job opportunities.
- Protecting women and children who are victimized by human traffickers who seek to exploit their freedom for money.
Time is precious and wasted time because of an inadequate transportation system is unacceptable. Facing the highest energy rates and some of the worst road conditions in the Midwest, our state has suffered from years of inadequate investment. This year, we will address the infrastructure issues that are plaguing our state and undermining our quality of life by:

• Investing effectively in Michigan’s transportation infrastructure by identifying the specific shortcomings, creating priorities for improvement and holding every project accountable for real results.

• Enacting long-term cost-saving reforms to give taxpayers the biggest return on their investment.

• Finding ways to reduce long-term energy costs for ratepayers by modernizing the energy grid and rewarding energy efficiency.

• Prioritizing state spending to build on last year’s additional investment in roads and bridges.
Simplifying and streamlining state government by removing unnecessary and duplicative rules, and making tax structures more uniform and fair will lead to greater accountability and predictability for all taxpayers. We will make Michigan a more attractive place for residents and visitors alike by:

- Reducing or eliminating unnecessary state occupational licensure and certifications, so that businesses can start, expand, grow, and focus on the consumers they serve.
- Evaluating and eliminating tax loopholes that are creating unfair economic conditions among Michigan businesses.
- Eliminating state rules that are even more convoluted and burdensome than federal regulations.
- Simplifying the tax code to make it fairer and reducing the overall tax burden.
- Encouraging competition instead of playing favorites.
- Protecting individual privacy and freedom by protecting personal information of legal gun owners from exploitation under FOIA.
Our continuing mission is to make government more efficient and effective, and that means improving what the government does and how it does it. We will expand on previous efforts at streamlining government by:

- Ensuring the state’s budget is completed and structurally balanced by June 1 to offer local governments, schools and job providers measurable stability.
- Reducing Michigan’s debt burden for our children and grandchildren.
- Reforming the corrections budget to find savings.
- Enhancing, preserving and consolidating elections, to safeguard the rights of Michigan voters.
- Improving safety in our schools. Apply common sense with a focus on effective public safety to secure our children’s schools.
As we steer Michigan’s future toward prosperity, we must continue to focus on doing what’s right for the people we represent, regardless of political consequences. House Republicans will be accomplishing a lot over the next two years in order to position Michigan for continued success, never losing sight of the fact that it is the hopes, dreams and success of Michigan’s residents whom we represent that must drive us all forward together.
Expand vocational education opportunities
HBs 4465-66
PA 208-209 of 2014.

Less red tape for veterans seeking work
HBs 4605, 4731, 4752, 4754, & 4756
PAs 165-169 of 2013.

Reform occupational licensing regulations
HBs 4374-81, 4392, 4528, 4681-92
PAs 154, 156-157, 163, 174 and 193-195 of 2014.
HBs 4685-87, 4689-90 and 4692 are still waiting on a final vote. HBs 4374-75 are in the House Committee on Regulatory Reform.

Advance Michigan’s workforce development
HB 4328
PA 59 of 2013.

Continue Pure Michigan funding
HB 4328
PA 59 of 2013.

Make veterans aware of Federal VA benefits
SB 219
PA 28 of 2013.

Invest and enhance State Parks
HB 4328
PA 59 of 2013.

Improve natural resources infrastructure and access
SB 233
PA 9 of 2013.

Create a Michigan Competitiveness Committee
Committee has been created.

Expand beneficial reuse materials
HB 5400
PA 178 of 2014.

Prevent state implementing more restrictive regulations than the federal government
HB 4207
The bill is in the House Committee on Regulatory Reform.

Tax reform that gives a break to working families
HBs 5265-67
The bills are now on the House Floor.

Explore NRTF Constitutional Amendment
Review Underway.
## Executive Summary

### A Brighter Future for All

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reform Category</th>
<th>Bill Numbers</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ Increase funding for early childhood education programming</td>
<td>HB 4228</td>
<td>PA 60 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Expedite voluntary termination of parental rights court proceedings</td>
<td>HBs 4646-4648</td>
<td>PAs 117-19 of 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Responsible Father Registry</td>
<td>HBs 4659-4662</td>
<td>The House passed all four bills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Expand pool of providers with prenatal &amp; delivery services</td>
<td>SB 61</td>
<td>PA 4 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Encourage uniform mental health services program and expand residential facilities</td>
<td>HBs 4328, 4694-4697</td>
<td>PAs 59 and 274-77 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Encourage premium discounts for prenatal care</td>
<td>HBs 4328 &amp; 4714</td>
<td>PAs 59 and 107 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Study daycare subsidies and encourage sites with learning programs</td>
<td>HB 4228</td>
<td>PA 60 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Increase teaching certificate standards and continuing education credits</td>
<td>Administrative rule changes have addressed many existing concerns.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Increase reimbursement for adoption expenses</td>
<td>HB 4328</td>
<td>PA 59 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Increase women’s health services in underserved areas</td>
<td>HB 4328</td>
<td>PA 59 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Reform current laws to protect human trafficking victims</td>
<td>23 House bills</td>
<td>The bills are on the Senate floor and Committee on Criminal Justice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Establish Resource Parent Bill of Rights</td>
<td>HBs 4649-50</td>
<td>Passed the House.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Create Education Fund for adopted foster children</td>
<td>HB 5444</td>
<td>The bill is in the House Committee on Families, Children and Seniors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Support Michigan Teachers</td>
<td>HB 4625</td>
<td>The bill is on the House floor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Explore early education grants for libraries</td>
<td></td>
<td>Issue research underway.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Get Michigan Moving

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reform</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improve roads and bridges</td>
<td>SB 608 PA 34 of 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review electric choice</td>
<td>Review completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prioritize state spending for roads</td>
<td>SB 608 PA 34 of 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess energy optimization standards</td>
<td>Review completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Require competitive bidding and privatization</td>
<td>HB 4251 Passed the House.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate Public Private Partnerships</td>
<td>HB 4925 HB 4925 is in the House Committee on Transportation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeal Prevailing Wage Law</td>
<td>HBs 4172-74 The bills are pending in the House Committee on Commerce.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expand natural gas opportunities</td>
<td>HB 5555 The bill is in the House Energy and Technology Committee for consideration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate self-implementation rates</td>
<td>Review underway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigate refunds for ratepayers</td>
<td>Review underway.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Executive Summary

- **Individual tax relief**
  - HB 4328
  - PA 59 of 2013.

- **Sales tax on the difference for automobile sales**
  - HB 4234, SB 89
  - PAs 159 and 160 of 2013

- **Lower taxes**
  - HB 4234, SB 89, SB 90
  - PAs 159 and 160 of 2013.

- **Explore liquor reforms**
  - HB 4277, 4709-11, SB 27, 79
  - PAs 100, 101 and 236 of 2013.
  - PAs 42-44 of 2014.

- **Continue wetlands regulatory reform**
  - SB 163
  - PA 98 of 2013.

- **Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance reform**
  - SBs 61 & 62
  - PAs 4 and 5 of 2013.

- **Greater legislative oversight of administrative rules**
  - Several hard-fought victories over government red tape, including lower sales taxes and fewer roadblocks to employment for Michigan residents.

- **Protect personal information of legal gun owners from exploitation under FOIA**
  - HBs 4155, 5325, 5327-28, SBs 834 and 881
  - PAs 203-207 of 2014.

- **Eliminate tax loopholes**
  - HB 4202 & 4203
  - The bills passed out of the House Committee on Tax Policy.

- **Inventory economic development programs for reform**
  - HBs 4480-84 & SB 269-272
  - The bills are pending on the House floor.

- **New options for public notices**
  - SB 7 & 8, HBs 4298 & 5560
  - The bill is in the House Committee on Local Government for consideration.

- **Reform auto insurance**
  - HB 4612
  - The bill is pending on the House floor.

- **Managed care option for auto no-fault**
  - HB 4612
  - The bill is pending on the House floor.
## A Government for the People

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Reform Category</th>
<th>HBs</th>
<th>PAs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Provide budget stability</td>
<td>4228, 4328</td>
<td>59 and 60 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Finish budget early</td>
<td>4228, 4328</td>
<td>59 and 60 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Implement further transparency of state spending</td>
<td>4228, 4328</td>
<td>59 and 60 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Consolidate canvassing boards</td>
<td>4169-4171</td>
<td>51-53 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Consolidate ballot proposal filing deadlines</td>
<td>4393-4397</td>
<td>253-57 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Address mental health reform</td>
<td>4694-97</td>
<td>274-77 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Reduce unfunded liabilities</td>
<td>4228 and 4328</td>
<td>59 and 60 of 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Improve public safety in our schools</td>
<td>4098</td>
<td>Pending in the House Committee on Education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐</td>
<td>Review sentencing guidelines and disciplinary credits</td>
<td>5078</td>
<td>The bill was passed out of the House Committee on Criminal Justice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>