



This Week in Lansing

MHSA • Muchmore Harrington Smalley & Associates, LLC

Highlights of the Latest Major Legislative, Administrative and Regulatory Activity in the State Capitol

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MAY CREC ANNOUNCED FOR MAY 17TH – The May *Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference (CREC)* was announced this week for Friday, May 17th at 9 a.m. The conference will be held in-person in the Capitol. The *House Fiscal Agency*, *Senate Fiscal Agency* and *Department of Treasury* will present final revenues for the 2022-23 fiscal year and revised estimates for the 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 fiscal years. Additionally, officials with the University of Michigan Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics will also present a national and state economic outlook.

SENATE FISCAL AGENCY REPORT SHOWS LOW MARCH REVENUE COLLECTIONS – The *Senate Fiscal Agency (SFA)* released their report on state revenue collections for March from the state's major taxes and net lottery revenue this week. The report shows a \$339.4 million decrease in *General Fund* dollars and a \$19.9 million decrease in *School Aid Fund* dollars from the January 2024 *Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference (CREC)* for the current fiscal year to date.

Why it matters: The *SFA's* report displayed a somewhat startling decrease in revenues available to legislators to craft the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget. Compared to 2023, March 2024 revenues are down 24.7 percent. The *SFA* report highlights that the lower-than-expected funds are due to *Corporate Income Tax* and sales tax collections along with *Individual Income Tax* refunds exceeding projections.

To read more, please click [here](#).

SENATE DEMOCRATS INTRODUCE 10-BILL PACKAGE ON MATERNAL HEALTH EQUITY – This week *Senate Democrats* introduced a bill package that aims to address disparities in maternal health by creating equity and enhancing accountability for maternal health care providers.

The bigger picture: The 10-bill package was introduced on Wednesday with bill sponsors describing the legislation as the “MI Momnibus” which is modeled after federal legislation. *Senator Erika Geiss (D-Taylor)* told reporters that the bills are focused on maternal mortality, infant mortality, and access to care.

To read more, please click [here](#).

ODDS AND ENDS

- The *Senate* passed legislation this week that restores licensure for registered dietician nutritionists who practice nutrition therapy. *House Bill 4608* passed the *Senate* 26-11 but faced pushback from some members in the *Senate* who called the legislation unnecessary. In 2014, *former Governor Rick Snyder* repealed the licensure of dieticians and nutritionists.
- The *Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)* has awarded Comprehensive Health Care Program contracts for Michigan's Medicaid health plans, which serve nearly 2 million

Michigan residents by offering healthcare coverage through Medicaid and the Healthy Michigan Plan. **DHHS** awarded the contracts based on Michigan's 10 prosperity regions. To view **DHHS'** press release and see which health plans were awarded coverage in which region of the state, please click [here](#).

- The **Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP)** announced two grants this week aimed to boost enrollment and eliminate barriers to higher education. Specifically, **MiLEAP** announced two grants available to higher education institutions to receive funds from the \$45 million Student Success Grant initiative through the Barrier Removal grant and Reconnect Community Action grant. To view a press release from **MiLEAP**, please click [here](#).
- The **Senate Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee** took testimony only on a bill that would make changes to the state's Pesticide Notification Registry by requiring residents on the registry to be notified prior to mosquito spraying near their homes. **Senate Bill 645** heard divided testimony and no vote was taken on the bill.
- The **Senate Housing and Human Services Committee** took testimony on legislation that would increase the maximum amount of insurance withholding for fire-damaged homes and allow abandoned funds to be used for repairs. **House Bills 4331** and **4332** received support during the committee but were not voted on.
- This week, **Robert White** was confirmed as the new **U.S. District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan**, replacing **Judge Paul Borman**. **Judge White** was appointed by **President Joe Biden** in January 2024. Michigan's **U.S. Senators Debbie Stabenow (D-Lansing)** and **Gary Peters (D-Bloomfield Hills)** praised the confirmation.
- The **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** announced Wednesday that it will begin enforcing a new set of standards for six different types of PFAS in drinking water. Additionally, the **EPA** announced it will administer \$1 billion in funds from the **Bipartisan Infrastructure Act** to help states implement PFAS testing, treatment and to comply with the regulations. Michigan's Congressional delegation praised the new standards and said how the new regulations comply with the actions Michigan has taken over the previous years.
- The **Senate Appropriations Committee** reported **Natural Resource Trust Fund** projects to the full **Senate** on Wednesday this week. The **Senate Appropriations Committee** unanimously reported **Senate Bill 817**, a bill that appropriates \$27.3 million for 53 projects based on recommendations from the **Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board**. The bill includes funding for the Fiscal Year 23-24 budget.

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