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HB 4380 creates the Michigan Military and Veteran Services Support Fund and a board to oversee it. I voted in favor of this bill because it will make it easier for individuals and businesses to contribute to the work of DMVA. **HB 4380** passed 97-12.

HBs 4240-41 are part of a bill package that amends the Revised Judicature Act (RJA) and the Michigan Vehicle Code (MVC), revising the distribution of proceeds from the sale of forfeited items under these acts with 30% (or another agreed-upon hourly amount) directed to the involved prosecutor(s). I voted in favor of both bills because they will help to ensure that local prosecutors will get a portion of the balance of the money forfeited by local units of government. **HBs 4240-41** passed 108-1.

HB 4694 amends the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) to revise the name of certain forms filed with the secretary of state under the act and make related changes. I voted in favor of this bill because it fixes a technical issue in the UCC. **HB 4694** passed unanimously.

SB 37 is a supplemental budget bill that appropriates \$2.23 billion. I voted in favor of this bill because it allocates funding towards SNAP benefits, rent and utility assistance, local government grants, and emergency disaster assistance. **SB 37** passed 105-4.

6/17

HB 4066 would create the "Michigan Knife Rights Act" to preempt local municipalities from implementing or enforcing knife ordinances more restrictive than the state law. I voted against this bill because it takes away local governmental control to prevent dangerous weapons from entering their areas and to keep their residents safe. **HB 4066** passed 69-41.

HB 4332 amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to allow for outdoor recreation vehicle (ORV) license stickers for two-wheeled ORVs (dirt bikes) to be placed on the rear fender or on the front suspension fork. I voted in favor of this bill because it

simply allows for the option of placing the ORV license sticker on a more visible and protected part of the vehicle. **HB 4332** passed unanimously.

HB 4521 would allow for HIV positive-to-positive organ transplantation. I voted in favor of this bill because it allows for the facilitation of the federal HOPE Act here in Michigan, which could significantly benefit our organ transplant waitlist. Lifting the statutory restrictions will increase the available supply of organs for both HIV+ and HIV- patients, resulting in more donor options for HIV+ patients who need transplants and increasing the availability of more organs from HIV-donors for HIV- recipients. Overall, HIV+ patients should be provided the same opportunity to receive life-saving organs as patients who are HIV-. **HB 4521** passed unanimously.

HB 4762 would prohibit organ transplant discrimination for people with a disability. I voted in favor of this bill because it is fundamentally wrong to deny someone a potentially life-saving organ transplant just because they have a disability. Although there are federal laws in place to prohibit this disability-based discrimination, many physicians and hospitals continue to reject people with intellectual or developmental disabilities from receiving an organ transplant. Much of this is due to the lack of awareness about and enforcement of the federal laws that prohibit such discrimination. Thus, having some protection on the state level will be very helpful in protecting the rights of people with disabilities. **HB 4762** passed 107-3.

HBs 4557-61 are a package of bills that would require the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) to refund or prorate certain license or registration fees for periods during the global COVID-19 pandemic for which certain licensed individuals were not able to work in their occupations or for which certain businesses were not able to operate. I voted in favor of all of the bills in the package because it is not unreasonable to waive fees for individuals that were unable to practice due to the pandemic. **HB 4557** passed 98-10. **HBs 4558-60** passed 100-10. **HB 4561** passed 97-10.

SB 256 implements a fund shift as part of the FY 21 budget agreement. SB 256 will shift \$18 million in earmarked transportation funding to backfill a shortfall in the Secretary of State's budget. I voted in favor of this bill because it simply reflects a budget agreement that was previously approved by the Legislature in September 2020. Further, the reduction in state support for local transit is considered one-time and offset by additional federal support for public transit. Michigan's share of transit funding the Federal CARES Act was approximately \$351 million; primarily dedicated to urban transit systems. **SB 256** passed unanimously.

SB 438 prohibits the issuing of appearance tickets for operating while intoxicated (OWI) offenses. I voted in favor of this bill because current law only requires the detention of individuals arrested for OWIs that result in property damage, personal injury, or death but not OWIs where the motorist has a high BAC level or are severely impaired, thus, requiring law enforcement officers (LEOs) to issue an appearance ticket. This could result in intoxicated people being released on our streets where they may endanger themselves and others. **SB 438** passed 109-1.

HBs 4364-66 are part of a package that would add audiologists and speech-language pathologists to the list of medical professionals from whom an applicant for a driver's license or state personal identification card can obtain a certification required to get a communication impediment designation. Further, the bills clarify the language regarding law enforcement's access to this designation information. I voted in favor of all three bills because they clean-up the statutory language to make sure there is a smooth and seamless implementation of the speech impediment package. Additionally, audiologists and speech-language pathologists normally have a deeper understanding of hearing and speech impediments and should have been added to the original bill package and were an oversight when PA(s) 92-94 were being drafted. **HBs 4364-66** passed unanimously.

HB 4812 clarifies the definition of "purchase price" of an eligible nonprofit housing property to a low-income person for the assessment of property taxes. I voted in favor of this bill because it will result in lower taxes for low-income residents who have received housing property from a charitable nonprofit housing organization. **HB 4812** passed 103-7.

HB 4828 requires the Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) to provide a report to the Legislature regarding various aspects of the Deferred Presentment Services Transaction Act (DPSTA), otherwise known as the "payday lending" law. I voted in favor of this bill because the reporting of information on the payday lenders act would allow the Legislature to become aware of issues that arise in the act over time. **HB 4828** passed 102-7.

HB 4528 would mandate training for organizations wishing to credential election challengers and for individuals wishing to serve as election challengers. I voted in favor of this bill because it will help ensure smoother election administration by making the powers, rights, and duties of election challengers better known to election administrators and challengers alike. **HB 4528** passed 105-4.

HB 4434, in its original draft form, was supposed to require the Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) to use “plain language” in their correspondences and include specific items in determinations or redeterminations or any other notice of benefit modification, denial, or cessation. However, an amendment was added to the bill which essentially gutted the original language, and replaced it with language that would prematurely end the federal unemployment benefits that were recently proposed to be used to incentivize returns to work. I voted against the new version of this bill because it is a direct attack on Michiganders and inhibits our ability to recover from the pandemic. **HB 4434** passed 59-49.

HB 4735 designates a portion of highway US-127 as the “PFC Ronald James Fitch Memorial Highway.” I voted in favor of this bill because it is a fitting tribute to honor a U.S. Servicemember who was killed in the line of duty. PFC Fitch paid the ultimate price for our country’s freedom, losing his life. With the signs being posted containing his name on them along US-127, people will read his name and continue to honor him. **HB 4735** passed unanimously.

HB 4739 designates a portion of the M-49 Highway as the “Marine Sergeant Michael P. Hodshire” Memorial Highway. I voted in favor of this bill because it is a fitting tribute to honor a U.S. Servicemember who was killed in the line of duty. Sergeant Hodshire paid the ultimate price for our country’s freedom, losing his life. With the signs being posted containing his name on them along M-49, people will read his name and continue to honor him. **HB 4739** passed unanimously.

6/22

HB 4123 amends Part 53 (Clean Water Assistance) and Part 54 (Safe Drinking Water) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to allow the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to be used for energy efficiency waterworks projects. I voted in favor of this bill because it provides an additional funding mechanism for local units of government to fund energy conservation improvements. **HB 4123** passed 107-3.

HBs 4540-41 are part of a package of bills regarding MCOLES Certification for Detroit Transit Officers. **HB 4540** allows Detroit Transportation Corporation (DTC) police officers to be Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement (MCOLES) certified. **HB 4551** updates Michigan’s Vehicle Code to allow for the efficient and orderly operation of the Q-Line (Detroit’s new streetcar), remove obsolete references to old streetcar systems, and establish prohibitions and civil

infractions on the Q-Line patrons in state law. I voted in favor of both bills because they will allow Detroit Transit Police officers to enforce all state laws, and issue citations for civil infractions, not just municipal ordinances. This will free up other law enforcement entities to focus on other crimes outside of the transit system and allow for greater law enforcement cooperation and efficiencies by better trained personnel. Additionally, the bills will assist with the smooth and orderly operation of the Q-Line by allowing Detroit Transit Police officers to remove cars and bicycles impeding the streetcar and enforce other Michigan laws and the new streetcar civil infractions. The Q-Line has been plagued by cars, bicycles, and other personal property being parked or standing on the tracks, interfering with its operation. **HB 4540** passed 106-4. **HB 4541** passed 92-18.

HB 4724 exempts recordings made from home security devices from the eavesdropping statute. I voted in favor of this bill because it will ensure that individuals are not unwittingly violating Michigan's eavesdropping statute by having a home security system that makes an audio or video recording, like "ring" or nanny cams. **HB 4724** passed unanimously.

HBs 4462 and 4658 are part of a bill package regarding unsuccessful bidders. **HB 4462** requires the Department of Management and Budget (DTMB) to develop a process for unsuccessful bidders. **HB 4658** requires DTMB and all other state agencies to publicly announce procurement contract awards, resulting from publicly posted solicitations, within 48 hours. I voted in favor of both bills because they codify in statute the current Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget (DTMB) protest policy, which will allow for more transparency, certainty, and integrity in many aspects of the state procurement process, including the protest of award decisions by unsuccessful bidders. Both bills passed unanimously.

6/23

HB 4644 would allow an additional tax exemption for a taxpayer who is at least 12 weeks pregnant as of the last day of the tax year and under the care of a physician since at least the twelfth week of pregnancy. I voted against this bill because the state would lose millions in income tax revenue if this bill is implemented. To qualify for the exemption, the taxpayer must be under the care of a physician since at least the twelfth week of pregnancy. Additionally, the bill would not be as helpful for low-income women, who would most benefit from the tax deduction, because they are least likely to be able to afford prenatal care. Finally, it is unclear how the bill would encourage and offset the cost of prenatal care because taxpayers whose pregnancies began between mid-October and March would not be eligible to claim this deduction. **HB 4644** passed 58-52.

HB 4718 would allow the application for a concealed pistol license (CPL) to be filed in any county in Michigan. I voted against this bill because it would create the potential for logistical challenges for clerks who take and process CPL applications. Further, given the time it takes for offenses to be entered into the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN), an applicant with a disqualifying offense who applies in a distant county could still receive a CPL. **HB 4718** passed 77-33.

HB 4839 would amend the Michigan Election Law, 1954 PA 116, to permit the clerk of a city or township to provide an annual absent voter ballot application to an elector that allows the elector to apply for an absent voter ballot for any or all of the elections to be held in a calendar year. I voted in favor of this bill because it will make it easier for voters to cast absent voter ballots by allowing them to select more options in a given year. **HB 4389** passed 106-4.

HB 4845 would require the Secretary of State to conduct signature verification training for local clerks before the even year primary election. The training must include information on matching and verifying an elector's signature on an election document. I voted in favor of this bill because it will improve the integrity and security of our elections by ensuring that local election officials are equipped to properly match signatures and identify potential fraud. **HB 4845** passed 107-3.

HB 4778 would require the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget to issue a directive to prohibit all state agencies from using any mobile apps, software, or technology that cannot be preserved as a matter of public record. I voted in favor of this bill because it would address a concern that state employees, particularly within the State Police, are using messaging apps that are capable of automatically deleting communications between users on the app. Additionally, the adoption of popular apps, known for their message deletion features, provide an opportunity for state employees to avoid compliance with FOIA. **HB 4778** passed unanimously.

HB 4832 designates a portion of the M-34 Highway as the "Patrolman Bobby Lynn Williams" Memorial Highway. I voted in favor of this bill because it is a fitting tribute to honor a patrolman who was killed in the line of duty. Patrolman Williams paid the ultimate price for our State's safety, losing his life. With the signs being posted containing his name on them along M-34, people will read his name and continue to honor him. **HB 4832** passed 109-1.

HB 4527 would revise the “Carnival-Amusement Safety Act of 1966” to revise definitions, safety requirements, and fines in relation to accidental injury and mechanical failure. I voted in favor of this bill because the increase in regulations will be helpful in preventing serious injury or fatalities. **HB 4527** passed 84-26.

HB 4945 creates a technical fix to allow traditional school districts that do not currently provide K-12 programming to authorize Strict Discipline Academies (SDAs). I voted against this bill because it enables an SDA who has lost its charter, arguably due to non-compliance issues, to “authorizer shop” to remain open. **HB 4945** passed 57-53.

HB 5007 amends 1972 PA 222 to modify fees associated with renewal of official personal identification cards. Essentially, the bill provides for a free state-ID for Michigan residents. I voted against this bill for a few reasons. First, it creates a \$2.5 million revenue loss for the Secretary of State. Second, it does nothing to address the inherent inequity regarding the cost and accessibility of transportation and required documentation to receive an ID. Finally, the bill was tie-barred to **SBs 303-304**, both of which are bills that infringe upon Michiganders right to vote. **HB 5007** passed 58-52.

SBs 303-304 would eliminate the option for voters without identification to sign an affidavit and to issue such voter a provisional ballot. These bills propose to replace the affidavit option, which over 18,000 Michigan voters relied on in 2016, with signature verification at the polling place. **SB 303** would charge volunteer poll workers with the task of matching a voter’s signature, but provide no training to do so or any uniform standards. I voted against both of these bills because they have a disproportionate impact on elderly voters and individuals with disabilities as their signatures tend to change over the years. Additionally, Michigan already has a voter ID requirement, one that has worked for years. Voters who come to the polls without ID sign an affidavit of identity under penalty of perjury. Finally, more than 250 audits of the 2020 election have been performed in Michigan that found the vote was free, fair, and accessible. Therefore, these bills seek to solve a problem that simply does not exist. **SBs 303-304** passed 58-52.

HB 5053 contains a supplemental appropriation adjustment for the Department of State budget for FY 2020-21. I voted against this bill because it was tie-barred to **HB 5007** and **SB 303** and also did not provide enough funding to cover the deficit created by **HB 5007**. **HB 5053** passed 56-54.

HB 4080 amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to allow, if the Natural Resources Council (NRC) issues orders to that effect, individuals with disabilities to take game with a pneumatic gun during bow hunting season. I voted against this bill because a pneumatic airgun does not have a string or limbs, it is fundamentally not a bow and should not be used during archery season. **HB 4080** passed 69-38.

HB 4725 would amend Public Act 312 of 1969, which provides for the arbitration of labor disputes involving municipal police, fire, and emergency medical service personnel, to include a corrections officer employed by a county sheriff in a county jail, work camp, or other facility maintained by a county and that houses adult prisoners. I voted in favor of this bill because it makes no sense that local corrections officers are not eligible to utilize PA 312 while others, such as local road deputies, are eligible, as they all serve a critical service function. **HB 4725** passed 97-10.

HB 4787 allows the Secretary of State (SOS) to waive the knowledge test requirement for a commercial driver license (CDL) for an individual with military commercial vehicle experience and to not issue, renew, or upgrade a CDL or commercial learner's permit to an applicant listed on the "national drug and alcohol clearinghouse." I voted in favor of this bill because it waives a redundant requirement for individuals who have already demonstrated they have the relevant knowledge to operate a commercial vehicle based on military experience. Thus, the bill will remove an unnecessary hurdle for veterans to be employed. **HB 4787** passed unanimously.

SB 459 would create a statutory exception from the general requirement that an application for an Neighborhood Enterprise Zone certificate be filed prior to a building permit being issued. I voted in favor of this bill because it is necessary to help the Brush Park developers to reapply for a NEZ designation on the remaining units in this residential project, which, but for challenges faced as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic, would have been finished. The project is very important to the continued revitalization of the city of Detroit. Further, the bill is narrowly created to only fit this project. **SB 459** passed 90-17.

HBs 4222-23 shift Michigan's Court of Claims from the Michigan Court of Appeals to state circuit courts. I voted against both bills because Court of Claims cases are better suited to be handled by the COA justices who are more versed in resolving cases on issues of law rather than fact. The number of Court of Claims cases that go to trial are minimal and still, generally involve complex legal issues. This change will shift away from the current trend of having courts with specialty areas. This proposal also eliminates the central Court of Claims clerk once a case

is filed, shifting the clerk's responsibilities to the circuit court clerk once the COA clerk assigns the claim. Additionally, this proposal will increase travel and costs for the Office of the AG. Lastly, I am concerned that the requirement that not more than 2 judges be from a circuit court where the population is more than 250,000, is going to favor less densely populated areas that represent a lot fewer Michiganders. Counties with a population of more than 250,000 include nearly every urban county in the state, whether it be Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Ingham, Jackson, Grand Rapids, or Muskegon. **HB 4222** passed 84-23. **HB 4223** passed 83-24.

HB 4980 amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to exempt the Silver Lake State Park scramble area from the prohibition on drag racing. I voted in favor of this bill because the DNR has allowed drag racing to occur at Silver Lake Sand Dunes State Park for almost 40 years. **HB 4980** passed 96-12.

HB 4037 amends the State School Aid Act (SSAA) to remove language requiring the administration of the "WorkKeys" test from the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MME) and makes clear that the Michigan Department of Education (MDE or "the department") cannot require a life skills test to receive state funding. I voted in favor of this bill because removal of this requirement would shorten testing times for 11th grade students, and that removal of the blanket mandate on this test could free up several million in school aid dollars. **HB 4037** passed 72-37.

HB 4038 would amend Section 1279g of the Revised School Code (RSC) to remove the requirement that the Michigan Merit Examination (MME) include one or more tests to assess a pupil's ability to apply reading and math skills in a manner that is intended to allow employers to use the results in making employment decisions. I voted in favor of this bill because removal of this requirement would shorten testing times for 11th grade students, and that removal of the blanket mandate on this test could free up several million in school aid dollars. **HB 4038** passed 72-37.

HB 4538 would direct any savings that accrue from the removal of the WorkKeys test requirement as part of the Michigan Merit Exam (MME) to paying student costs to take exams for post-secondary credits or credentials. I voted in favor of this bill because whether a student chooses to take classes in a CTE program, a career ready educational path, or a college track path, there are usually certifications or examinations that they take. Currently, the student bears that cost. As the bill would reallocate the savings from making WorkKeys an opt-in test for students, it creates an opportunity for a pupil to be able to earn a credential or credits which can help them in their post-secondary education endeavors. **HB 4538** passed 88-21.

SB 501 requires individuals collecting unemployment benefits to register for work at the Michigan Works Agencies and allows for an extended waiver of the work search, registration, and certification requirements under certain circumstances. I voted in favor of this bill because it provides uniform instruction as to where an individual is to register for work. It also provides employers and employee's more flexibility to allow for an extended waiver of work search, registration, and certification requirements. **SB 501** passed 103-6.

HBs 4740-46 are part of a bill package that would amend the definition of industrial hemp across various statutes. **HB 4740** amends the "Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act" to change the definition of "industrial hemp" to be what is defined in the "Michigan Regulation and taxation of Marihuana Act, 2018 IL 1." **HB 4741** amends the "Industrial Hemp Growers Act" to change the definition of "industrial hemp" to be what is defined in the "Michigan Regulation and taxation of Marihuana Act, 2018 IL 1." **HB 4742** amends the "Marihuana Tracking Act" to change the definition of "industrial hemp" to be what is defined in the "Michigan Regulation and taxation of Marihuana Act, 2018 IL 1." **HB 4743** amends the "Public Health Code" to change the definition of "industrial hemp" to be what is defined in the "Michigan Regulation and taxation of Marihuana Act, 2018 IL 1." **HB 4744** amends the "Industrial Hemp Research and Development Act" to change the definition of "industrial hemp" to be what is defined in the "Michigan Regulation and taxation of Marihuana Act, 2018 IL 1." **HB 4745** amends the "Michigan Medical Marihuana Act" to change the definition of "industrial hemp" to be what is defined in the "Michigan Regulation and taxation of Marihuana Act, 2018 IL 1." It would also allow for individuals to get their medicine through tele-medicine. **HB 4746** amends the "Michigan Liquor Control Code of 1998" to change the definition of "industrial hemp" to be what is defined in the "Michigan Regulation and taxation of Marihuana Act, 2018 IL 1." I voted in favor of all the bills in this package because with the proposed changes to Michigan laws that regulate industrial hemp-infused products, it is absolutely necessary for the definition to be updated across statutes. **HBs 4740-4744** passed 104-4. **HBs 4745-46** passed 103-5.

HB 4359 expands the scope of practice for nurse anesthetists. I voted in favor of this bill because it will allow Michigan hospitals to have the autonomy to choose anesthesia delivery models that best meet the needs of their patients and communities. Further, the bill would allow CRNAs to practice to the full scope of their training and education without the supervision of a physician. Finally, the bill will help improve access to care in medically underserved areas, such as rural areas, where it has been hard to attract and retain anesthesiologists. **HB 4359** passed 96-12.

HB 4516 prohibits licensees from selling or transferring marihuana to certain individuals and creates a cause of action against a licensee for violation of these prohibitions. It also restricts the amount and types of damages. I voted in favor of this bill because it allows a remedy for injuries or damages suffered by minors, visibly intoxicated individuals, or visibly registered

qualifying patients who were unlawfully provided marihuana by licensees. **HB 4516** passed 102-6.

HB 4517 amends the “Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act” to add in the definition of “industrial hemp infused products”. I voted in favor of this bill because it allows a remedy for injuries or damages suffered by minors, visibly intoxicated individuals, or visibly registered qualifying patients who were unlawfully provided marihuana by licensees. **HB 4517** 103-5.

HB 4410 is a general omnibus budget providing appropriations for various state departments for the fiscal year 2022. While this bill does not use all of the funding available to us, my colleagues and I fought hard to negotiate a budget that works for working families, students, seniors, and everyone in our communities. **HB 4410** passed 104-4. Below you will find some of the highlights:

- Funds the Michigan Reconnect program for another two years, which has helped hardworking Michiganders further their education to reach their fullest potential and expand our skilled workforce
- Funds for small business support and workforce development programs to continue our economic recovery
- Increases the wage for direct care workers, who were on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic keeping our communities safe and our society afloat
- Increases funding for childcare providers to ensure working families have access to the quality, affordable childcare they need while at work
- Increases revenue sharing to local governments so our communities can continue important services in our neighborhoods like police and fire protection.
- Funds nutrition assistance for senior citizens, who often live off of fixed incomes

It is important to note that in order for the budget to be signed into law, the Michigan Senate and House need to pass identical bills. This process was never completed, and the legislature adjourned without voting on a final budget to provide flood relief, additional nursing home funding, or child care assistance. It’s unacceptable and we should not be returning to our districts this summer without having it done.

HB 4411 provides funding for the school aid budget for the fiscal year ending in 2022. I was proud to vote in favor of an early education and K-12 budget that makes transformational investments in our educational system. **HB 4411** brings every district up to the same level of per-pupil funding, leveling the playing field among our state's schools. It has increased funding for the Great Start Readiness Program, creating more slots so nearly every eligible child can access quality preschool. This budget contains funding to increase mental health services and wraparound services for students, which is critically important after the challenges our kids have faced during the pandemic. Finally, this legislation increases funding for special education services as well. While there is still money being left on the table, this is a historic budget that will help our schools and students succeed in the Fall and beyond. **HB 4411** passed 105-3. **HB 4421** provides supplemental funding for the School Aid/K-12 budget as well. I supported this bill and it also passed 105-3.

SB 28 is a supplemental appropriation bill that provides \$25M general fund/ general purpose (GF/GP) for a "Post-Acute Auto Injury Provider Relief Fund." Funds would be used to provide payments, on a first-come/ first-serve basis, to post-acute brain and spinal injury providers and attendant care providers to offset structural losses that may occur due to Michigan's no-fault auto insurance changes that take effect after July 1, 2021. I voted against this bill because it places a \$500,000 cap on these funds for facilities. Post-acute care can be very costly, and this amount is wholly insufficient in addressing the problems created by the reform. Additionally, there were logistical issues with providers being able to access these funds. After consulting the Michigan Brain Injury Provider Council, the people providing the care to those affected most by this legislation, and discussing their opposition to the bill, I felt compelled to vote against it. We must continue working to correct the issue created by auto no-fault reform, and I intend to continue working across the aisle to do so. **SB 28** passed 79-30.

6/30

SB 27 contains supplemental appropriation adjustments to various state department budgets for the fiscal year 2020-21. I voted in favor of this legislation because it appropriates \$367.7 million in federal COVID-19 relief funding that was authorized through the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act in an effort to support the economic recovery of individuals, families, and businesses, struggling with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. **SB 27** passed 106-3.

HBs 4224-25 provide temporary sales and use tax exemptions, respectively, for personal protective equipment and supplies (PPE) for use in business activity by an employer who adopts and maintains COVID-19 safety protocol plans. The exemption would apply to

transactions made from March 10, 2020 through December 31, 2021. These bills have passed the House previously, but the Governor vetoed them both citing financial concerns, sending them back to the House. On June 30th, the Speaker brought them before the floor for a veto-override vote, which requires a two-thirds majority to pass. I voted in favor of these bills previously because they provide assistance during the COVID-19 crisis to employers who are having to make unexpected investments to procure PPE to protect employees and the public while many are also facing dramatic revenue losses. Unlike other sales and use tax exemptions, this legislation includes a sunset to reduce the ongoing burden that could occur to the State's budgets. I still believe these bills are important, therefore, I supported them again. Unfortunately, the bills did not receive a two-thirds majority in the House, so they did not pass.

SB 60 amends the Skilled Trades Regulation Act (PA 407 of 2016) to modify the eligibility requirements for the mechanical contractors work classification examination. I voted in favor of this bill because expanding the pool of contractors would allow for more competition and competitive prices for consumers. **SB 60** passed unanimously.

HBs 4378-79 would add whole home generators to the list of improvements that do not add to the "true cash value" of a property for assessing purposes. I voted in favor of this bill because the addition of a whole house generator as a safeguard to power outages is largely equivalent to general maintenance, and a better option than the use of portable generators, which tend to be more dangerous and that the more houses that have them, the better. **HBs 4378-79** passed 107-2.

HB 4087 would require the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to stockpile medical supplies necessary for the state to respond to health emergencies. I voted in favor of this bill because supplies need to be ordered as far in advance of a pandemic as possible to avoid states and countries competing with each other for scarce equipment during a pandemic. **HB 4087** passed 97-12.

HB 4659 would create an exemption from the requirement for the electronic transmission of prescriptions if: The prescription is dispensed by a dispensing prescriber and the prescription is for a dialysis-related drug that is administered as part of or incident to a home-based dialysis treatment. I voted in favor of this bill because the medications prescribed to patients can change frequently, requiring E-scripts for patients undergoing dialysis could disrupt their care. Others may flag E-scripts as being potentially problematic for patients of color who may already face challenges in access to care due to transportation and other issues. **HB 4659** passed unanimously.

HB 4822 offers a presumption for first responders who contracted COVID-19 so that they may receive worker's compensation. I support this concept, but I offered an amendment to expand the presumption to ALL essential workers (nurses, grocery store clerks, etc). Unfortunately, my amendment was not adopted. Our first responders have gone above and beyond throughout the pandemic, but all of our essential workers put their own health at risk to keep our world turning. It's regrettable that we're not working to protect them, too. Despite this, I did vote in favor of the bill and it passed 104-5.

HB 4842 would amend the "Michigan Liquor Control Code of 1998 (Code)" to establish new regulations for qualified small distillers. I voted in favor of this bill because it does well in promoting Michigan agricultural products and Michigan harvesting. **Hb 4842** passed 90-17.

HB 5092 requires the Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) to use "plain language" in their correspondences and include specific items in determinations or redeterminations or other notices of benefit modification, denial, or cessation. I voted in favor of this bill because it will simplify the very confusing documents and systems of the UIA that are sent and used by both claimants and employers. It also requires factual details and appeal rights must be included in determinations or redeterminations, as well as any other denial, modification, or cessation of benefits. **HB 5092** passed unanimously.

SB 372 would strike out a provision in section 309 of the Michigan Telecommunications Act which allows telephone customers to request either a printed or electronic phone book from their telephone provider. Under current law, a printed or electronic phone book must be provided to landline telephone customers upon their request. **SB 372** would no longer allow phone customers to exercise the option of requesting a phone book from their provider. I voted against this bill because current law strikes a fair balance and supporters have not shown how providing customers this option is a significant financial burden. Simply arguing that fewer customers choose landlines does not justify removing this customer option. The MTA has already been streamlined to allow phone providers to shut down landline phone services at their request. Alternative online residential phone directories, such as the White Pages, requires a subscription or charge a fee to access information that would otherwise be available in a phone book. **SB 372** passed 81-28.

HBs 4205-06 amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to require the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to designate one weekend every snowmobile season as free snowmobiling weekend during which registration and a trail permit

are not required to snowmobile. I voted in favor of this bill because it could increase the number of snowmobilers as well as potentially increasing the number of out-of-state snowmobilers. **HBs 4205-06** passed 103-6.

SBs 507-09 collectively require the Secretary of State to resume in-person services, to extend vehicle registration deadlines, and prohibit certain late fees related to registration and license renewal. I voted in favor of all three bills because they will help individuals who have been unable to timely renew their licenses and registration due to the SOS branches being closed for in-person service without appointment, and a months' long waitlist for appointments. Despite the estimated loss in revenue related to late fees, the State should not be profiting from late fees especially during the pandemic. **SB 507** passed 95-14. **SB 508** passed 93-16. **SB 509** passed 94-15.

SB 559 extends the sunset on the ability of bars and restaurants to sell cocktails to go to January 1, 2026 and extends the sunset on the ability of local governments to create social districts where alcoholic beverages can be consumed in a common area to January 1, 2025. I voted in favor of this bill because social districts are increasing in popularity post lockdown, they could be a lifeline for businesses and bars that suffered a negative economic impact due to COVID-19. **SB 559** passed 107-1.