MAASE

SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

Legislative Update

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Summer Legislative Recess Coming to a Close

Fall Campaign Season and Lame Duck on the Horizon

With the Michigan Legislature having been in summer recess since early July, after passing the 2024-2025 state budget, legislative activity in Lansing has been very quiet. Next up is a busy fall campaign season followed by the post-election lame duck period. Here's what you need to know.

What's At Stake in the State Election

All 110 seats in the Michigan House of Representatives are up for election on November 5. Roughly a dozen of the races will decide control of the chamber beginning in January. In addition, we are now seeing fewer races in "open" seats, largely due to the 2022 voter adoption of Proposal 1 that modified Michigan legislator term limits. These new term limits allow for a combined 12 years of service between the House and Senate, rather than the previous 14-year limit comprised of a maximum of three 2-year terms in the House and two 2-year terms in the Senate.

While a few current House members have chosen to forego re-election this fall to pursue potential Senate races in 2025, only two lawmakers (Representatives Neil Friske of Charlevoix and Bob Bezotte, Jr. of Howell) lost in the August Primary. Thus, there are several rematches from 2022 on ballots across the state.



Should Democrats hold onto their 56-54 majority in the House, they will retain their current control of all levels of state government—something that, until the 2022 election, hadn't happened in about four decades. Conversely, if Republicans recapture control of the House, which they enjoyed from 2011-2022, they will regain a foothold in state government.

Fall Policy Discussions

As campaign activity increasingly takes center stage in Lansing with under nine weeks to go until Election Day, policy discussions continue in the background. Several session days are currently on the calendar for later this month, and we anticipate a busy "lame duck"—the time period between the election and the end of the year.

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On the U.S. House side, several races could help decide Michigan's majority in the

Summer Legislative Recess Coming to a Close continued

We continue to hear discussions concerning House Bill 5803 and Senate Bill 911, which would amend the Michigan Public Employees Retirement Act (MPSERS Act) to:

- Codify the 5.75% reduction in districts' MPSERS payroll rates
- Eliminate the 3% retiree health care payment requirement for public school employees hired prior to fall 2012
- Free money from the MPSERS retiree health care fund to be utilized for ongoing school operations

While the 5.75% reduction in school district MPSERS payroll contributions has resulted in significant savings for school districts in the budget, codification of that reduction in the MPSERS Act would ensure the funding is available permanently. Both bills currently await action in the State Senate.

Finally, while a great number of issues may arise during any given "lame duck" session, we are keeping an eye on legislation that seeks to change state law to dictate how school districts must identify and address students with dyslexia (**Senate Bills 567-568**) and modify requirements for teacher preparatory institution literacy instructional programs (**House Bill 5098)**.

We will provide further updates as session activity takes place this fall.

MSPERS

We continue to await guidance from the Office of Retirement Services (ORS) and the Michigan Court of Claims on the outcome of the lawsuit brought against the state by the Michigan Association of Superintendents and Administrators.

Batista v. ORS challenges the state's authority to limit how much of an educator's salary increase counts toward calculating their pension. We are optimistic about the outcome of the ruling; however, additional details and guidance—which we hope to have sooner rather than later—is needed going forward.

Build Relationships, Prepare to Vote on November 5

Please take a moment to get to know your local candidates running for the Michigan House of Representatives. It is crucially important to develop relationships now that ensure our voice is heard in the future on issues that affect what we do in our buildings every day. See pages 3-4 for the House races across the state.

Not sure in which district you reside and/or work? **Click here** (once you input your voter information, scroll to the section titled "Your Voting District" on the right-hand side of the screen). On this Secretary of State webpage, you can also check your voter registration status and, once made available by the Secretary of State, access your Election Day and early voting information and a sample ballot.

2024 Michigan House Races

Listed by district number
Blue text Indicates incumbent

Michigan House

1: Valerie Whittaker (R) vs. Tyrone Carter (D)
2: Ronald Kokinda (R) vs. Tullio Liberati (D)
3: Richard Zeile (R) vs. Alabas Farhat (D)
4: Karen Whitsett (D) (unopposed)
5: Will Sears (R) vs. Regina Weiss (D)
6: Brent Lamkin (R) vs. Natalie Price (D)
7: Barry Altman (R) vs. Tonya Myers Phillips
8: Alex Kuhn (R) vs. Helena Scott (D)
9: Michele Lundgren (R) vs. Joe Tate (D)
10: Griffin Wojtowicz (R) vs. Veronica Paiz (D)
11: Dale Walker (R) vs. Donavan McKinney (D)
12: Randell Shafer (R) vs. Kimberly Edwards (D)
13: Ronald Singer (R) vs. Mai Xiong (D)
14: Barbara Barber (R) vs. Mike McFall (D)
15: Gary Gardner (R) vs. Erin Byrnes (D)
16: Brian Duggan (R) vs. Stephanie Young (D)
17: Rola Makki (R) vs. Laurie Pohutsky (D)
18: Mordechai Klainberg (R) vs. Jason Hoskins (D)
19: Kevin Hammer (R) vs. Samantha Steckloff (D)
20: Brendan Cowley (R) vs. Noah Arbit (D)
21: Thomas Konesky (R) vs. Kelly Breen (D)
22: Adam Stathakis (R) vs. Matt Koleszar (D)
23: David Stamp (R) vs. Jason Morgan (D)
24: Leonard Scott (R) vs. Ranjeev Puri (D)
25: Josh Powell (R) vs. Peter Herzberg (D)
26: Jeff Gorman (R) vs. Dylan Wegela (D)
27: Rylee Linting (R) vs. Jaime Churches (D)
28: Jamie Thompson (R) vs. Janise Robinson (D)
29: James DeSana (R) vs. Kyle Wright (D)
30: William Bruck (R) vs. Rick Kull (D)
31: Dale Biniecki (R) vs. Reggie Miller (D)
32: Martin Church (R) vs. Jimmie Wilson (D)
33: Jason Rogers (R) vs. Morgan Foreman (D)
34: Nancy Jenkins-Arno (R) vs. John Dahlgren (D)
35: Jennifer Wortz (R) vs. Don Hicks (D)
36: Steve Carra (R) vs. Erin Schultes (D)
37: Brad Paquette (R) vs. Angela Jones (D)
38: Kevin Whiteford (R) vs. Joey Andrews (D)
39: Pauline Wendzel (R) vs. Kerry Tapper (D)
40: Kelly Sackett (R) vs. Matt Longjohn (D)
41: Terry Haines (R) vs. Julie Rogers (D)
42: Matt Hall (R) vs. Austin Marsman (D)
43: Rachelle Smit (R) vs. Danene Shumaker (D)
44: Steve Frisbie (R) vs. Jim Haadsma (D)
45: Sarah Lightner (R) vs. Doug Murch (D)
46: Kathy Schmaltz (R) vs. Daniel Mahoney (D)
47: Teresa Spiegelberg (R) vs. Carrie Rheingans (D)
48: Brian Ignatowski (R) vs. Jennifer Conlin (D)
49: Ann Bollin (R) vs. Andy Wood (D)
50: Jason Woolford (R) vs. Austin Breuer (D)
51: Matt Maddock (R) vs. Sarah May-Seward (D)
52: Mike Harris (R) vs. Caroline Dargay (D)
53: Melissa Schultz (R) vs. Brenda Carter (D)
54: Donni Steele (R) vs. Shadia Martini (D)
55: Mark Tisdel (R) vs. Trevis Harrold (D)
56: Dave Kniffen (R) vs. Sharon MacDonell (D)
57: Thomas Kuhn (R) vs. Aisha Farooqi (D)
58: Ron Robinson (R) vs. Nate Shannon (D)
59: Doug Wozniak (R) vs. Jason Pulaski (D)
60: Joseph Aragona (R) vs. Shelly Fraley (D)
61: Robert Wojtowicz (R) vs. Denise Mentzer (D)
62: Alicia St. Germaine (R) vs. Michelle Levine-Woodman (D)
63: Jay DeBoyer (R) vs. Robert Kelly-McFarland (D)
64: Joe Pavlov (R) vs. John Anter (D)
65: Jaime Greene (R) vs. Shirley Tomczak (D)
66: Josh Schriver (R) vs. Shawn Almeranti-Crosby (D)
67: Phil Green (R) vs. Anissa Buffin (D)
68: David Martin (R) vs. Tim Sneller (D)
69: Patrick Duvendeck (R) vs. Jasper Martus (D)
70: Rob Waskoviak (R) vs. Cynthia Neeley (D)
71: Brian BeGole (R) vs. Mark Zacharda (D)
72: Mike Mueller (R) vs. John Dolza (D)
73: Joshua Rockey (R) vs. Julie Brixie (D)

continued

House Races continued

74: Tom Izzo (R) vs. Kara Hope (D)
75: Frank Lambert (R) vs. Penelope Tsernoglou (D)
76: Andy Shaver (R) vs. Angela Witwer (D)
77: Cady Ness-Smith (R) vs. Emily Dievendorf (D)
78: Gina Johnsen (R) vs. Christine Terpening (D)
79: Angela Rigas (R) vs. Jason Rubin (D)
80: Bill Sage (R) vs. Phil Skaggs (D)
81: Jordan Youngquist (R) vs. Stephen Wooden (D)
82: Ryan Malinoski (R) vs. Kristian Grant (D)
83: Tommy Brann (R) vs. John Fitzgerald (D)
84: John Wetzel (R) vs. Carol Glanville (D)
85: Bradley Slagh (R) vs. Marcia Mansaray (D)
86: Nancy DeBoer (R) vs. Abby Klomparens (D)
87: Chip Chipman (R) vs. Will Snyder (D)
88: Greg VanWoerkom (R) vs. Tim Meyer (D)
89: Luke Meerman (R) vs. Lois Maassen (D)
90: Bryan Posthumus (R) vs. William Higgins (D)
91: Pat Outman (R) vs. Jason Dillingham (D)
92: Jerry Neyer (R) vs. Timothy Odykirk (D)
93: Tim Kelly (R) vs. Kevin Seamon (D)
94: Robert Zelle (R) vs. Amos O'Neal (D)
95: Bill Schuette (R) vs. Sabrina Lopez (D)
96: Timothy Beson (R) vs. Rudy Howard (D)
97: Matthew Bierlein (R) vs. Mark Putnam (D)
98: Gregory Alexander (R) vs. April Osentoski (D)
99: Mike Hoadley (R) vs. Jon LeRoux (D)
100: Tom Kunse (R) vs. Tracy Ruell (D)
101: Joseph Fox (R) vs. Christopher Crain (D)
102: Curt VanderWall (R) vs. Kathy Pelleran-Mahoney (D)
103: Lisa Trombley (R) vs. Betsy Coffia (D)
104: John Roth (R) vs. Larry Knight (D)
105: Ken Borton (R) vs. James Wojey (D)
106: Cam Cavitt (R) vs. Trina Borenstein (D)
107: Parker Fairbarin (R) vs. Jodi Decker (D)
108: David Prestin (R) vs. Christiana Reynolds (D)
109: Karl Bohnak (R) vs. Jenn Hill (D)
110: Gregory Markkanen (R) vs. Kim Corcoran (D)



NOVEMBER ELECTION
DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPT. 26
Absentee voter ballots become available
Obtain an absentee voter ballot

OCT. 21
Last day to register by mail or online
Register to vote

OCT. 22 - NOV. 5
New voter registration required in person

OCT. 26 - NOV. 3
Early voting period
Find your early voting location

NOV. 5
Election Day
Information about voting on Election Day