

A photograph of the Michigan State Capitol building, a large, ornate, light-colored stone structure with a prominent dome and classical architectural details. The building is set against a blue sky with some clouds. A green tree is visible on the right side of the building.

# KAROUB

ASSOCIATES

## KAROUB REPORT

| SEPTEMBER 2024

### **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 Nov. 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.

*continued on page 2*



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## LEGISLATIVE RECESS COMING TO A CLOSE *continued*

While a few current House members have chosen to forego re-election this fall to pursue potential Senate races in 2026, 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 the legislative branch.

### 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. A great number of issues may arise during any given “lame duck” session. We will provide further updates as session activity takes place this fall.

### Build Relationships, Prepare to Vote

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 your voice is heard in the future on issues that affect you and your business. The House races across the state are listed at the right and on page 3.

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.

### Michigan House Races

*Listed by district number*

*Blue text Indicates incumbent*

- 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 \(D\)](#)

*continued*



**Michigan House Races continued**

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 Tisdell \(R\)](#) 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. Matt Schlinker (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 \(D\)](#)  
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 Klomprens (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)

## MINIMUM WAGE, SICK TIME LAWS TAKE EFFECT FEB. 21

Following the Michigan Supreme Court's ruling earlier this summer that reinstates the 2018 voter-initiated Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA), the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) has provided guidance on how the ruling affects businesses and workers. As it stands, the ESTA and its provisions take effect Feb. 21, 2025.

### Key Provisions

- Applies to all employers, regardless of size, with the exception of federal employers
- Includes all employee categories (e.g., exempt and non-exempt salaried workers, full- and part-time hourly workers, and temporary employees)
- Expands the permitted use of sick time
- Establishes a sick time accrual rate of 1 hour for every 30 hours worked
- Requires businesses with 10 or more employees to provide up to 72 hours of paid time annually
- Requires businesses with fewer than 10 employees to provide up to 40 hours of paid sick time plus an additional 32 of unpaid sick time annually

[Click here](#) for the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity's Earned Sick Time Act resource page. Included are answers to frequently asked questions.

In its ruling, the Supreme Court also reinstated the accelerated adoption of a \$12 minimum wage in Michigan, which was also initiated by voters in 2018. Attorney General Dana Nessel has requested clarification from the Supreme Court on the exact amount of the increase based on inflationary adjustments.

Several legislators have indicated that, when they return to Lansing later this month, they intend to introduce legislation aimed at keeping the state's existing sick time and minimum wage laws in place. How this plays out during the fall and lame duck sessions is yet to be seen.



## HIGH COURT DISMISSES BUSINESSES' REQUEST FOR COVID-RELATED COMPENSATION

On Aug. 30, the Michigan Supreme Court declined, by a vote of 5-2, to hear appeals in several lawsuits filed by businesses impacted by Michigan's COVID-19 emergency orders.

The plaintiffs in *Gym 24/7 Fitness LLC v State of Michigan* and *Mount Clemens Recreational Bowl, Inc v Director of the Department of Health & Human Services* were seeking compensation of lost revenue incurred during the time gatherings were limited across the state as mandated by the government's pandemic emergency orders. The plaintiffs' requests were based on federal and state law

protecting citizens and businesses from having private property taken without just compensation. Previously, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled there was no "taking" of property in these cases because the property still "had value, even if no revenue or profit was generated during the closure" and "any lost value relative to the real and personal property was likely recovered as soon as the temporary prohibition was lifted."

By the Supreme Court declining to hear the appeals, the Court of Appeals' decision remains in place and compensation will not be granted.

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