

MICPA

THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

December 2, 2014

The Honorable Jeff Farrington
Chair, Committee on Tax Policy
Michigan House of Representatives

N-794 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Representative Farrington:

We are writing to request your support for House Bill 5831, introduced by Representative Rashida Tlaib on September 18, 2014.

The bill will allow the Michigan Department of Treasury to disclose information on service fee and tax exempt housing units to Volunteer Income Tax Assistance programs and other return preparers. Treasury obtains this information in the process of determining the correct amount of the Michigan Homestead Property Tax Credit.

Through our Tax Assistance Program, MICPA members regularly volunteer to assist taxpayers that are affected by this issue. Of concern to tax payers and their tax preparers is the difficulty in obtaining the needed information which allows the proper Homestead Property Tax credit to be sought. Without this information, it is difficult to decide if such a credit should or should not be taken.

Without this legislation, Treasury's position is that the information used for such calculations cannot be provided to taxpayers nor their representatives under section 28(1)(f) of the Revenue Act (PA 122 of 1941). House Bill 5831 will remove that barrier.

We are recommending this committees support for this issue.

Sincerely,



Peggy A. Dzierzawski, CAE
President & CEO, MICPA