



MEMORANDUM



To: Members of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

From: Michigan Association of School Boards
Michigan Education Association
Middle Cities Education Association
Michigan Association of School Administrators
Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators
AFT Michigan
Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association
Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals



RE: Opposition to Senate Bills 415-416

Date: March 18, 2014



We write today in opposition to Senate Bills 415 and 416 which would exempt aviation fuel from the additional 2% sales tax approved under Proposal A. The Senate Fiscal Agency has estimated a cut of \$17 million annually from the School Aid Fund (SAF) if these bills become law. That number could change greatly as prices or consumption rises.



Our concerns lie in the bigger picture. While this particular proposal may seem to be only a small decrease to the SAF, when added to the many other policies recently passed and being considered, they continue to erode the school aid fund and add up to a significant amount of money over time.



We urge you to look very closely at these bills and similar ones and the collateral damage they have over time. Our schools will continue to see cuts if the school aid fund does not receive the revenue necessary to support our students and communities.



We urge you to oppose Senate Bills 415 and 416 until the SAF is held harmless by the cuts proposed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of us in the education community listed.

