# No. 35 STATE OF MICHIGAN Journal of the Senate

# 94th Legislature REGULAR SESSION OF 2007

Senate Chamber, Lansing, Thursday, April 19, 2007.

10:00 a.m.

The Senate was called to order by the President, Lieutenant Governor John D. Cherry, Jr.

The roll was called by the Secretary of the Senate, who announced that a quorum was present.

Allen—present Garcia—present Anderson—present George—present Gilbert—present Barcia—present Basham—present Gleason—present Birkholz—present Hardiman—present Bishop—present Hunter—present Brater—present Jacobs—present Brown-present Jansen—present Cassis—present Jelinek—present Cherry—present Kahn—present Clark-Coleman—present Kuipers—present Clarke—present McManus—present Cropsey—present Olshove—present

Pappageorge—present
Patterson—present
Prusi—present
Richardville—present
Sanborn—present
Schauer—present
Scott—present
Stamas—present
Switalski—present
Thomas—present
Van Woerkom—present
Whitmer—present

Senator Michael Switalski of the 10th District offered the following invocation:

Good morning, Lord. Winter is passing and spring is taking hold. The long-dormant grass is turning green. Lord, can You make our revenues greener or at least eliminate that unsightly red tinge?

Each day grows longer and warmer and when walking across the Capitol grass, I can feel the ground begin to thaw. What was rigid and firm begins to give way. Lord, do I detect You making the hardness of our positions in this chamber soften? Am I just imagining it, Lord, or has a decade together in Lansing made Senate roots grow deep enough to spread our budding shoots across the barren ground that divides us?

Lord, we've known each other a long time. I think You're up to something. You change the seasons and You make us adjust. Recently, I have heard myself say, and my friends across the aisle say, words neither of us have dared to utter for a decade now. I've seen bipartisan buds blossoming in the center aisle and in the rows and furrows between our desks. I have watched in wonder as busy bees carry ideas back and forth to the far corners of these chambers. That cross-pollination brings the promise of honey this summer.

The cuts of the harvest scythe seem long ago. Now is the time for reorganizing our lands, trimming back scraggily remnants, turning over the soil, and planting the seeds that will grow and transform our barren land into a rich and plentiful garden. With Your blessings, Lord, we have done this work many times before. You have always rewarded our hard work. I hope we earn Your continued favor.

And P.S.: Make Zumaya the closer. Amen.

The President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, led the members of the Senate in recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Motions and Communications**

Senator Garcia entered the Senate Chamber.

The Secretary announced that the following House bills were received in the Senate and filed on Wednesday, April 18: House Bill Nos. 4185 4221 4271 4374 4375 4376 4383 4384 4385 4386 4387 4388 4512 4530

The Secretary announced that the following official bills were printed on Wednesday, April 18, and are available at the legislative website:

Senate Bill Nos. 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 House Bill Nos. 4600 4601 4602 4603 4604 4605

By unanimous consent the Senate proceeded to the order of

# Third Reading of Bills

Senator Cropsey moved that the following bills be placed at the head of the Third Reading of Bills calendar:

Senate Bill No. 285

Senate Bill No. 3

Senate Bill No. 284

Senate Bill No. 152

Senate Bill No. 362

Senate Bill No. 123

The motion prevailed.

The following bill was read a third time:

#### Senate Bill No. 285, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 388, entitled "Michigan campaign finance act," by amending section 47 (MCL 169.247), as amended by 2001 PA 250.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

The bill was passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, as follows:

# Roll Call No. 57 Yeas—38

Allen Clark-Coleman Jansen Richardville Anderson Clarke Jelinek Sanborn Barcia Cropsey Kahn Schauer Basham Garcia Kuipers Scott Birkholz George McManus Stamas Gilbert Bishop Olshove Switalski Pappageorge Thomas Brater Gleason Van Woerkom Brown Hardiman Patterson Cassis Hunter Prusi Whitmer Cherry Jacobs

Nays—0

Excused—0

Not Voting—0

In The Chair: President

The Senate agreed to the title of the bill.

The following bill was read a third time:

# Senate Bill No. 3, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 388, entitled "Michigan campaign finance act," by amending section 2 (MCL 169.202), as amended by 2001 PA 250.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

The bill was passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, as follows:

# Roll Call No. 58 Yeas—38

Richardville Allen Clark-Coleman Jansen Anderson Clarke Jelinek Sanborn Barcia Cropsey Kahn Schauer Garcia Kuipers Basham Scott George McManus Birkholz Stamas Gilbert Olshove Switalski **Bishop** Brater Gleason Pappageorge Thomas Brown Hardiman Patterson Van Woerkom Whitmer Cassis Hunter Prusi Cherry Jacobs

Nays-0

Excused—0

# Not Voting—0

In The Chair: President

The Senate agreed to the title of the bill.

Senator Hardiman asked and was granted unanimous consent to make a statement and moved that the statement be printed in the Journal.

The motion prevailed.

Senator Hardiman's statement is as follows:

Mr. President, I rise in support of Senate Bill No. 3. Senate Bill No. 3 would define robo-calls in the campaign finance act as automated telephonic communication. Along with Senate Bill Nos. 284 and 285, Senate Bill No. 3 would shine the light on the practice of political robo-calls and let voters and residents know who is making these calls and who is paying for them. These are common-sense changes that voters in all districts are voting for.

The passage of Senate Bill No. 3 would help me to fulfill a 2002 campaign pledge, but it is important for all voters and it deserves support. I would ask for the body's support of Senate Bill No. 3.

The following bill was read a third time:

# Senate Bill No. 284, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 388, entitled "Michigan campaign finance act," (MCL 169.201 to 169.282) by adding section 48.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

The bill was passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, as follows:

# Roll Call No. 59 Yeas—38

| Allen    | Clark-Coleman | Jansen      | Richardville |
|----------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Anderson | Clarke        | Jelinek     | Sanborn      |
| Barcia   | Cropsey       | Kahn        | Schauer      |
| Basham   | Garcia        | Kuipers     | Scott        |
| Birkholz | George        | McManus     | Stamas       |
| Bishop   | Gilbert       | Olshove     | Switalski    |
| Brater   | Gleason       | Pappageorge | Thomas       |
| Brown    | Hardiman      | Patterson   | Van Woerkom  |
| Cassis   | Hunter        | Prusi       | Whitmer      |
| Cherry   | Jacobs        |             |              |

Nays—0

Excused—0

Not Voting—0

In The Chair: President

The Senate agreed to the title of the bill.

The following bill was read a third time:

# Senate Bill No. 152, entitled

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," by amending section 3902 (MCL 324.3902).

The question being on the passage of the bill,

The bill was passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, as follows:

# Roll Call No. 60 Yeas—38

| Allen    | Clark-Coleman | Jansen      | Richardville |
|----------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Anderson | Clarke        | Jelinek     | Sanborn      |
| Barcia   | Cropsey       | Kahn        | Schauer      |
| Basham   | Garcia        | Kuipers     | Scott        |
| Birkholz | George        | McManus     | Stamas       |
| Bishop   | Gilbert       | Olshove     | Switalski    |
| Brater   | Gleason       | Pappageorge | Thomas       |
| Brown    | Hardiman      | Patterson   | Van Woerkom  |
| Cassis   | Hunter        | Prusi       | Whitmer      |
| Cherry   | Jacobs        |             |              |

Nays—0

Excused—0

Not Voting—0

In The Chair: President

The Senate agreed to the title of the bill.

The following bill was read a third time:

# Senate Bill No. 362, entitled

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," by amending section 3902 (MCL 324.3902).

The question being on the passage of the bill,

The bill was passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, as follows:

# Roll Call No. 61 Yeas—38

| Allen    | Clark-Coleman | Jansen      | Richardville |
|----------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Anderson | Clarke        | Jelinek     | Sanborn      |
| Barcia   | Cropsey       | Kahn        | Schauer      |
| Basham   | Garcia        | Kuipers     | Scott        |
| Birkholz | George        | McManus     | Stamas       |
| Bishop   | Gilbert       | Olshove     | Switalski    |
| Brater   | Gleason       | Pappageorge | Thomas       |
| Brown    | Hardiman      | Patterson   | Van Woerkom  |
| Cassis   | Hunter        | Prusi       | Whitmer      |
| Cherry   | Jacobs        |             |              |

Nays—0

Excused—0

Not Voting—0

In The Chair: President

The Senate agreed to the title of the bill.

The following bill was read a third time:

# Senate Bill No. 123, entitled

A bill to amend 1982 PA 162, entitled "Nonprofit corporation act," by amending sections 106, 133, 141, 143, 151, 404, 405, 407, 413, 421, 441, 446, 451, 521, 525, 901, 1103, and 1144 (MCL 450.2106, 450.2133, 450.2141, 450.2143, 450.2151, 450.2404, 450.2405, 450.2407, 450.2413, 450.2421, 450.2441, 450.2446, 450.2451, 450.2525, 450.2901, 450.3103, and 450.3144), sections 1103 and 1144 as added by 1984 PA 209, and by adding section 406a.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

The bill was passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, as follows:

# Roll Call No. 62 Yeas—38

| Allen    | Clark-Coleman | Jansen      | Richardville |
|----------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| Anderson | Clarke        | Jelinek     | Sanborn      |
| Barcia   | Cropsey       | Kahn        | Schauer      |
| Basham   | Garcia        | Kuipers     | Scott        |
| Birkholz | George        | McManus     | Stamas       |
| Bishop   | Gilbert       | Olshove     | Switalski    |
| Brater   | Gleason       | Pappageorge | Thomas       |
| Brown    | Hardiman      | Patterson   | Van Woerkom  |
| Cassis   | Hunter        | Prusi       | Whitmer      |
| Cherry   | Jacobs        |             |              |

Nays—0

Excused—0

Not Voting—0

In The Chair: President

The Senate agreed to the title of the bill.

By unanimous consent the Senate proceeded to the order of

**General Orders** 

Senator Cropsey moved that the Senate resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole for consideration of the General Orders calendar.

The motion prevailed, and the President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, designated Senator Hardiman as Chairperson.

After some time spent therein, the Committee arose; and, the President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, having resumed the Chair, the Committee reported back to the Senate, favorably and with a substitute therefor, the following bill:

# Senate Bill No. 400, entitled

A bill to amend 1974 PA 198, entitled "An act to provide for the establishment of plant rehabilitation districts and industrial development districts in local governmental units; to provide for the exemption from certain taxes; to levy and collect a specific tax upon the owners of certain facilities; to impose and provide for the disposition of an administrative fee; to provide for the disposition of the tax; to provide for the obtaining and transferring of an exemption certificate and to prescribe the contents of those certificates; to prescribe the powers and duties of the state tax commission and certain officers of local governmental units; and to provide penalties," by amending section 2 (MCL 207.552), as amended by 2005 PA 267.

Substitute (S-2).

The Senate agreed to the substitute recommended by the Committee of the Whole, and the bill as substituted was placed on the order of Third Reading of Bills.

The Committee of the Whole reported back to the Senate, favorably and with a substitute therefor, the following bill: **Senate Bill No. 210, entitled** 

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "Michigan vehicle code," by amending section 806 (MCL 257.806), as amended by 2006 PA 526.

Substitute (S-1).

The Senate agreed to the substitute recommended by the Committee of the Whole, and the bill as substituted was placed on the order of Third Reading of Bills.

The Committee of the Whole reported back to the Senate, favorably and with a substitute therefor, the following bill: Senate Bill No. 211, entitled

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "Michigan vehicle code," by amending section 809 (MCL 257.809), as amended by 2005 PA 141.

Substitute (S-1).

The Senate agreed to the substitute recommended by the Committee of the Whole, and the bill as substituted was placed on the order of Third Reading of Bills.

By unanimous consent the Senate proceeded to the order of

#### **Introduction and Referral of Bills**

Senators Cherry, Stamas and George introduced

# Senate Bill No. 415, entitled

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," (MCL 333.1101 to 333.25211) by adding section 9205b. The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

Senators Stamas, Cherry and George introduced

# Senate Bill No. 416, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled "The revised school code," by amending section 1177a (MCL 380.1177a), as added by 2005 PA 240.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

Senators Brater, Scott, Hunter, Whitmer, Prusi, Jacobs, Clark-Coleman, Cherry, Olshove, Schauer, Thomas, Clarke, Basham, Anderson and Gleason introduced

# Senate Bill No. 417, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 453, entitled "Elliott-Larsen civil rights act," by amending sections 102, 103, and 202 (MCL 37.2102, 37.2103, and 37.2202), section 102 as amended by 1992 PA 124, section 103 as amended by 1999 PA 202, and section 202 as amended by 1991 PA 11.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

Senators Jansen, Birkholz, Brown, Kuipers, Gilbert, Hardiman, George, Cropsey, Van Woerkom, Garcia, Pappageorge and Bishop introduced

#### Senate Bill No. 418, entitled

A bill to provide for a catastrophic stop loss fund and catastrophic stop loss benefit plans; to create a board of directors of the catastrophic stop loss fund; to prescribe the conditions upon which public employers may provide certain benefits; to require the compilation and release of certain information and data; to provide certain powers and duties to certain state officials, departments, agencies, and authorities; and to provide for appropriations.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Local, Urban and State Affairs.

Senators Kuipers, Jansen, Birkholz, Brown, Gilbert, Hardiman, George, Cropsey, Van Woerkom, Garcia, Pappageorge and Bishop introduced

# Senate Bill No. 419, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled "The revised school code," by amending section 632 (MCL 380.632) and by adding sections 506a, 527a, 633, 1255, and 1311m.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Local, Urban and State Affairs.

Senators Birkholz, Jansen, Brown, Kuipers, Gilbert, Hardiman, George, Cropsey, Van Woerkom, Garcia, Pappageorge and Bishop introduced

# Senate Bill No. 420, entitled

A bill to amend 1951 PA 35, entitled "An act to authorize intergovernmental contracts between municipal corporations; to authorize any municipal corporation to contract with any person or any municipal corporation to furnish any lawful municipal service to property outside the corporate limits of the first municipal corporation for a consideration; to prescribe certain penalties; to authorize contracts between municipal corporations and with certain nonprofit public transportation corporations to form group self-insurance pools; and to prescribe conditions for the performance of those contracts," by amending section 5 (MCL 124.5), as amended by 1999 PA 83.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Local, Urban and State Affairs.

Senators Brown, Jansen, Birkholz, Kuipers, Gilbert, Hardiman, George, Cropsey, Van Woerkom, Garcia, Pappageorge and Bishop introduced

# Senate Bill No. 421, entitled

A bill to amend 1966 PA 331, entitled "Community college act of 1966," by amending sections 123 and 124 (MCL 389.123 and 389.124), section 123 as amended by 1980 PA 5 and section 124 as amended by 1997 PA 135.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Local, Urban and State Affairs.

Senators Allen, Barcia, Kuipers, Hardiman, Birkholz, Stamas, Cropsey and Garcia introduced Senate Bill No. 422, entitled

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending sections 2803, 2804, 2834, and 2848 (MCL 333.2803, 333.2804, 333.2834, and 333.2848), sections 2803, 2834, and 2848 as amended by 2002 PA 562 and section 2804 as amended by 1990 PA 149, and by adding sections 2836 and 2854.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

Senators Allen, Barcia, Kuipers, Hardiman, Birkholz, Stamas, Cropsey and Garcia introduced Senate Bill No. 423, entitled

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending section 13807 (MCL 333.13807), as added by 1990 PA 21.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

#### House Bill No. 4185, entitled

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending section 20161 (MCL 333.20161), as amended by 2007 PA 5.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

#### House Bill No. 4221, entitled

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding sections 11532a and 11532b.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs.

# House Bill No. 4271, entitled

A bill to amend 1941 PA 122, entitled "An act to establish the revenue collection duties of the department of treasury; to prescribe its powers and duties as the revenue collection agency of the state; to prescribe certain powers and duties of the state treasurer; to regulate the importation, stamping, and disposition of certain tobacco products; to provide for the transfer of powers and duties now vested in certain other state boards, commissions, departments and offices; to prescribe certain duties of and require certain reports from the department of treasury; to provide procedures for the payment, administration, audit, assessment, levy of interests or penalties on, and appeals of taxes and tax liability; to prescribe its powers and duties if an agreement to act as agent for a city to administer, collect, and enforce the city income tax act on behalf of a city is entered into with any city; to provide an appropriation; to abolish the state board of tax administration; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to declare the effect of this act," by amending section 28 (MCL 205.28), as amended by 2003 PA 114, and by adding section 3b.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

#### House Bill No. 4374, entitled

A bill to amend 1933 PA 167, entitled "General sales tax act," by amending section 4a (MCL 205.54a), as amended by 2004 PA 173.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

#### House Bill No. 4375, entitled

A bill to provide for the exemption of certain property from certain taxes; to levy and collect a specific tax upon the owners of certain property; to provide for the disposition of the tax; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain local government officials; and to provide penalties.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

# House Bill No. 4376, entitled

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled "The general property tax act," by amending section 34d (MCL 211.34d), as amended by 2005 PA 12, and by adding section 7ll.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

#### House Bill No. 4383, entitled

A bill to amend 1937 PA 94, entitled "Use tax act," by amending section 3a (MCL 205.93a), as amended by 2004 PA 172.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

#### House Bill No. 4384, entitled

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled "The general property tax act," by amending sections 8c and 9 (MCL 211.8c and 211.9), section 8c as added by 1998 PA 537 and section 9 as amended by 2006 PA 550; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

#### House Bill No. 4385, entitled

A bill to amend 1941 PA 122, entitled "An act to establish the revenue collection duties of the department of treasury; to prescribe its powers and duties as the revenue collection agency of this state; to prescribe certain powers and duties of the state treasurer; to establish the collection duties of certain other state departments for money or accounts owed to this state; to regulate the importation, stamping, and disposition of certain tobacco products; to provide for the transfer of powers and duties now vested in certain other state boards, commissions, departments, and offices; to prescribe certain duties of and require certain reports from the department of treasury; to provide procedures for the payment, administration, audit, assessment, levy of interests or penalties on, and appeals of taxes and tax liability; to prescribe its powers and duties if an agreement to act as agent for a city to administer, collect, and enforce the city income tax act on behalf of a city is entered into with any city; to provide an appropriation; to abolish the state board of tax administration; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to declare the effect of this act," by amending sections 3, 4, 19, and 24 (MCL 205.3, 205.4, 205.19, and 205.24), section 3 as amended by 2006 PA 615, sections 4 and 19 as amended by 2002 PA 657, and section 24 as amended by 2003 PA 201.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

#### House Bill No. 4386, entitled

A bill to amend 1941 PA 122, entitled "An act to establish the revenue collection duties of the department of treasury; to prescribe its powers and duties as the revenue collection agency of this state; to prescribe certain powers and duties of the state treasurer; to establish the collection duties of certain other state departments for money or accounts owed to this state; to regulate the importation, stamping, and disposition of certain tobacco products; to provide for the transfer of powers and duties now vested in certain other state boards, commissions, departments, and offices; to prescribe certain duties of and require certain reports from the department of treasury; to provide procedures for the payment, administration, audit, assessment, levy of interests or penalties on, and appeals of taxes and tax liability; to prescribe its powers and duties if an agreement to act as agent for a city to administer, collect, and enforce the city income tax act on behalf of a city is entered into with any city; to provide an appropriation; to abolish the state board of tax administration; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to declare the effect of this act," (MCL 205.1 to 205.31) by adding section 30d.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

#### House Bill No. 4387, entitled

A bill to amend 1967 PA 281, entitled "Income tax act of 1967," by amending section 36 (MCL 206.36).

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

# House Bill No. 4388, entitled

A bill to amend 1967 PA 281, entitled "Income tax act of 1967," by amending section 30 (MCL 206.30), as amended by 2005 PA 214.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

#### House Bill No. 4512, entitled

A bill to amend 1943 PA 240, entitled "State employees' retirement act," by amending section 38 (MCL 38.38), as amended by 2002 PA 93.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

# House Bill No. 4530, entitled

A bill to amend 1980 PA 300, entitled "The public school employees retirement act of 1979," by amending sections 4, 41, and 41a (MCL 38.1304, 38.1341, and 38.1341a), section 4 as amended by 2003 PA 17, section 41 as amended by 2002 PA 94, and section 41a as amended by 1996 PA 488.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

#### **Statements**

Senators Scott and Clarke asked and were granted unanimous consent to make statements and moved that the statements be printed in the Journal.

The motion prevailed.

Senator Scott's statement is as follows:

In 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once observed: "We have written a Declaration of Independence, which is in itself an accomplishment, but the effort to transform the words into a life experience still lies ahead."

Well, it's almost 40 years later, folks, since he uttered those words, and we still do not have a fair and equal auto and homeowners insurance system in our state. My goal in getting up here every session day is to transform the words into our life experiences as Michigan drivers and homeowners.

Please, colleagues, join me in my efforts to make that dream a reality by acting on my insurance legislation.

Senator Clarke's statement is as follows:

The media coverage in the past few days in the tragedy at Virginia Tech has been extensive; that is justified. This is the largest mass murder in U.S. history, and it also has served some benefit. It has informed us that we must be mindful of warning signs from those individuals who could be mentally ill and could be a danger to themselves or to others. It also, I believe, would help spur practices to better secure our academic institutions or other large public facilities.

However, that coverage has become so extensive that it has tended to sensationalize the tragedy at Virginia Tech. Now today that coverage has evolved in such a way that, I believe, it glamorizes the very twisted psyche of the man responsible for the largest mass murder in U.S. history.

It has been reported that just yesterday in the Walled Lake Public School system warnings were written in the building regarding Virginia Tech and that Virginia Tech is coming. Maybe those writings were intended to be funny, but there is no humor in them. This is serious.

Here's my request to the media in this state, to every outlet. I'm urging all of you to stop and refrain from covering the Virginia Tech shooter in a way to glamorize his sick, twisted agenda. There are people in this state who are ill and are not receiving the treatment that they need. They may be admiring this sick, twisted killer. I'm urging the media, again, to refrain from covering the background on this shooter in a way that would glamorize the heinous deeds that he committed on the families of those students at Virginia Tech. If the media chooses to cover this story, cover it with compassion on the plights of the families. Let's not sensationalize the murders. Again, I'm asking the media not to cover this story in a way that would cause others to admire a man who should be vilified and condemned.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of the victims of the mass murder incident at Virginia Tech.

# **Committee Reports**

#### COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Subcommittee on Economic Development submitted the following: Meeting held on Wednesday, April 18, 2007, at 8:30 a.m., Room 110, Farnum Building Present: Senators Jansen (C), George, Stamas, Scott and Anderson

#### COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs submitted the following: Meeting held on Wednesday, April 18, 2007, at 9:00 a.m., Room 100, Farnum Building Present: Senators Allen (C), Pappageorge, Garcia, Olshove and Basham

# COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Subcommittee on State Police and Military Affairs submitted the following: Meeting held on Wednesday, April 18, 2007, at 10:45 a.m., Room 405, Capitol Building Present: Senators Garcia (C), Cropsey and Barcia

#### COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Michigan Capitol Committee submitted the following: Meeting held on Wednesday, April 18, 2007, at 12:05 p.m., Room 55, Capitol Building Present: Senators George (C), Garcia and Brown

Excused: Senator Brater

#### COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Health Policy submitted the following:

Meeting held on Wednesday, April 18, 2007, at 3:01 p.m., Senate Hearing Room, Ground Floor, Boji Tower Present: Senators George (C), Patterson, Sanborn, Allen, Clarke, Gleason and Jacobs

# **Scheduled Meetings**

# **Appropriations -**

#### Subcommittees -

**Community Colleges -** Monday, April 23, 1:30 p.m., Washtenaw Community College, Morris Lawrence Building, 4800 E. Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor; Friday, May 11, 9:00 a.m., Bay de Noc Community College, Joseph Heirman University Center, 2001 N. Lincoln Road, Escanaba; and Wednesday, May 16, 9:30 a.m., Senate Appropriations Room, 3rd Floor, Capitol Building (373-2768)

**Community Health Department -** Thursdays, April 26, May 3 and May 17, 2:00 p.m., Senate Hearing Room, Ground Floor, Boji Tower (373-2768)

Environmental Quality Department - Thursdays, April 26, May 3 and May 10, 1:00 p.m., and Tuesday, May 15, 4:00 p.m., Room 405, Capitol Building (373-2768)

**Higher Education -** Friday, April 20, 10:00 a.m., Saginaw Valley State University, Curtiss Hall, Emeriti Room, 7400 Bay Road, University Center; Monday, April 23, 10:00 a.m., Eastern Michigan University, Student Center, Room 310, 900 Oakland Street, Ypsilanti; Tuesday, April 24 and Thursday, April 26, 12:00 noon, Senate Appropriations Room, 3rd Floor, Capitol Building; Friday, April 27, 10:00 a.m., Calvin College, Bunker Interpretive Center, 1750 East Beltline, Grand Rapids; and Friday, May 11, 2:00 p.m., Michigan Technological University, Advanced Technology Development Center, 1402 East Sharon Avenue, Houghton (373-2768)

**Judiciary and Corrections -** Tuesday, April 24, and Wednesdays, May 2, May 9 and May 16, 3:00 p.m., Rooms 402 and 403, Capitol Building (373-2768)

**K-12, School Aid, Education -** Tuesdays, April 24, May 1, May 8 and May 15, 2:00 p.m., Senate Appropriations Room, 3rd Floor, Capitol Building (373-2768)

**Natural Resources Department -** Tuesdays, April 24, May 1, May 8 and May 15, 12:00 noon, Room 405, Capitol Building (373-2768)

Energy Policy and Public Utilities - Thursday, April 26, 1:00 p.m., Room 210, Farnum Building (373-7350)

**Homeland Security and Emerging Technologies -** Tuesdays, April 24, May 1 and May 8, 1:00 p.m., Room 100, Farnum Building (373-5932)

Senator Cropsey moved that the Senate adjourn. The motion prevailed, the time being 10:48 a.m.

The President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, declared the Senate adjourned until Tuesday, April 24, 2007, at 10:00 a.m.