

No. 32  
STATE OF MICHIGAN  
**Journal of the Senate**  
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Senate Chamber, Lansing, Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

10:00 a.m.

The Senate was called to order by the President, Lieutenant Governor Garlin D. Gilchrist II.

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

Albert—present  
Anthony—present  
Bayer—present  
Bellino—present  
Brinks—present  
Bumstead—present  
Camilleri—present  
Cavanagh—present  
Chang—present  
Cherry—present  
Daley—present  
Damoose—present  
Geiss—present

Hauck—present  
Hertel—present  
Hoitenga—present  
Huizenga—present  
Irwin—present  
Johnson—present  
Klinefelt—present  
Lauwers—present  
Lindsey—present  
McBroom—present  
McCann—present  
McDonald Rivet—present  
McMorrow—present

Moss—present  
Nesbitt—present  
Outman—present  
Polehanki—present  
Runestad—present  
Santana—present  
Shink—present  
Singh—present  
Theis—excused  
Victory—present  
Webber—present  
Wojno—present

Senator Mark E. Huizenga of the 30th District offered the following invocation:

Heavenly Father, today we come to You with humble hearts. We are in awe of the majesty of Your creation. As the days grow longer and the earth gets warmer, we see Your hand in the leaves beginning to emerge, the grass turning green, the frogs croaking, and the bugs starting to fly. As we drive, we see apple trees starting to show us the hints of their blossoms and farmers sowing their seeds; Lord, please bless their crops which feed us.

We ask for Your wisdom as we contemplate policy and spending for the people of this great state of Michigan. We know that our work impacts millions of people and Lord, we ask for wisdom and discernment as we deliberately spend and the work that we have today. We ask that You be with our law enforcement, firemen and women, and our military—especially those deployed overseas. Father, we ask for a special blessing for those less fortunate. We pray for the poor, for the homeless, for those dealing with depression and a myriad of issues facing people across our state.

It is in Your holy name that we pray. Amen.

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

### Motions and Communications

Senator Lauwers moved that Senator Theis be excused from today's session.  
The motion prevailed.

Senator Irwin moved that Senators Cavanagh, Moss, Santana and Singh be temporarily excused from today's session.  
The motion prevailed.

Senator Moss entered the Senate Chamber.

### Recess

Senator Irwin moved that the Senate recess subject to the call of the Chair.  
The motion prevailed, the time being 10:04 a.m.

10:12 a.m.

The Senate was called to order by the President, Lieutenant Governor Gilchrist.

During the recess, Senators Santana, Cavanagh and Singh entered the Senate Chamber.

Senator Singh moved that when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, April 16 at 10:00 a.m.  
The motion prevailed.

By unanimous consent the Senate proceeded to the order of

### Introduction and Referral of Bills

Senator Cherry introduced  
**Senate Bill No. 813, entitled**

A bill to amend 1961 PA 236, entitled "Revised judicature act of 1961," by amending section 2163a (MCL 600.2163a), as amended by 2018 PA 343.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety.

Senators Chang and Shink introduced

**Senate Bill No. 814, entitled**

A bill to require the supreme court to analyze certain trial court costs and revenue sources; to develop and recommend a certain trial court fee schedule; to develop and recommend a certain trial court debt collection system; and to develop and recommend certain legislative proposals to change trial court funding.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety.

Senators Shink and Chang introduced

**Senate Bill No. 815, entitled**

A bill to amend 1927 PA 175, entitled "The code of criminal procedure," by amending section 1k of chapter IX (MCL 769.1k), as amended by 2022 PA 199.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety.

Senators Chang, Shink, Damoose, Bayer and Geiss introduced

**Senate Bill No. 816, entitled**

A bill to amend 1967 PA 281, entitled "Income tax act of 1967," (MCL 206.1 to 206.847) by adding section 280.

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

Senator Cherry introduced

**Senate Bill No. 817, entitled**

A bill to make, supplement, and adjust appropriations for certain capital outlay projects for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024; to provide for expenditure of the appropriations; and to prescribe certain conditions for the appropriations.

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

Senators Geiss, Santana, Anthony, Chang, Cavanagh, Wojno, Shink, Moss, Bayer and Camilleri introduced

**Senate Bill No. 818, entitled**

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending sections 2227, 2617, 2617a, and 2618 (MCL 333.2227, 333.2617, 333.2617a, and 333.2618), section 2227 as added by 2006 PA 653 and section 2617a as added by 2016 PA 479, and by adding section 2617b.

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

Senators Geiss, Santana, Anthony, Chang, Cavanagh, Wojno, Shink, Moss, Bayer and Camilleri introduced

**Senate Bill No. 819, entitled**

A bill to create the biased and unjust care reporting act; and to provide for the powers and duties of certain state governmental officers and entities.

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

Senators Cavanagh, Geiss, Santana, Anthony, Chang, Wojno, Shink, Moss, Bayer and Camilleri introduced

**Senate Bill No. 820, entitled**

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending sections 20201 and 21513 (MCL 333.20201 and 333.21513), section 20201 as amended by 2016 PA 499 and section 21513 as amended by 2022 PA 265, and by adding section 21537.

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

Senators Cavanagh, Geiss, Santana, Bayer, Cherry and Chang introduced

**Senate Bill No. 821, entitled**

A bill to amend 1956 PA 218, entitled "The insurance code of 1956," by amending section 2434 (MCL 500.2434), as added by 1986 PA 173.

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

Senators Anthony, Geiss, Chang, Santana, Cherry and Cavanagh introduced

**Senate Bill No. 822, entitled**

A bill to amend 1998 PA 386, entitled “Estates and protected individuals code,” by amending section 5507 (MCL 700.5507), as amended by 2024 PA 1.

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

Senators Chang, Geiss, Santana, Anthony, Cavanagh, Wojno, Shink, Moss, Bayer and Camilleri introduced

**Senate Bill No. 823, entitled**

A bill to amend 1976 PA 453, entitled “Elliott-Larsen civil rights act,” by amending section 301 (MCL 37.2301), as amended by 2023 PA 6.

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

Senators Santana, Geiss, Anthony, Chang, Cavanagh, Wojno, Shink, Moss, Bayer and Camilleri introduced

**Senate Bill No. 824, entitled**

A bill to amend 1975 PA 238, entitled “Child protection law,” by amending section 3a (MCL 722.623a), as added by 1996 PA 581.

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

Senators Anthony, Geiss, Santana, Chang, Cavanagh, Wojno, Shink, Moss, Bayer and Camilleri introduced

**Senate Bill No. 825, entitled**

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled “Public health code,” by amending sections 2701, 2705, 2709, and 2723 (MCL 333.2701, 333.2705, 333.2709, and 333.2723), section 2701 as amended by 2022 PA 38, section 2705 as amended by 2022 PA 37, section 2709 as added by 1990 PA 16, and section 2723 as amended by 2014 PA 173.

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

Senators Chang, Geiss, Santana, Anthony, Cavanagh, Wojno, Shink, Moss, Bayer and Camilleri introduced

**Senate Bill No. 826, entitled**

A bill to establish a doula scholarship program for eligible individuals; to provide for the administration of the doula scholarship program; to create the doula scholarship fund; and to prescribe certain powers and duties of certain state officers and entities.

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

Senators Santana, Geiss, Cherry, Chang, Cavanagh and Bayer introduced

**Senate Bill No. 827, entitled**

A bill to amend 1956 PA 218, entitled “The insurance code of 1956,” (MCL 500.100 to 500.8302) by adding section 3406cc.

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

Senators Shink, Bayer, Wojno, Singh, Chang, Santana, Geiss and Cavanagh introduced

**Senate Bill No. 828, entitled**

A bill to amend 1973 PA 116, entitled “An act to provide for the protection of children through the licensing and regulation of child care organizations; to provide for the establishment of standards of care for child care organizations; to prescribe powers and duties of certain departments of this state and adoption facilitators; to provide penalties; and to repeal acts and parts of acts,” (MCL 722.111 to 722.128) by adding section 16a.

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

By unanimous consent the Senate returned to the order of

**General Orders**

Senator Singh 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 Gilchrist, designated Senator Bayer as Chairperson. After some time spent therein, the Committee arose; and the President, Lieutenant Governor Gilchrist, having resumed the Chair, the Committee reported back to the Senate, favorably and without amendment, the following bill:

**House Bill No. 4101, entitled**

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending section 17609 (MCL 333.17609), as amended by 2010 PA 304.

The bill 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. 285, entitled**

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled "The revised school code," by amending sections 1147 and 1561 (MCL 380.1147 and 380.1561), section 1147 as amended by 2016 PA 192 and section 1561 as amended by 2016 PA 532.

Substitute (S-3).

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 returned to the order of

**Third Reading of Bills**

Senator Singh moved that the Senate proceed to consideration of the following bills:

**House Bill No. 4608**

**Senate Bill No. 706**

**Senate Bill No. 799**

The motion prevailed.

The following bill was read a third time:

**House Bill No. 4608, entitled**

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending sections 16141 and 16145 (MCL 333.16141 and 333.16145), as amended by 1993 PA 80, and by adding section 16346 and part 183A.

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. 90**

**Yeas—26**

Albert	Cherry	Lauwers	Santana
Anthony	Geiss	McCann	Shink
Bayer	Hauck	McDonald Rivet	Singh
Brinks	Hertel	McMorrow	Victory
Camilleri	Huizenga	Moss	Webber
Cavanagh	Irwin	Polehanki	Wojno
Chang	Klinefelt		

**Nays—11**

Bellino	Damoose	Lindsey	Outman
Bumstead	Hoitenga	McBroom	Runestad
Daley	Johnson	Nesbitt	

**Excused—1**

Theis

**Not Voting—0**

In The Chair: President

Pursuant to Joint Rule 20, the full title of the act shall be inserted to read as follows:

“An act to protect and promote the public health; to codify, revise, consolidate, classify, and add to the laws relating to public health; to provide for the prevention and control of diseases and disabilities; to provide for the classification, administration, regulation, financing, and maintenance of personal, environmental, and other health services and activities; to create or continue, and prescribe the powers and duties of, departments, boards, commissions, councils, committees, task forces, and other agencies; to prescribe the powers and duties of governmental entities and officials; to regulate occupations, facilities, and agencies affecting the public health; to regulate health maintenance organizations and certain third party administrators and insurers; to provide for the imposition of a regulatory fee; to provide for the levy of taxes against certain health facilities or agencies; to promote the efficient and economical delivery of health care services, to provide for the appropriate utilization of health care facilities and services, and to provide for the closure of hospitals or consolidation of hospitals or services; to provide for the collection and use of data and information; to provide for the transfer of property; to provide certain immunity from liability; to regulate and prohibit the sale and offering for sale of drug paraphernalia under certain circumstances; to provide for the implementation of federal law; to provide for penalties and remedies; to provide for sanctions for violations of this act and local ordinances; to provide for an appropriation and supplements; to repeal certain acts and parts of acts; to repeal certain parts of this act; and to repeal certain parts of this act on specific dates.”

The Senate agreed to the full title.

**Protests**

Senators McBroom, Bellino and Runestad, under their constitutional right of protest (Art. 4, Sec. 18), protested against the passage of House Bill No. 4608.

Senator McBroom’s statement, in which Senator Bellino concurred, is as follows:

Mr. President, I have the somewhat unusual, rare, and distinguished opportunity here to vote “no” on a bill to reinstate something of a bill I ran in the past to repeal. I’m not sure how many members can ever say they’ve had that privilege. A few years ago, I ran the bill that repealed licensure for dietitians and nutritionists and now all of a sudden I find myself seeing it go back into place. It was a mistake when it was created in the early 2000s and it was the right thing to do to repeal it, and I believe we are making a foolish and rather silly mistake today in bringing back licensure for dietitians and nutritionists.

This is a solution in search of a problem. Where’s the problem in the countryside? What’s going on that needs licensure for dietitians? Sure, they can tell a lot of stories about how this is going to help them get paid, but what it really does is help them get paid and make sure nobody else gets paid because now the government will look for licensure rather than simply qualifications. This is unnecessary government bureaucracy and what is particularly shameful and egregious is in failing to recognize that certain nutritionists have far more experience, credentials, understanding, and competency in these issues and now will not be eligible for licensure. Places that would like to have that person perform the job for them won’t be able to do so because they have to hire a licensed operator who actually has less experience, less schooling, less reason to have the job.

I’m not sure why we’re doing this—why we’re waging in on a turf war over who can give advice on how much vitamin C to take or whether you should eat pasta or red meat or not. This bill is a bit of a joke and I’m sorry to see it happening, but I guess I should feel privileged to have been in the Legislature long enough in the term-limited era to see it come, go, and come back again. I guess I won’t be here to see it leave, but I hope maybe some of you in the room will see that day come when it leaves again.

Senator Runestad’s statement is as follows:

I sat in committee and listened to the testimony from both sides of this issue. You have the dietitians and you have the nutritionists, and both sides seem to have some good points but definitely for me what resonated

most of all was someone who said that we are in desperate need for the services of both of these two different groups. They emphasized we need every soldier on the battlefield to help turn around these very, very difficult ongoing diseases. These diseases are situations you deal with lifelong, and they could be a big, big help, both of these sides, the nutritionists and the dietitians.

When the nutritionists were going through their background, their education, to me it seemed like they had much, much more even than the dietitians. Now this bill is going to say, for purposes of insurance, if you're a dietitian, whether you get coverage under insurance; if you're a nutritionist, you're cut out. Thirteen states, I understand, have a dual path for both so that both of these two groups of professionals can deliver health care to the citizens of Michigan. However, this bill cuts out the nutritionists and I believe that's simply a matter of stopping competition.

It doesn't help the citizens of Michigan. There's no danger with these nutritionists; they do fabulous work. This bill is simply to stop competition from one side to the other—the worst kind of crony corruption that we can pass. I hope my colleagues will vote “no.”

The following bill was read a third time:

**Senate Bill No. 706, entitled**

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled “Michigan vehicle code,” by amending sections 204a, 304, 312f, 320e, 732a, and 904 (MCL 257.204a, 257.304, 257.312f, 257.320e, 257.732a, and 257.904), sections 204a and 320e as amended by 2020 PA 376, section 304 as amended by 2023 PA 125, section 312f as amended by 2022 PA 193, section 732a as amended by 2018 PA 50, and section 904 as amended by 2020 PA 383; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

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. 91**

**Yeas—36**

Albert	Cherry	Johnson	Nesbitt
Anthony	Daley	Klinefelt	Polehanki
Bayer	Damoose	Lauwers	Runestad
Bellino	Geiss	Lindsey	Santana
Brinks	Hauck	McBroom	Shink
Bumstead	Hertel	McCann	Singh
Camilleri	Hoitenga	McDonald Rivet	Victory
Cavanagh	Huizenga	McMorrow	Webber
Chang	Irwin	Moss	Wojno

**Nays—0**

**Excused—1**

Theis

**Not Voting—1**

Outman

In The Chair: President

The Senate agreed to the title of the bill.

The following bill was read a third time:

**Senate Bill No. 799, entitled**

A bill to amend 2008 PA 23, entitled “Enhanced driver license and enhanced official state personal identification card act,” by amending section 4 (MCL 28.304), as amended by 2021 PA 72.

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. 92**

**Yeas—37**

Albert	Daley	Klinefelt	Outman
Anthony	Damoose	Lauwers	Polehanki
Bayer	Geiss	Lindsey	Runestad
Bellino	Hauck	McBroom	Santana
Brinks	Hertel	McCann	Shink
Bumstead	Hoitenga	McDonald Rivet	Singh
Camilleri	Huizenga	McMorrow	Victory
Cavanagh	Irwin	Moss	Webber
Chang	Johnson	Nesbitt	Wojno
Cherry			

**Nays—0**

**Excused—1**

Theis

**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  
**Resolutions**

Senator Singh moved that rule 3.204 be suspended to permit immediate consideration of the following resolutions:

**Senate Resolution No. 106**

**Senate Resolution No. 107**

The motion prevailed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor.

Senators Hertel, McCann, Chang, Shink, Bayer, Daley and Johnson offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution No. 106.**

A resolution to designate April 11, 2024, as Living Donor Day.

Whereas, As of February 2024, 103,223 individuals were on the organ donation waiting list managed by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network established under section 373 of the Public Health Service Act; and

Whereas, On average, 17 people die each day while waiting for an organ donation; and

Whereas, In 2023, over 46,000 transplant procedures were performed with organs from over 39,680 deceased donors and over 6,950 living donors; and



Whereas, As of 2022, 170,000,000 people in the United States are registered to be organ and tissue donors, yet the demand for donated organs outweighs the supply of organs made available each day; and

Whereas, A record was set in 2022 for the number of deceased donor organ transplants performed in a single year. For the ninth consecutive year, annual records were set for liver, heart, and lung transplants and kidney transplants exceeded 25,000 for the first year ever; and

Whereas, Transplantation is the therapy of choice, or frequently the only option to ease suffering, restore health, and allow patients to lead more productive lives; and

Whereas, Modern medicine has progressed to allow exponentially more successful transplant surgeries to be performed; and

Whereas, In addition to addressing public health concerns, there are also enormous financial savings to the health care system that can be realized by increasing organ donation and transplantation statewide; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body designate April 11, 2024, as Living Donor Day.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

The resolution was adopted.

Senators Geiss, McMorrow and Santana were named co-sponsors of the resolution.

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

The motion prevailed.

Senator Hertel's statement is as follows:

I rise today in support of this resolution recognizing April 11 as Living Donor Day here in the state of Michigan. Currently there are over 100,000 people on the national transplant waiting list. If you need help visualizing what that number looks like, we're talking about the largest NFL stadium, and then adding another 20,000 people. About 86 percent of those on the transplant list are waiting for a kidney, and another 10 percent are waiting for a liver. These individuals are mothers, they're fathers, they're grandparents, they're sisters or brothers, they're children, they're friends, and they're our neighbors. In 2002, 5,600 people in the United States died while waiting for an organ on that list, and that's an average of 16 lives lost every single day. While we have seen the donor list grow in the past few years, there is still more work to be done to ensure everyone who needs a transplant can receive a vital organ.

A critical component of that work is the incredible compassion and generosity of living donors across our state and across our country. Living donors are able to donate one of their kidneys or part of their liver to help out a loved one, a friend, or even a stranger have another chance at life. Every year, with more and more selfless individuals stepping up to donate, records are being set for the number of living transplants being performed. Research has even shown that recipients of organs from a living donor have better outcomes than those who receive their organ from a deceased donor.

I learned of the importance of living organ donation through a constituent of mine, David Galbenski, who received a living liver transplant from his brother-in-law Mark in 2019. Since that surgery, both Dave and Mark have made full recoveries and Dave has started the Living Liver Foundation to educate others about the importance of living organ donation. With this resolution, I hope we can honor those who have shared the gift of life with another in need and spread awareness about the importance of living donation so that more people may step forward to donate.

Senators Geiss, Wojno, Shink, Moss and McDonald Rivet offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution No. 107.**

A resolution to commemorate April 11-17, 2024, as Black Maternal Health Week.

Whereas, According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Black mothers in the United States (U.S.) die at two to three times the rate of white mothers; and

Whereas, The CDC data from 2021 for pregnancy-related deaths shows that maternal mortality rates are increasing rapidly, 26.6 deaths per 100,000 live births for white women, 69.9 deaths per 100,000 live births for Black women, and 32.1 deaths per 100,000 live births for women of all races in the U.S.; and

Whereas, Among high-income nations, the U.S. has some of the worst rates of maternal and infant health outcomes, despite spending an estimated \$111 billion per year on maternal, prenatal, and newborn care; and

Whereas, At 14.8 percent, Black women have the highest percentage of U.S. live births that were preterm; and

Whereas, Disparities in maternal and infant mortality are rooted in structural racism. The Institute of Medicine reported substantial disparities in the quality of care for minority communities even when accounting for healthcare insurance coverage and income; and

Whereas, Black women are more likely to quit, be fired, or return to work before they are healthy after giving birth due to inadequate family and medical leave policies; and

Whereas, Black maternal death is one of the widest, but not the only racial disparities in women's health; and

Whereas, Black women are 22 percent more likely to die from heart disease than white women, 71 percent more likely to die from cervical cancer, and three to four times more likely to die from pregnancy-related or childbirth-related causes; and

Whereas, According to the National Institutes of Health, when compared with white women with the conditions of preeclampsia, eclampsia, abruptio placentae, placenta previa, and postpartum hemorrhage, which are common causes of maternal death and injury, Black women are three to four times more likely to die than white women who had the same condition; and

Whereas, Black women are more likely to experience reproductive health disorders such as fibroids, and are three times more likely to have endometriosis; and

Whereas, According to the Michigan Maternal Mortality Surveillance Project, between 2015-2019, Black women in Michigan experienced a pregnancy-related mortality rate of 29.8 deaths per 100,000 live births compared to 10.7 deaths per 100,000 live births for white women in Michigan; and

Whereas, According to the Commonwealth Fund, the United States has the highest maternal death rate in high-income countries in which two-thirds of all recorded deaths are deemed to be preventable. Our state currently ranks 25th in the nation for maternal deaths; and

Whereas, These alarming statistics for Black maternal health cut across socio-economic status, maternal age, and education levels; and

Whereas, We recognize the necessity for increased attention to the state for Black maternal healthcare as well as the need to study and understand the root causes of the discrepancies in maternal health outcomes; and

Whereas, We support community-driven programs, care solutions, the improvement of prenatal care and overall maternal healthcare, the improvement of breastfeeding rates and nutrition, and the amplification of the voices of Black mothers, women, families, and stakeholders, including Black women from across the diaspora and Afro-Latinx groups; and

Whereas, We also recognize the necessity to end maternal mortality statewide, nationally, and globally in order to strengthen the need for maternal health and maternal rights; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body commemorate April 11-17, 2024, as Black Maternal Health Week.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

The resolution was adopted.

Senators Brinks, Damoose, McMorrow and Santana were named co-sponsors of the resolution.

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

The motion prevailed.

Senator Geiss' statement is as follows:

I rise today to offer Senate Resolution No. 107, a resolution to commemorate April 11-17, 2024, as Black Maternal Health Week. This week, now in its 7th year, was founded by the Black Mamas Matter Alliance in 2018, and the Michigan Legislature has been recognizing it since its inception. This year's theme is "Our Bodies STILL Belong to Us: Reproductive Justice Now!" and is dedicated to awareness, activism, and amplifying the voices of Black mamas to express the concerns and necessary improvements regarding Black maternal health and reproductive justice.

Some folks may be wondering why this is important. In fact, I recall when as a freshman Senator, a senior Senator asked me why Black maternal health specifically. Well, that was six years ago, and the answer remains the same. I will spare everyone here the statistics because they remain harrowing, and in some cases have worsened. Also, they're listed in the resolution itself. The Black maternal health disparities still exist across geographic areas, socioeconomic status, and education levels, and these inequities between Black mothers and other mothers have intensified often because of long-standing institutional policies and barriers that remain endemic within reproductive health care. We can only remove those barriers and inequities by listening to Black mamas, birthing people, and families; hearing and heeding our experiences; and responding to the solutions we know we need in order to not just exist but thrive.

This work is not just being done in state houses around the country, but is being done by, through, and because of the vast coalitions of such groups who are aligned with Black Mamas Matter Alliance. Michigan

groups such as the Reproductive Justice Council, Birth Detroit, Mothering Justice, Black Mothers Breastfeeding Association, and Revive Village and Revive Community Health Center, to name just a few of the groups working in this space. This work is rooted in community. We must uplift that our bodies still belong to us, especially at this pivotal time when reproductive justice, rights, and freedom are under assault. We must recognize the intersections of economic justice and reproductive justice policies in order to improve Black maternal health and restore Black bodily autonomy and joy. With this I welcome co-sponsorship of the Michigan Legislature's 7th annual resolution recognizing April 11-17, 2024 as Black Maternal Health Week, and it still is available on Session Web.

### Statements

Senators Runestad, McBroom and Moss asked and were granted unanimous consent to make statements and moved that the statements be printed in the Journal.

The motion prevailed.

Senator Runestad's statement is as follows:

Michigan, our government sludge-filled appropriation septic tank just keeps pouring out in endless supply of graft, corruption, and double dealing. Welcome to likely the least-transparent and most-corrupt state appropriation process in the entire nation—Michigan. Transparency and accountability are two words that mean more to me than talking-point blather. To me they actually mean something. But apparently to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, the fiduciary acting as the transfer agent for the Legislature on all these no-bid contracts, these words seem to mean very little. I've demanded answers from the MEDC about the lack of viable guardrails and their fiduciary process in overseeing the state grants.

As the *Detroit News*' Beth LeBlanc reported last week, a Detroit area businesswoman, big Democratic political donor and former vice-chair of the Democratic Party, Fay Beydoun, received a no-bid \$20 million grant for her startup business signed into law by Gretchen Whitmer. It gets better. Turns out that the no-bid recipient, Beydoun, was appointed by the Governor to the executive committee of the very MEDC that oversees her contract. So now we have the big double dealing circle of corruption, a well-connected big Democratic donor appointed to the very board that oversees the taxpayer funded projects scooping in millions in trophy lard for herself. But wait, there's more. The *Detroit News* also unearthed the oh-so-important purchases that Beydoun needed to spend your hard-earned taxpayer dollars to fund. You paid for a \$4,500 coffee maker, and for an \$11,000 first-class flight to enjoy the sights and sounds and soirees of Budapest, Hungary. A ridiculous \$408,000 in salaries for herself and another employee just over a three-month time period. Certainly none of this passes the taxpayer smell test. Twenty million dollars in big contract given to an individual who sits on the very board that oversees the contract, who then goes on a gigantic spending spree with taxpayer dollars and virtually no oversight. You see, when it's not your money, the Michigan government doesn't really care how it's spent. Well, I do. And taxpayer? You're getting fleeced.

Just last year, we blew through a one-time \$9 billion surplus crafted behind reclusive, cloistered doors in the largest-ever \$82 billion budget carved up Zorro-like in secret in the dead of night for the benefit of a few Lansing power brokers. The current MEDC now looks like a dark-money slush fund for the well connected, who now use your hard-earned taxpayer dollars to live high off the hog and are a laughing stock in oversight that virtually no company and no legitimate organization in the entire nation would accept. The big elitist political donor party insider gets a \$4,500 coffee maker, worldwide flights, and embarrassingly-gigantic personal paydays, and you, the public, get the tab for this graft and corruption.

Both Republicans and Democrats have dragged their feet on fixing this venial, shady, avaricious process. We should all be supporting more oversight and more transparency in the appropriation process. My bill to provide proper transparency in our appropriation process has been dead on arrival by the Democratic Government Operations Committee since I put it in way last month—May—and it's now sitting in the Democratic court. Michigander, I keep telling you and trying to warn you. To paraphrase George Carlin, Taxpayer, It's one big club and you ain't in it.

Senator McBroom's statement is as follows:

Mr. President, I'd like to call attention again to the continued situation in our state correctional facilities. I've spoken a number of times in the past on this and it deserves again to have my colleagues aware of just how extreme the situation is for our state employees who protect us every day at our state prisons. At least one facility in the Upper Peninsula has had days and population of officers at 40 percent of what it should be. Down to 40 percent. We have employees in areas that are averaging 120 hours of work a week—120-hour work week. They are facing repeated violations of the 32-hour rule again and again with no punishment to the state, to the department, for violating this rule. And really, nobody even bothering to keep track of it. When I asked the department for an accounting of it, they said, We don't keep track of that.

Imagine having worked your eight-hour shift with expectations of going home, going to a kid’s ball game, doing something with your wife for your anniversary or for her birthday, and being told, Sorry you have to work a double. Alright, in a vacuum and having not happened very often, perhaps that’s not a really big deal, but the fact that it happens so frequently it probably is. So you work the second eight-hour shift to 16 hours and you go home, takes an hour to get home, unwind, take a shower, get a call that you’re going to go back. You’ve got an hour to get back, too. You’re lucky at this point if you’ve got five hours to take a nap, get something to eat, and head back to work again—kids disappointed, spouse disappointed, inability to go to private appointments, to seek medical attention—and yet the department’s busy patting itself on the back because they’ve created an employee wellness program. Some employee wellness program if you can’t give people a decent life/work schedule.

Something needs to be done about this before somebody gets hurt. We’re already hemorrhaging employees. Other states are paying better, they’re offering better benefits, they have safer working conditions. Wisconsin and Iowa are reaping our investment to help our situation. We keep on pouring money in, training more people, putting up billboards advertising—please come and work at Corrections, it’s a great career—and they work there a couple of months and get an offer from Wisconsin. Goodbye, Michigan. Meanwhile, the ones who have the experience and knowhow, they’re getting out as fast as they can. We are hemorrhaging employees at a rate that cannot be ignored any longer.

The situation is dire in some of our facilities, and it begins to trouble me that at this point the only solution that our administration—which has dated back to the previous Governor’s administration, so I’m not trying to cast shade on our present Governor. The only solution that it’s going to be is more closures, more consolidations, and more communities disrupted and disjointed over the unexpected closure of their facility and the loss of hundreds if not thousands of employees, the disruption of families who expect to be able to go and visit their loved one, and the inability for those who are in there trying to do their time and get back to their life outside to have any consistency in their education and in their opportunities within the facility to better themselves to be more prepared to enter our society. This Legislature and this Governor must begin to take more seriously the crisis that we have created within our correctional facilities, and the time is long past to start.

Senator Moss’ statement is as follows:

I was listening to the previous member talk about our budget process and wanted to add my remarks. I think we all share the common goals of making our budget process more transparent and understandable, but the issue he’s lamenting about, I want to add more to it and put my remarks in the Journal—that it happened in a Republican budget, the grant was sponsored by the Republican Speaker of the House, and the member voted for that grant in the budget.

**Announcements of Printing and Enrollment**

The Secretary announced that the following bills were printed and filed on Tuesday, April 9, and are available on the Michigan Legislature website:

**House Bill Nos. 5633 5634 5635**

The Secretary announced that the following bills were printed and filed on Wednesday, April 10, and are available on the Michigan Legislature website:

**Senate Bill Nos. 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812**

**Committee Reports**

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure reported

**Senate Bill No. 682, entitled**

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled “Michigan vehicle code,” (MCL 257.1 to 257.923) by adding section 628b. With the recommendation that the substitute (S-3) be adopted and that the bill then pass.

Erika Geiss  
Chairperson

To Report Out:

Yeas: Senators Geiss, Klinefelt, Wojno, Hertel, Chang, McCann, Victory and Bumstead

Nays: Senators Bellino and McBroom

The bill and the substitute recommended by the committee were referred to the Committee of the Whole.

## COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure submitted the following:

Meeting held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 3:30 p.m., Room 1200, Binsfeld Office Building

Present: Senators Geiss (C), Klinefelt, Wojno, Hertel, Chang, McCann, Bellino, McBroom, Victory and Bumstead

## COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Housing and Human Services submitted the following:

Meeting held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 12:00 noon, Room 403, 4th Floor, Capitol Building

Present: Senators Irwin (C), Santana, Cavanagh, Bayer, Shink, Chang, Cherry, Geiss, Lindsey, Hoytenga and Damoose

## COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture submitted the following:

Meeting held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., Room 1300, Binsfeld Office Building

Present: Senators Shink (C), Cherry, Singh, Polehanki, Daley, Victory and Hoytenga

**Scheduled Meetings**

**Economic and Community Development** – Thursday, April 11, 12:00 noon, Room 1100, Binsfeld Office Building (517) 373-1721 (CANCELLED)

Senator Singh moved that the Senate adjourn.

The motion prevailed, the time being 10:57 a.m.

In pursuance of the order previously made, the President, Lieutenant Governor Gilchrist, declared the Senate adjourned until Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

DANIEL OBERLIN  
Secretary of the Senate

