



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

GARLIN GILCHRIST II  
LT. GOVERNOR

October 15, 2020

Michigan House of Representatives  
State Capitol Building  
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Representatives,

Today I am returning Enrolled House Bills 5339 and 5340 to you without my approval.

As Governor, I have put a priority on protecting Michigan consumers. Michiganders should be able to trust that their government has their best interests in mind when passing and signing new laws.

These bills make it cheaper and easier for for-profit property finders to get access to Michigander's private data. The Department of Treasury already does an excellent job returning lost and unclaimed property to its rightful owners, at no cost to Michiganders. In 2019, the Department returned to owners and/or their heirs more than \$81 million, or 94 percent of all unclaimed property claims, without charging a fee. The changes proposed in these bills not only put an increased administrative burden on the Department of Treasury, but do so at the expense of consumer privacy.

For the foregoing reasons, I am vetoing these bills.

Respectfully,

Gretchen Whitmer  
Governor