

# **Presentation to Alpena County**

Michigan Association of Counties





# Purpose

Advocacy: To be the voice of Michigan counties at the state and federal level

Education: To provide educational opportunities to county commissioners to ensure they can do their jobs to the best of their abilities

Services: To make available services that counties can take advantage of that save their staff time and money

Use the QR code to learn more







# Board

Sixteen members elected by commissioners (elections held at Annual Conference)

Two seats from each of six regions ensure broad representation

Meets four times a year: Legislative Conference, August, Annual Conference, November

Use the QR code to see the Board of Directors





## **MAC Leadership**



#### MELISSA DAUB Board President

Wayne County



#### ANTOINETTE WALLACE

Board First Vice President

Macomb County



BRYAN KOLK

Board Second Vice President

Newaygo County



STAN PONSTEIN

Board Immediate Past President

Kent County



STEPHAN CURRIE

Executive Director scurrie@micounties.org

### MAC EVENTS

Welcome County Officials

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES



2025 Annual Conference Sept. 30-Oct. 2 GrandTraverse Resort, Acme









### 2026 Legislative Conference April 27-29, 2026 DoubleTree Hotel, Lansing

## Legislative Accomplishments

#### **Revenue sharing increase**

• \$30 million increase in county revenue sharing

#### **Courts and Public Safety**

- Trial Court Funding fee authority extended to Dec. 31, 2026
- \$17 million for grants to 15 county prosecutor offices with highest rates of violent crime per 1,000 residents

#### **Health and Human Services**

• MDHHS working on 1115 re-entry waiver proposal, MAC priority for MI to pursue Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy reforms

#### **Small Business PPT Exemption Reimbursement**

- PAs 174-175 provide methodology and reimbursement mechanism to reimburse locals for their losses associated with expanded Personal Property Tax exemptions
- Carves out \$75 million annually for reimbursement

#### Lake Levels

- Senate Bill 662 (PA 112 of 2024)
  - Allows for variation of lake level without going to circuit court in every case
  - Allows the lake level district to seek interim financing

# <sup>2</sup>24 Lame Duck Victories



### MAC Deflects Harmful Legislation

- Minimum staffing as a mandatory subject of bargaining
- Statewide Sanitary Code
- Publicly funded health insurance increases for counties

# 2025 Priorities

See complete details by scanning the QR code



Creating a Fair Revenue Sharing System for Counties (Revenue Sharing Trust Fund)

**Reforming Earned Sick Time Act** 



Compensating Local Governments for Funds Diverted by the Veterans Property Tax Exemption

Adopting a Permanent State Solution to Funding Michigan's Courts

Increasing Road Funding to Address Michigan's Infrastructure Crisis

## 103<sup>rd</sup> Legislature (2025-2026)



### Major Political Shifts in Lansing

- Republicans control House (58-52)
- Democrats cling to Senate (19-18, 1 vacancy)
- House leadership eliminates Local Government Committee
- House rule restricts budget
  earmarks

## FY<sub>26</sub> State Budget



#### **Revenue Sharing**

- Governor: 3.6% base increase; neglects TV payment
- Senate: 10% increase distributed through TV payment

#### Public Safety Fund/Crime Reduction

- Governor: \$75M; excludes counties
- Senate: \$100M (\$60M for counties); distributed via TV calculation

#### **Tipping Fee Increase**

- Governor: \$80M
- Senate: \$0

#### **Community Infrastructure Fund**

- Senate creates with \$372M
- Revenue sharing and community crime increases come out of this fund

## Revenue Sharing Trust Fund



### House Bills 4311-12

- Tie Revenue Sharing to percentage of state sales tax
- Previous versions passed the House (Nov. 2023) by 106-4
- Referred to Committee on government Operations
- Includes new taxable value distribution model established in FY25 budget
- Sponsors: Reps. O'Neal and Tisdel



Roads Plan = \$1B Plus for Counties

- House Republicans' Funding Plan
  - Nix sales tax on gas, replace with gas tax = \$880M (\$340M for counties alone)
  - Shifts from Corporate Income Tax, General Fund = \$2.2B (\$1.1B for counties alone, not run through PA51 formula)
  - MAC concern: Impact on General Fund (revenue sharing)
- Gov. Whitmer expected to release her plan soon

## Indigent Defense Expansion



### House Bill 4071/Senate Bill 81

- Expanded powers:
  - Include youth defense
- Membership:
  - Increase from 18 to 19 (19th member: youth defense expert)
- Key concerns:
  - MIDC gains authority to determine indigency
  - Disbursement model changes
    from 3 to 4 payments

## **Public Safety Fund**



## House Bills 4260-61

- Reintroduction from last session
- Counties now eligible
- Passed House with bipartisan support
- \$115M of sales tax collections for fund
- First \$75M:
  - o 2% MDHHS to administer
  - o 2% Crime Victims Rights Fund
  - Remainder to CVTs that provide/contract police services
    - Distribution based on average share of statewide reported violent crime
- Remaining \$40M:
  - o Available to applicant counties
  - Distributed proportionately based on size of police force

## **Veteran Service Grants**



### House Bill 4423

- Addresses underfunding from MI Dept. of Military & Veteran Affairs
- Mid-year cut to counties
- FY25 supplemental appropriation of \$3.7M to fully fund awards
- Bipartisan support
- Sponsor: Rep. Rogers

# Policy Development

Internal Committees

Committees develop MAC policy platforms for member approval

Committee members are appointed by board president

Committees meet January-October each year



Finance and General Government



Environmental, Regulatory Affairs, Agriculture and Tourism



Judiciary and Public Safety



Health and Human Services



Transportation and Infrastructure





- Provides financial support to incumbent state legislators who are friends of county government
- 26 former county commissioners now serving in the Michigan Legislature (MAC County Caucus)
- To donate go to: micounties.org

## MAC's political action committee

# MAC Service Corp.

MACSC was established in 1986 to provide services to Michigan Association of Counties members through the development and maintenance of a variety of programs and services. Our services are not limited to counties but are available to the various county entities and other agencies within counties







Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association





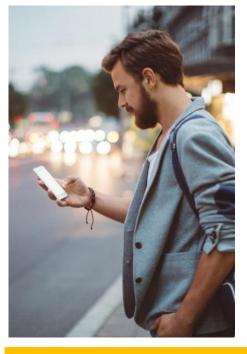
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