


[View this email in your browser](#)



Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators

MASA Legislative Update

Brought to you by: 

March 10, 2023

In This Update

- [Summary](#)
- [Testimony to Continue Next Week on Collective Bargaining Changes](#)
- [Michigan House Votes to Repeal Right-to-Work and Restore Prevailing Wage Wednesday Night](#)
- [Michigan House Votes on Gun Background Check Bills](#)
- [Senate Committee Hears Testimony on Guns](#)
- [Read by Grade 3 Bill Sent to Governor and School Sinking Fund Bill Passes House](#)
- [Income Tax Plan Signed by Governor](#)
- [President Biden Unveils Budget](#)
- [House and Senate Education Committees](#)
- [Federal Guidance on Rural Schools Providing Summer Meals Released](#)
- [This Week's Introduced Bills](#)

Summary

It was a big week, with the Michigan Legislature making significant movements on gun legislation, repealing Right-to-Work, and restoring prevailing wage.

When it became apparent that language was being proposed in the Right-to-Work bill to remove certain education contract bargaining agreements, you all made your voices heard in opposition – and we thank you for your swift action! MASA will continue to negotiate on the prohibited subjects of bargaining and

As always, please [contact MASA](#) with any questions or concerns.

Testimony to Continue Next Week on Collective Bargaining Changes

The House Labor Committee, chaired by Rep. Haadsma (D-Battle Creek) will continue to hear testimony next Thursday on [House Bill 4044](#). The bill, introduced by Rep. Koleszar (D-Plymouth), would repeal Public Act 54 of 2011. Repealing this law would **prohibit the freezing of certain benefits and wages during contract negotiations for public school employees and prohibit retroactivity when an agreement is reached.**

MASA opposes this bill as introduced because it would repeal the entire law and could lead to an increase in contracts not being ratified on a timely basis.

Please reach out to the House Labor Committee [members](#) and express your concerns with [House Bill 4044](#).

- Chair, Rep. Haadsma (D-Battle Creek)
- Vice Chair, Rep. Mentzer (D-Mount Clemens)
- Minority Vice Chair, Rep. Wozniak (R-Macomb)
- Rep. Koleszar (D-Plymouth)
- Rep. O'Neal (D-Saginaw)
- Rep. Andrews (D-St. Joseph)
- Rep. Churches (D-Wyandotte)
- Rep. Wegela (D-Inkster)
- Rep. Mueller (R-Genesee)
- Rep. Kunse (R-Clare)

Michigan House Votes to Repeal Right-to-Work and Restore Prevailing Wage Wednesday Night

This week, House Democrats decided to move quickly with **the repeal of Right-to-Work and to restore the prevailing wage.** Both issues were major

Right-to-Work bills, [House Bill 4004](#) and [House Bill 4005](#) introduced by Rep. Weiss (D-Oak Park), were heard in the House Labor Committee on Wednesday morning, along with a bill that would restore prevailing wage – [House Bill 4007](#), introduced by Rep. Carter (D-Detroit). After an hour and a half of public testimony, the Committee voted along party lines to move all three bills to the House floor.

In a surprise move, a substitute for the Right-to-Work bills started to circulate during a late afternoon break. **The substitute would have allowed teacher unions to go on strike during the school year, and removed the prohibition on subjects of bargaining that were enacted in 2011, including the right of assignment.**

After receiving a deluge of feedback from our members expressing serious concerns with the substitute and the rushed process, **House Leadership disavowed the substitute language**, stating it was a mistake and that the chamber would not be considering the substitute language.

Thank you to all of you for your quick action in calling your legislators and voicing your opposition to the inclusion of this language in the bill.

All three bills passed the chamber along party lines in a vote of 56-53. Notably, the prevailing wage bill that passed the House would apply to all projects. The bills have now been moved to the Senate for consideration. MASA will continue to meet with legislators to reach common ground on education contract bargaining. **We will continue to need all your support and efforts in reaching out to your legislators.**

Michigan House Votes on Gun Background Check Bills

The House Chamber moved to **expand background checks on gun sales and purchases in Michigan**. The bills, House Bill [House Bill 4138](#) introduced by Rep. Churches (D-Wyandotte), [House Bill 4142](#) introduced by Rep. Carter (D-Detroit), and [House Bill 4143](#), introduced by Rep. Grant (D-Grand Rapids), were **voted out of the House along party lines in a vote of 56-53**.

The bills now move to the Senate for consideration. MASA will continue to keep you up to date on gun legislation.

Senate Committee Hears Testimony on Guns

The Senate Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety, chaired by Sen. Chang (D-Detroit), heard testimony on an 11-bill package, which included **enactment of state "red flag" and safe storage law.**

[SB 76 \(Hertel\)](#), [SB 77 \(Moss\)](#) Updates references to pistol in penal code

[SB 78 \(Cavanagh\)](#) Updates references in sentencing guidelines

[SB 79 \(Bayer\)](#) Provides penalties for storing or leaving a firearm where it may be accessed by a minor

[SB 80 \(McDonald-Rivet\)](#) Updates sentencing guidelines references

[SB 81 \(Irwin\)](#) Exempts firearm safety devices from sales tax

[SB 82 \(Chang\)](#) Exempts firearm safety devices from use tax

[SB 83 \(McMorrow\)](#) Enacts injunctions to Extreme Risk Protection Order Act

[SB 84 \(Polehanki\)](#) Prohibits purchase of firearms if individual has an Extreme Risk Protection Order

[SB 85 \(Anthony\)](#) Creates guidelines for making a false statement in support of an Extreme Risk Protection Order

[SB 86 \(Singh\)](#) Creates service of process for Extreme Risk Protection Order actions and provides waive court fees

The bills were voted out of committee by 5-2, however [SB 81 \(Irwin\)](#) and [SB 82 \(Chang\)](#) were voted out unanimously. The bill package now moves to the Senate floor for consideration.

Read by Grade 3 Bill Sent to Governor and School Sinking Fund Bill Passes House

The House Chamber passed [Senate Bill 12](#), introduced by Sen. Polehanki (D-Livonia), to repeal the retention piece of the state's Read by Grade Three law. The bill continues to include all interventions and support for students. The bill passed on a vote of 57-51, with some Republicans opting to vote in favor of the legislation. However, **the bill did not have immediate effect, and the changes will likely be effective next year.** Practically speaking, this means that **for this current school year, nothing has changed**

Additionally, [Senate Bill 63](#), introduced by Sen. Polehanki (D-Livonia), passed the Senate as well this week. The bill allows for school sinking funds to be used for transportation and to also go toward the maintenance of school transportation vehicles. The Senate voted 28-10 in a bipartisan fashion in favor of the legislation.

The bill has now been moved to the House for consideration. MASA supports this legislation, and we will keep you informed as the bill moves through the House.

Income Tax Plan Signed by Governor

After many weeks of negotiations, [House Bill 4001](#), introduced by Rep. Witwer (D-Lansing), was signed by Gov. Whitmer. **The bill would lower taxes for lower-income workers and retirees while also putting funds toward business incentives in the SOAR fund and increase the state's Earned Income Tax Credit from the current rate of 6% to a 30% match of the federal rate.**

The bill did not include the \$180 refund checks, which means the budget surplus could reach over \$9 billion and is **expected to activate an income tax trigger that would permanently decrease the income tax rate from 4.25% to 4.05%.**

President Biden Unveils Budget

President Biden released his 2024 federal budget proposal on education this week. The proposal, totaling nearly **\$90 billion, included significant investments for high-need schools, early childhood education, and students with disabilities.**

The budget proposals reflected his State of the Union address, which touted universal preschool and mental health and community support. Below includes several highlights:

- \$22.1 billion for existing **early care and education programs**
- \$500 million for a new demonstration program to **expand access to free preschool**

12 schools

- \$13.1 billion — an increase of \$1.1 billion — for **Head Start’s early education services** for young children from low-income families.
- \$1.2 billion for the **English Language Acquisition program**
- 1.47 billion for **Career and Technical Education State Grants**
- \$20.5 billion for **Title I schools**
- \$16.8 billion for **PK-12 special education services**

The proposal is expected to change as negotiations over the budget begin. MASA will continue to keep you up to date as the federal budget process begins.

House and Senate Education Committees

The House Education Committee, chaired by Rep. Koleszar (D-Plymouth), heard testimony on [House Bill 4064](#), introduced by Rep. Carter (D-Detroit), which **recommends the department to develop a cursive writing curriculum to be used in schools.**

Additionally, the committee heard testimony on [House Bill 4157](#), introduced by Rep. Coleman (D-Detroit), which would **require schools to excuse students who perform “Taps” at a military honor funeral.**

Neither bill was voted out of committee. MASA will keep you posted on each piece of legislation as they move through the legislative process.

Finally, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on PreK-12, chaired by Sen. Camilleri (D-Trenton), held a special meeting in Woodhaven. **The Committee heard Testimony on the Great Start Readiness program expansion.**

Testimony was provided by Dr. Daveda Colbert, Wayne RESA Superintendent, and Dr. Sophia Lafayette-Lause, Wayne RESA Executive Director of Early Childhood Services. Mark Greathead, Woodhaven-Brownstown Superintendent; Tim Podlewski, Yake Elementary Principal; and Matt Salah, Director of Special Services for Woodhaven-Brownstown gave testimony on early childhood education.

Federal Guidance on Rural Schools Providing Summer Meals Released

have a meal service during the summer months. You can view the guidance [here](#).

MASA continues to support our rural community school districts and their efforts to provide children with the best resources and support possible.

This Week's Introduced Bills

[House Bill 4209 \(Neyer\)](#) Provides use of alternative education classes to meet graduation requirements

[House Bill 4222 \(Shannon\)](#) Sales tax holiday for back-to-school clothing and school supplies

[House Bill 4223 \(Koleszar\)](#) Use tax holiday for back-to-school clothing and school supplies

[House Bill 4225 \(Rogers\)](#) Requires installation of high-visibility markers on all rooms and exterior doors of a school building

[House Bill 4226 \(Filler\)](#) Provides funding to districts for the development and implementation of a numbering system

[House Bill 4230 \(Wilson\)](#) Removes prohibition against deduction from a public employee's wages for certain political purposes

[House Bill 4232 \(Carter\)](#) Prohibits an employer from offering or granting to certain individuals who work for the employer during a labor dispute

[House Bill 4233 \(Churches\)](#) Removes prohibition labor organizations' assistance in collecting dues from public school employees

[House Bill 4234 \(Tsernoglou\)](#) Allows automatic payroll deductions for PAC contributions

[House Bill 4235 \(Farhat\)](#) Provides a credit for the payment of qualified union dues paid to a labor organization

[House Bill 4236 \(Mentzer\)](#) Prohibits the public employer from discriminating against the public employee based on a public employee's refusal to participate in certain meetings or communications sponsored by a public employer

[House Bill 4237 \(Andrews\)](#) Repeals the local government labor regulatory limitation act, [2015 PA 105](#)

[House Bill 4241 \(Carter\)](#) Requires that each school building is equipped with at least 1 panic alarm

[House Bill 4242 \(Carter\)](#) Provides funding for installation of panic alarms in school buildings

[Senate Bill 144 \(McDonald-Rivet\)](#) Increases earned income tax credit

[Senate Bill 161 \(Geiss\)](#) Modifies certain requirements concerning teacher certification

[Senate Bill 162 \(McCann\)](#) Expands reciprocity for out-of-state school counselors

[Senate Bill 169 \(Cherry\)](#) Requires public employers to provide bargaining representatives

[Senate Bill 172 \(Irwin\)](#) Allows automatic payroll deductions for PAC contributions



Copyright © 2023 Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).