

#### Tamara Young <tyoung@vicksburgschools.org>

#### Fwd: Legislative Update: August 29, 2025

1 message

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To: Tamara Young <tyoung@vicksburgschools.org>

Wed, Sep 3, 2025 at 9:11 AM

#### Keevin O'Neill

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From: Matt Schueller & Hannah Sweeney <masagov@gomasa.org>

Date: Fri, Aug 29, 2025 at 12:05 PM

Subject: Legislative Update: August 29, 2025

To: <koneill@vicksburgschools.org>

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August 29, 2025

# In This Update

- House Approves Spending Plan
- Committee Round Up
- Lawmakers Urge Federal Government to Reinstate Ice Storm Assistance
- This Week's Introduced Bills

# **Summary**

As the new school year begins, we hope your transition back has been smooth and successful. We're excited to connect with many of you at our Annual Fall Conference in Traverse City next month. With the Legislature back in session after summer recess, we're resuming our weekly *Legislative Updates* and preparing for a busy month ahead as we work toward securing a strong education budget before the October 1 deadline.

We're also pleased to share that Dr. Glenn Maleyko has been selected as Michigan's next State Superintendent, and we look forward to partnering with him in his new role.

This week, the House passed a General Fund spending plan that includes deep cuts across most departments, raising serious concerns about diverting funds away from the School Aid Fund. MASA, along with our education partners, issued a <u>statement</u> urging the Legislature to take the state budget process seriously.

We will continue to keep you updated on all developments related to the budget, and we encourage you to let your community know how this uncertainty is impacting your staff and kids.

As always, please contact MASA with any questions or concerns.

## **House Approves Spending Plan**

On Tuesday, the House introduced and quickly **passed a spending plan that includes cuts to nearly every state department**. This move comes after months of pressure on the Legislature to pass a budget, following their failure to meet the July 1 statutory deadline.

HB 4706 passed the House, representing the House Republicans' GF budget for state departments and agencies, totaling \$54.6 billion. It passed on a 59-45 vote but is unlikely to gain traction in the Senate. When combined with funding proposals for schools, community colleges, and higher education, the total Republican budget plan reaches nearly \$79 billion.

The plan includes more than \$3 billion in road funding, and we are deeply

concerned about the impact on education. MASA, along with our partners, are calling on the Legislature to get serious about passing a responsible state budget and to protect the School Aid Fund. The bill proposes \$2 billion in cuts or shifts away from K12 funding, which would have a damaging effect on our public schools. We will continue advocating for a budget that prioritizes Michigan's students and educators.

# **Committee Round Up**

#### House Education and Workforce Committee

<u>HB 4024</u>, introduced by Rep. Fox, passed the committee after a single day of testimony. The legislation would **require all multi-occupancy restrooms and changing rooms** in public schools, community colleges, and universities **to be restricted based on individuals' sex** assigned at or near birth. The bill does not apply to private schools.

HB 4556 and HB 4557, sponsored by Rep. Kunse and Rep. Koleszar, propose removing the requirement for Michigan 11th graders to take the SAT writing test as part of the Michigan Merit Examination (MME). The bills would also eliminate the mandate for individual subject scores from the MME to appear on students' transcripts. The legislation is supported by the Michigan College Access Network, the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals, and the Michigan Association of College Admissions Counseling. The committee did not vote on the bills and conversation is expected to continue in the coming weeks.

# Lawmakers Urge Federal Government to Reinstate Ice Storm Assistance

Members of Michigan's congressional delegation this week urged the federal government to reconsider its recent denial of parts of the state's request for winter storm recovery assistance. In a Monday letter to President Donald Trump and an acting FEMA regional director, both of Michigan's U.S. senators and Rep. Bergman requested a review of the decision to deny funding for utility repairs and housing support for affected individuals. Earlier in the week, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer formally appealed the funding denial. We will keep you updated as the situation develops.

### This Week's Introduced Bills

SB 492 (Moss) Provides guidelines for unenrolling students

SB 493 (Polehanki) Provides grant program for school districts to maintain smaller classroom sizes

SB 494 (Camilleri) Provides grant program for school districts to maintain smaller classroom sizes

SB 495 (Polehanki) Modifies emergency operations plan requirements

SB 506 (Webber) Provides guidelines for unenrolling students

<u>HB 4813 (Pavlov)</u> Modifies interstate compact on educational opportunity for military children

<u>HB 4818 (MacDonell)</u> Modifies requirements for borrowing money and issuing bonds

HB 4829 (Shriver) Provides for instruction in constitutional literacy

View All Bills & Positions









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