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**TO:** The Honorable Detroit City Council

**FROM:** David Whitaker, Director  
Legislative Policy Division Staff

**DATE:** January 7, 2025

**RE: SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 2024 LAME DUCK LEGISLATION**

The Legislative Policy Division has prepared the following report to provide the Detroit City Council with information regarding the legislative actions that took place during the December 2024 lame duck session of the Michigan legislature.

During the recent lame duck session in the Michigan legislature, there were dozens of bills that were expected to be passed prior to the swearing in of the new legislative body in January 2025. House and Senate bills that did not pass in both chambers expired at the end of 2025, although they can be re-introduced once the new legislative session begins.

Due to a lack of quorum, the House of Representatives unexpectedly adjourned on December 19, 2024. Because of the adjournment in the House, the Senate could only continue to take action on bills that had already been passed through the House. This led to various bills expiring, which will have to be reintroduced during the new legislative session before the legislature can consider them again.

Of the bills that did not expire, some were enacted by passage in both chambers and with the signature of the Governor. Other bills were ordered enrolled and are awaiting a signature from the Governor. The Governor has 14 days to take action on these bills. When the 14 day time limit expires

during a time when the legislature is not in session, the bills do not become law if the Governor does not sign them.<sup>12</sup>

Our office has provided a brief summary of the various actions taken by the Michigan legislature below. Note that this is not a complete summary of the legislative actions during the lame duck session, but rather a compilation of the actions that we felt had the most relevance to City Council.

## **Bills Enacted During Lame Duck Session**

### **Prohibit Guns at Election Locations, HB 4127 & 4128**

- Amend the Michigan Penal Code to make it illegal to possess a firearm at a polling place or at both a polling place and a counting board locations, respectively.
- Enacted 12/03/2024.

### **Prohibition on Housing Discrimination Based on Source of Income, SB 205-207**

- The Bills prohibit landlords or individuals engaging in real estate transactions from discrimination against a person based on that person's source of income including specified benefits and subsidies, such as public assistance and social security.
- Enacted 12/31/2024.

### **Expansion of the Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP), HB 6075 & SB 353, 880 & 881**

- Expands the eligibility for energy assistance from the MEAP, requires notification to residents of their eligibility, and requires the Low-Income Assistance Fund to be administered to promote Statewide access to the MEAP.
- Bills enacted 12/19/2024.

### **Testimony and Evidence in Cases Involving Human Trafficking or Prostitution, SB 515-517**

- Amends the Code of Criminal Procedure to allow for evidence that would otherwise be inadmissible given the unique nature of human trafficking cases and in the interest of protecting victims of human trafficking and abuse.
- Enacted 12/31/2024.

### **Expansion of the Michigan Education Trust Act, SB 1001**

- Expands the educational institutions where students can use the MET, making it available for qualified vocational schools, trade schools, and other institutions.
- Enacted 12/19/2024.

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<sup>1</sup> MI Constitution Article IV, Section 33.

<sup>2</sup> LPD has made efforts to determine if the Governor has signed bills that have been enrolled but were unable to do so. It is likely that the status of the bills will not be updated until the legislature reconvenes.

### **Increase Time Period for Receiving Unemployment Benefits, SB 40**

- Increased the time period that qualifying individuals can receive unemployment benefits.
- Enacted 12/30/2024.

### **Allow the Use of Automated Speed Enforcement in Work Zones, HB 4132 & 4133**

- Amends the Michigan Vehicle Code to allow for MDOT to install and use automated speed enforcement systems to discourage speeding in work zones.
- Enacted 12/10/2024.

## **Bills Passed by Both Chambers Awaiting Governor's Signature**

### **Millage Option for Detroit Museums, HB 4177, 5817 & 5818**

- History Museum Authorities Act, allows a county board of commissioners to establish a history museum authority. The authority could levy a 0.2 mill on the county's taxable property to support the operation of a history museum owned by a city if approved by a majority of voters in the county. Those mills are exempt from being captured by other types of authorities.
- Bill was ordered enrolled on 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Public Transit Authority Opt-Out, HB 6088**

- Amends the Public Transportation Authority Act to no longer allow municipalities and Wayne County and Oakland County to opt out of the county's public transit authority and to remove the five-year limit on taxes levied by public transit authorities.
- Bill ordered enrolled on 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Increased Tax Exemptions for Land Bank Authorities, HB 4675 and 4679**

- Amends the Land Bank Fast Track Act to exempt a land bank authority's property, income, and operations from all taxes, special assessments, and user fees imposed by the State or a local unit of government.
- Bill ordered enrolled on 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **School Safety Requirements, HB 4095, 4096, 5549 & 5659**

- Amends various codes and statutes to create various measures to respond to safety incidents that occur in schools. This includes the development of standardized terminology to be used by school personnel when responding to incidents, the requirement that the board of each public school have a behavior threat assessments and management team, and the creation of a School Safety and Mental Health Commission in the Department of State Police.
- Bills ordered enrolled 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Firearm Storage Notice; Schools, HB 5450 and 5451**

- Amends the Revised School Code to require DHHS to develop informational notice and best practices regarding safe storage of firearms by June 1, 2005. Requires school districts to distribute information to the parent or guardian of each student.
- Bill ordered enrolled on 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Perinatal Quality Bills, HB 5166 – 5173**

- Bill package making various changes to improve healthcare provided to new mothers.
- Bill ordered enrolled on 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.
- Note that the "Momnibus" bills intended to address racial disparities in healthcare provided to women giving birth did not pass the House prior to the end of the lame duck session, SB 818-823, 825.

### **Prescription of Contraceptives; Pharmacists, HB 5435 & 5436**

- Allows pharmacists to issue prescriptions for various hormonal contraceptives to address the shortage of healthcare providers who can provide this service. Also requires insurance to cover certain hormonal contraceptives.
- Bills ordered enrolled 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Michigan Sentencing Commission, HB 4173 & 4384**

- Creates a Michigan Sentencing Commission in the Legislative Council, a bipartisan body appointed by the Michigan legislature, to analyze data related to incarceration and develop modifications to state sentencing guidelines.
- Bill was ordered enrolled on 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Driver's License or State ID Card for Prisoners Being Released on Parole or Discharged, HB 4191 – 4194**

- Amends various acts to require the Michigan Department of Corrections to apply for a driver's license or state personal ID on behalf of an individual who is scheduled to be released from prison and provides procedures for the Secretary of State.
- Bill was ordered enrolled on 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity Act, HB 5523 and 5060**

- Establishes a Bureau within the DHHS to serve as an advocate for social and economic opportunities for low-income individuals.
- Bill ordered enrolled on 12/12/24, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Amended Disclosure Requirements for Charter Schools, HB 5231-5234**

- Amends the Revised School Code to require the board of directors of certain private schools to disclose the names of its authorizing body and primary education management organization. Meant to address a perceived lack of transparency with charter school organizations.
- Bills ordered enrolled 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Pay Equity, HB 5618-5627**

- Would establish several measures related to pay equity, including protections for employee pay transparency, requirements for employers to publish job descriptions for open positions, provide anonymous reporting of employment discrimination, create a fair paycheck workplace certificate program, and prohibit wage discrimination based on specified characteristics and attributes.
- Did not pass in the House during the lame duck session.

### **Increase Public Employer Health Care Contribution Limits, HB 6058**

- Requires public employers, including public school districts and local governments, to pay at least 80% of employee health care costs.
- Bill ordered enrolled on 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Michigan Innovation Fund, HB 5651-5653**

- Amends the Michigan Strategic Fund Act, requiring the Michigan Strategic Fund to create the Michigan Innovation Fund Program providing state support for investments in qualified funds to support entrepreneurs and business startups facing difficulties in Michigan due to a lack of early-stage capital.
- Bill ordered enrolled on 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Community Violence Prevention Services, HB 6046**

- Amends the Social Welfare Act to require DHHS to provide coverage under the medical assistance program to eligible individuals who are violently injured and referred by a health professional to receive community violence prevention services from a prevention professional or community health worker.
- Bill ordered enrolled 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

### **Modification of the Petition Processes Under Michigan Election Law, HB 5571-5576**

- Adds various procedures and requirements for petitions proposing constitutional amendments, initiated laws, or referendums. Also adds various procedures and requirements for gathering petition signatures during elections. This is meant to address the recent issues regarding unprecedented levels of invalid petition signatures.
- Bills ordered enrolled 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

## **Destruction of Certain Firearms From Gun Buyback Programs, HB 6144 - 6146**

- Requires the Department of State Police to destroy all firearms turned over to it that were purchased by a municipality under a gun buyback program and is prohibited from reselling any of the firearms.
- Bills ordered enrolled 12/23/2024, awaiting Governor's signature.

## **Bills Not Passed During Lame Duck Session**

### **Low Income Water Residential Affordability, HB 5088 - 5092, SB 980**

- Would, among other things, create the Low-Income Water Residential Affordability Program and provide for its purpose and eligibility requirements, establish a fund for the program in the Department of Treasury, and provide standards and criteria for when a water service provider can shut off water supply to certain categories of nonpaying customers.
- Did not pass in the House during the lame duck session.

### **Lead Abatement and Testing, HB 4532, 5368, 5369**

- Would amend the Public Health Code to revise the threshold considered an elevated blood lead level in children and change requirements related to lead abatement to certain buildings, particularly pre-1978 buildings. Would adopt many federal EPA regulations into state law.
- Not passed during the lame duck session.

### **Law Enforcement Disciplinary Records, Use of Force Standards, Prevention of Evidence Tampering, HB 6111-6121, SB 1091-1094**

- Would enact various changes regarding the disclosure of police officer employment records, penalties for officers tampering with evidence, requirements for police departments regarding use of force policies, comprehensive training including de-escalation techniques and implicit bias training, and restrictions on "no-knock" warrants.
- These bills were not passed during the lame duck session.

### **Ghost Gun Ban, SB 1149 & 1150**

- Would prohibit the manufacturing, assembling, selling, purchasing, importing and possessing of firearms or firearm parts that don't have a valid serial number. This would include 3D printed guns and gun components.
- These bills were not passed during the lame duck session.

### **Uniform Public Expression Protection Act, HB 5788**

- Would create an act which would allow for the filing of special motions for expedited relief concerning certain lawsuits the bill calls “eligible causes of action.” The act is intended to protect the exercise of the right of freedom of speech and of the press, the right to assemble and petition the government for a redress of grievances, and the right of association guaranteed by the US Constitution.
- Bill did not pass during the lame duck session.

### **Increasing the Statute of Limitations for Civil Sexual Assault Claims, SB 1187 - 1192**

- Would increase the statute of limitations for civil sexual assault claims from 3 years to 10 years or until the victim is 42 years of age, whichever is first. If a criminal prosecution takes place, the bill would allow the claim to be brought any time.
- Bill did not pass during the lame duck session.

### **Repeal Prohibition on EGLE Promulgating Rules Under NREPA, HB 5205**

- Would remove the prohibition on EGLE preventing it from promulgating new rules to regulate water quality that are not specifically authorized under NREPA.
- Bill did not pass during the lame duck session.

### **Allow Local Governments to Regulate Certain Labor Practices, HB 6218**

- Would amend the Local Government Labor Regulatory Limitation Act and allow local governments to enter into project labor agreements requiring certain wages and working conditions where the local government is a party to the contract.
- Bill did not pass during the lame duck session.

### **Increased Minimum Wage, HB 6287**

- Would amend the Improved workforce opportunity wage act to provide various increases to the state minimum wage over time.
- Bill did not pass during the lame duck session.

### **Criminal Charge for Individuals Preventing Access to a Health Care Facility, HB 6275 & 6276**

- Creates criminal penalties for individuals who interfere with the ability of individuals to access health care facilities under the proposed statute.
- Bills did not pass during the lame duck session.

### **Public Safety and Violence Prevention Fund, HB 4605 & 4606**

- Establishes a “Public Safety and Violence Prevention Fund” that would proportionately distribute money from sales tax revenue to local governments for public safety measures based on the level of crime in each local unit.

- Not passed during the lame duck session.

#### **Polluter Pay, SB 605 - 611, HB 5241 – 5247**

- Would set more stringent cleanup standards for construction and development, increase transparency, and prevent the abandonment and pollution of areas of land. Requires polluters to pay for the cleanup of pollution.
- Not passed during the lame duck session.

#### **Legal Presence Requirement for Obtaining State ID/Driver's License, HB 4410-4412, SB 265-267**

- Would have removed the requirement that an individual be a US Citizen or obtain legal presence in order to obtain a state ID and/or a driver's license.
- Not passed during the lame duck session.

#### **Prevent Purchases of Tobacco Products by Minors, HB 6002-6005, SB 651, 654**

- Creates licensing requirements for establishments selling nicotine and tobacco products. Prohibits the sale of nicotine and tobacco products to minors and provides penalties for vendors. Removes penalties against minors for possessing nicotine and tobacco products.
- Bills did not pass during the lame duck session.