

# AGENDA

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL (CONDUCTED AS A COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE) TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM, 26000 EVERGREEN ROAD, SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN, ON MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008, AT 6:00 P.M., EASTERN STANDARD TIME, PURSUANT TO SECTION 4.3 OF THE CITY CHARTER.**

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL BE DISCUSSED:**

1. Council Budget Policy Input Session

and others items Council deems necessary

Nancy L. M. Banks  
City Clerk



## THE JACOBS CAPITOL REPORT

GILDA Z. JACOBS  
MICHIGAN SENATE  
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS CHAIR  
FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

For Immediate Release  
January 25, 2008

Contact: Matt Levin  
(248) 943-6965

### STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS SCHEDULED FOR JAN 29

#### Governor Urges Bipartisanship

Leading up to next week's State of the State address, Governor Jennifer Granholm is trying to win agreement from legislative leaders to take quick action on a number of initiatives to demonstrate a commitment towards bipartisanship. In fact, bipartisanship should prove to be a major theme of the address, which is scheduled for January 29.

The governor is expected to unveil six initiatives, including votes on the Great Lakes Compact, expanded film production tax benefits, a higher age limit for high school dropouts, enactment of proposals to create "promise zones" for college tuition, legislation dealing with home foreclosures, and new initiatives on tourism.

The expected push for bipartisanship in the address would continue what appears to be a greater effort to minimize conflict from both the administration and legislative leaders, who seem worn out from the highly partisan environment that has smothered the Capitol of late.

In fact, the Granholm Administration has gone out of its way to be more open with the GOP on some aspects of her address than in years past. Earlier this month, Gov. Granholm, Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) and House Speaker Andy Dillon (D-Redford Twp.) had dinner together, along with their spouses, to discuss the difficulties that officials endured during 2007 and how to avoid some of that conflict this year.

One Democratic official said there is a greater interest overall to "change the tone" in the Capitol, and that will start with the State of the State.

Senate Majority Leader Bishop will deliver what is expected to be a kinder, gentler GOP rebuttal to the governor's address.

### GRANHOLM LANDS \$27 MILLION IN FEDERAL FUNDS

#### Monies Will Assist Low Income Energy Clients

This week, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm announced that Michigan will receive an additional \$27.4 million in federal funding to be used for direct emergency service to clients through the Michigan Department of Human Services' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to help protect Michigan citizens from the cold this winter. With the additional funds, Michigan's Department of Human Services and Public Service Commission have a combined \$173 million to assist residents with their heating and energy needs this year.

"No state has been more challenged by globalization than Michigan, and that has directly affected the pocketbooks of Michigan families," Granholm said. "With escalating energy costs and extremely cold weather, these funds will help Michigan families stay warm."

**INFORMATION**

The funds will assist an additional 73,000 Michigan households cope with the high costs of fuel this winter.

In December, Governor Granholm and nine other midwestern governors asked Congress for an increase in current year funding. In late December, Congress authorized a new budget that included additional emergency funding. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released \$450 million in emergency funds for states to assist households with high energy costs.

Michigan received \$113.7 million in LIHEAP funds during fiscal year 2007 and provided heating assistance to nearly 466,000 households. During the first quarter of the 2008 fiscal year (October-December), Michigan received 24,000 more LIHEAP crisis applications than in the same period last year.

"The rising cost of home heating continues to put serious financial burdens on our residents," Department of Human Services Director Ismael Ahmed said. "This action will help keep Michigan citizens warm and help low-income families deal with ever-increasing energy costs."

According to the National Energy Assistance Directors Association, the average household will spend 15.2 percent more to heat their homes this winter.

To apply for crisis energy assistance, citizens should contact the Michigan Department of Human Services office in the county in which they reside. For more information, go to: [www.michigan.gov/heatingassistance](http://www.michigan.gov/heatingassistance).

## **MOVING MICHIGAN FORWARD**

### **State Economic News**

#### **\$200,000 Grant to Support Oldenburg Group Expansion in Kingsford**

A \$200,000 grant to the city of Kingsford will support a new road, water and sewer system needed for a new engineering and support facility.

More: <http://www.michiganadvantage.org/news/detail.aspx?contentId=d74dabff-e28d-4f17-938a-6ea46bf68b63>

#### **\$120,000 Grant to Assist Seissenschmidt Expansion in Oscoda Township**

A \$120,000 grant increase to Oscoda Charter Township will support the expansion of global auto-supplier.

More: <http://www.michiganadvantage.org/news/detail.aspx?contentId=826b9c6d-2d4c-4ce9-b6d4-da8bd03fcc9d>

#### **Contaminated Site to be Transformed in Downtown Grand Rapids**

State and local tax capture valued at \$554,550 will support the construction of new commercial building in downtown Grand Rapids.

More: <http://www.michiganadvantage.org/news/detail.aspx?contentId=b0b9d2bd-20a5-473e-8d4f-377fef2afefa>

#### **U-M Is Nation's #1 Research University for R&D Dollars in Science, Engineering**

U-M spends \$809 million in research expenditures in 2005.

More: <http://www.michiganadvantage.org/news/detail.aspx?contentId=47e4186f-4281-46d3-a23b-3ebdcdf05dcb>

**Construction Begins at Former Mall Site in Downtown Muskegon**

State and local tax capture valued at \$236,947 will be used by the developer to support construction of a new two-story, mixed-use retail and commercial structure.

More: <http://www.michiganadvantage.org/news/detail.aspx?contentId=d5fe43a4-d562-4e40-8acb-59940d9913c7>

**TiAL Products Expanding in Owosso**

State and local tax capture valued at \$257,992 will help finance site preparation and infrastructure improvements.

More: <http://www.michiganadvantage.org/news/detail.aspx?contentId=3c3a0fb1-9808-4c25-b253-847c23bcf9aa>

**New Housing Opportunities Slated for Ingham County**

State and local tax capture valued at more than \$1.3 million to be used to redevelop and revitalize tax reverted properties in central Michigan's Ingham County.

More: <http://www.michiganadvantage.org/news/detail.aspx?contentId=475491bf-5b90-4ded-8312-d353a5f28011>

**New Development to Enhance Gateway into Wyandotte**

State and local tax capture valued at \$198,743 to help finance a commercial project.

More: <http://www.michiganadvantage.org/news/detail.aspx?contentId=480021c6-6d22-43ca-837a-ee5222c31eea>

**BASF Goes Brownfield with New Plant**

Global chemical giant BASF is breaking ground on a new \$147-million facility in Wyandotte.

More: <http://www.michiganadvantage.org/news/detail.aspx?contentId=f5d1a2cd-a32c-45a1-97e0-c543a41cdcee>

**WIT, WISDOM, ETC . . .  
Quotables**

"Those who are not looking for happiness are the most likely to find it."  
-Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Things turn out best for people who make the best out of the way things turn out."  
-Art Linkletter

**Quote of the Week: Franklin D. Roosevelt**

"Be sincere, be brief, be seated."

All Michigan legislation can be tracked at <http://www.legislature.michigan.gov/>.

If you'd like to be removed from this distribution list, simply reply to [jacobsreport@aol.com](mailto:jacobsreport@aol.com) with "remove" in the subject header.

State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Franklin, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Latrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, Southfield, and Southfield Township. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Campaign & Election Oversight Committee. She also serves on the Finance, Economic Development & Regulatory Reform, and Health Policy Committees.

Constituents of the 14<sup>th</sup> District may contact Senator Jacobs at [senj.jacobs@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senj.jacobs@senate.michigan.gov) or toll-free at 1-888-937-4453.

This newsletter is produced in single-space form in order to save paper and transmission costs.

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## THE JACOBS CAPITOL REPORT

GILDA Z. JACOBS  
MICHIGAN SENATE  
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS CHAIR  
FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

**For Immediate Release**  
**January 18, 2008**

**Contact: Matt Levin**  
**(248) 943-6965**

### **STEM CELL RESEARCH SUPPORTERS AIM FOR BALLOT Heavy Hitters from Both Parties Donate Money, Support**

The A group calling themselves the *Stem Cell Research Ballot Question Committee (RBQC)*, a non-profit 501(c)4 under the IRS Code, has hired the former chief lobbyist for the Michigan Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA) to head a bi-partisan stem cell petition drive. Their goal is to put a measure on the 2008 ballot that would legalize embryonic stem cell research in Michigan. In other words, a stem cell ballot question this year is likely.

Mark Burton will head the committee that's drafting language for what is expected to be a constitutional amendment. Under the measure, otherwise discarded human embryos would be allowed to be used for research if the appropriate permissions are granted.

To assist in its efforts, RBQC hired the Rossman Group as its public relations arm. According to Burton, the campaign effort will be funded by deep pockets and is drawing support from "hundreds" of interested parties from across the political spectrum.

Asked whether or not the fledging movement had wings, Rossman Group CEO Kelly Rossman-McKinney said, "It's very much for real. This is, as far as we're concerned, a go."

The RBQC board is made up of former Blue Cross CEO Dick Whitmer, former Republican House Speaker Rick Johnson, former Republican Congressman Joe Schwarz and Southeast Michigan attorney Linda Bloch.

Initially, the group had hoped to get the stem cell issue on the 2006 ballot; however, they simply ran out of time. This time around, the RBQC has until July 7 to get 380,126 signatures on petitions before a question on legalizing embryonic stem cell research can appear on the Nov. 2008 ballot.

"This issue will be unlike any other ballot issue in that we have established people from both parties coming out of the woodwork to help raise money for this, to volunteer for this, to help gather signatures for this," Burton said. "Nobody can accuse us of being for one party or the other."

If the RBQC doesn't go the constitutional amendment route, it could collect 304,101 signatures by May 28 to put the question before the Legislature. If lawmakers reject or take no action on the question, it goes before the voters in November for adoption.

Either way, Ed Rivet of Right to Life of Michigan said his group will work to defeat the proposal as it did in 1998 when it knocked away the assisted suicide question and 1988 when it barred Medicaid-funded abortions.

## **MOVING MICHIGAN FORWARD**

### **State Economic News**

#### ***AT&T Commits to \$620 Michigan Investment; 2,000 New Jobs***

AT&T Inc. announced this week that more than 1,200 new positions across Michigan have been filled as a result of the video reform legislation (PA 480 of 2006) enacted one year ago. Along with providing video choice to thousands of Michigan residents, the new law has helped generate new AT&T jobs in Michigan.

In late 2006, as the state Legislature debated the bill, Gail Torreano, president of AT&T Michigan, committed to filling 2,000 new positions and delivering an investment of \$620 million in Michigan by the end of 2009 if video franchise reform became law. That commitment also included a promise to fill 1,200 new positions by the end of 2007.

Since the law went into effect Jan. 1, 2007, AT&T has met that commitment by filling new positions across Michigan. Most of these full-time jobs are specifically related to the rollout of AT&T U-verseSM TV, the company's innovative Internet Protocol television (IPTV) service.

"These jobs are vital to Michigan's economic comeback," said Senator Gilda Z. Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods). "As Governor Granholm has stressed for the past several years, we need to encourage companies to invest in and bring high-tech jobs to our state. I commend AT&T for following through and delivering jobs to Michigan."

To make IPTV service available to customers, AT&T Michigan has added employees in construction and engineering to build its next-generation network. The company has also hired premise technicians to install the new service and call-center employees to handle customer orders and inquiries. The IPTV service is now available in parts of more than 100 communities, and availability will continue to expand rapidly.

"The legislation passed last year was a win for [Michigan citizens]," said Shannon Kirkland, staff representative for the Communications Workers of America. "The bill resulted in new choices and better value, but it also means the creation of full-time, high-tech jobs in a state that sorely needs them."

"We are proud to bring these new jobs to Michigan, and we commend all the legislators who supported this bill and made it a reality," Torreano said. "As we expand our services to bring the most innovative technologies to Michigan consumers, AT&T will continue to create jobs and deliver on the investment commitments we have made."

## **JACOBS SUPPORTS NEW FOSTER CARE PROTECTIONS**

### **Senator Lauds Governor's Signing of Public Act 217**

Sen. Gilda Z. Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) applauded Governor Jennifer M. Granholm's signing of legislation (PA 217) that will strengthen enforcement standards for children's residential and day camp facilities and create a category of residential treatment facilities called "children's therapeutic group homes" to meet Medicaid requirements for children placed in those facilities.

"This new Public Act will not only improve safety protections for children in residential and day camp facilities, but will increase the number of children who qualify for Medicaid coverage," Sen. Jacobs said. "Improving physical safety and expanding insurance coverage make this win-win legislation."

Public Act 217, sponsored by Sen. Jacobs, also establishes a statutory definition of "legal custodian" that allows the family court to place a child in an unlicensed, unrelated home legally if conditions are met that assure the child will be safe. It also amends the definitions of foster family home and foster family group home to include a "legal custodian" as a person who does not need to be licensed.

This package of bills amends the Child Care Licensing Act of 1973 and was introduced at the request of the Department of Human Services. In the Senate several bipartisan workgroups were held with DHS which resulted in widespread bipartisan support for the package.

**WIT, WISDOM, ETC . . .**  
**Quotables**

"The less we know, the longer our explanations."  
 -Ezra Pound

"What the public wants is not passion but the appearance of passion."  
 -Roland Barthes

**Quote of the Week: Evan Esar**

"Footprints on the sands of time will never be made sitting down."

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####

January 11, 2008

Dr. Joseph E. Thomas, Chief of Police  
Southfield Police Department  
26000 Evergreen Rd.  
Southfield, Michigan 48076

Re: Officer Otenbakor

Dear Dr. Thomas:

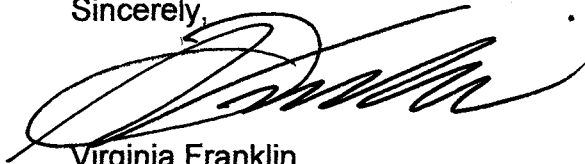
I was involved in a rear end collision on west bound Twelve Mile Road yesterday at approximately 12:30 pm. The officer who came to the scene was Officer Otenbakor #118.

I wanted to take this opportunity to make you aware that Officer Otenbakor, is a significant credit to your department and to the City of Southfield. I am a 36 year resident of Lathrup Village. Over the years I've had minimal direct interactions with the police. However, both times I've had occasion to relate directly with a Southfield police officer, it has been an positive experience; and this holds especially true of my recent encounter with Officer Otenbakor.

He arrived on the scene of the accident quickly, and was immediately reassuring, and considerate to all parties involved. His efficiency and professionalism were outstanding! His kindness greatly appreciated.

I believe in the power of the written word, and when any individual has evidenced superior skill, accompanied by thoughtfulness and compassion in the performance of their job, they should be sighted for having done so. It is my wish that you convey directly to him my sincere appreciation. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to call me at 248-559-6204.

Sincerely,



Virginia Franklin  
27500 California Dr. S.E.  
Lathrup Village, Michigan 48076

cc: Mayor B. Lawrence  
Mr. J. Scharret

**RECEIVED**

JAN 11 2008

CHIEF OF POLICE  
CITY OF SOUTHFIELD

**INFORMATION**