

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2013

DEAR NEIGHBOR:

My number one priority is jobs. Since day one, my focus in the Senate has been to further that agenda. I will continue to build upon the common sense reforms and long-term balanced budgets we've accomplished to create a better environment for job growth and opportunity.

We have made much progress and we are beginning to see the fruits of our labor. Unemployment is down. Home sales are up. The state's credit rating has improved. People are moving back home. More college graduates are choosing to build their lives here. These signs signal that Michigan is moving forward again. Yet still we have much work ahead of us. By working together, we can keep the momentum going and build a better Michigan for all!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns or questions. Your response is important to help me better represent your needs.

Sincerely,



STATE SENATOR

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PAVLOV: BUDGET KEEPS MICHIGAN ON THE RIGHT PATH

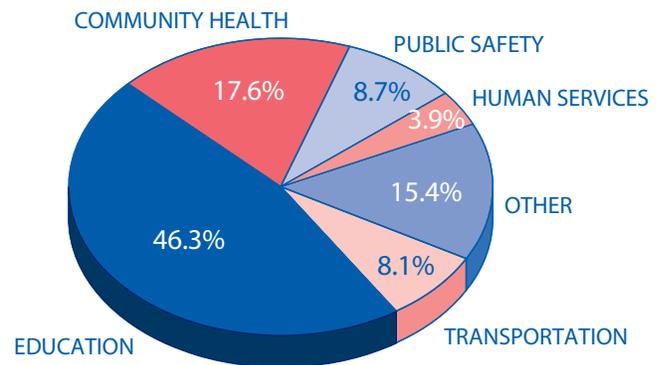
It looks like a trend! For the third year in a row, the Legislature wrapped up the state budget months ahead of the fiscal deadline. We balanced the books and kept spending within the rate of inflation.

We invested heavily in education – \$490 million more than last year in our public schools, community colleges and universities. To help Michigan's kids get off to a great start, the budget includes a \$65 million increase for early childhood education. Overall, 40 cents of every state tax dollar goes to K-12 education.

Other priorities include \$46 million more for local police and fire services, \$350 million in new transportation dollars to fix our roads and bridges, and \$25 million more for public safety, including a new state trooper school.

Along with these investments, our budget plan once again holds government accountable to the taxpayer with increased fraud detection and prevention measures.

State Spending From State Resources FY 2013-14



Total: \$28,827,707,300

MICHIGAN IS MOVING FORWARD

Our first priority is to create an environment that encourages job growth and opportunity. We have passed sensible reforms and with a renewed fiscal discipline we are beginning to see positive signs in the Michigan economy.

Michigan ranked 7th in the nation for business tax climate

— the Tax Foundation

7th

GDP GROWTH

is 6th best in the USA

— U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Unemployment Down

OVER 5%

(13.8% in January 2010 to 8.7% today)



4th in USA

NEW major corporate facilities and EXPANSIONS last year

— Site Selection magazine's annual Governor's Cup.

We are on the right path, and we must keep working to create a better future for our children and grandchildren so that Michigan is a place to call home.



BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

\$15.1 billion
total to **public schools**

46% of state tax dollars
go to **EDUCATION**

\$700 per student
increase over last three years

\$490 million
INCREASE (3.3% more than last year)

\$351 million

**MORE FOR ROAD
& BRIDGE UPDGRADES**



LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

\$46.6 million

Police, Fire & other Local Services

SENATOR PAVLOV: MEASURING MICHIGAN'S PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Are you interested in knowing how your hard-earned money is spent? Then visit www.michigan.gov/openmichigan, a one-stop resource on how the state manages taxpayer dollars.

The site features information on department expenditures, including vendor payments, scorecards on state agency performance, and a link to the State Budget Office.

Michigan is one of only seven states to receive an A in government spending transparency according to the annual report *Following the Money 2013*.



WEBSITES TO HELP YOU SAVE

Compare the cost of prescription drugs
www.michigandrugprices.com

Look for the cheapest gas prices
www.michigan.gov/gasprices

Compare auto insurance coverage
www.michigan.gov/difs (click on Publications)

Compare homeowners insurance coverage
www.michigan.gov/difs (click on Publications)

Get discounts on merchandise, services, dining
www.michigan.gov/passportperks

Search for your lost or unclaimed property
www.michigan.gov/treasury

LEGISLATURE KEEPS .08 BAC LIMIT TO SAVE LIVES

Legislative action this spring maintains the .08 blood alcohol limit for drunk driving.

The standard had been in effect since 2003 but a sunset provision in the law could have allowed the BAC limit to return to .10 this year, putting families on the road at greater risk.

Studies have shown that virtually all drivers are significantly impaired with a BAC of .08. In the decade since the .08 limit has been in place, drunk driving deaths have dropped by 25 percent.

