

2017–2018 KEY SENATE VOTES BILL DESCRIPTIONS

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

SB 335 – Clarify Campaign Donor Rules

Passage of a bill to update the Campaign Finance Act and grant notice to donors regarding how to utilize their First Amendment free speech rights. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 337

ENVIRONMENT

HB 4583 – Clean-up Underground Storage Tanks

Passage of a bill to allow the Refined Petroleum Fund to cover corrective action costs incurred by underground storage tank owners. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 378

SB 652 – Accountability for the DEQ

Passage of a bill to establish a rule review committee to prevent the Department of Environmental Quality from writing whatever rules it wants, creating oversight and transparency in the process. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 33

HEALTH INSURANCE

SB 492 – Health Insurance Mandate

Passage of a bill to limit out-of-pocket costs for certain pharmaceutical drugs, which pushes the costs back into health insurance premiums. The Chamber opposed this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 399

SB 897 – Medicaid Work Requirements

Passage of a bill to promote independence among the healthy, adult Medicaid expansion population by requiring them to find work or engage in job training or educational opportunities as a condition of receiving benefits. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 225

SB 992 – Repeal Health Insurance Tax

Passage of a bill to repeal a costly and anti-competitive tax on health insurance claims, known as the Health Insurance Claims Assessment, or “HICA Tax.” The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 311

HUMAN RESOURCES

SB 353 – No Government Interference in Interviews

Passage of a bill to prohibit local units of government from passing ordinances or regulations limiting the types of questions employers can ask in the interview process. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 361

HB 5165 – Attack Unemployment Identity Theft

Passage of a bill to head off identity theft in the 100% employer-financed unemployment insurance system. The Chamber supported this bill. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 523

Initiative Petition – Repeal Prevailing Wage Law

Passage of a citizen initiative to repeal Michigan’s Prevailing Wage law, which artificially inflates the cost of taxpayer-funded construction projects without any additional gain or return on investment. The Chamber supported this reform. The measure passed.
Roll Call Number 409

LEGAL REFORM

HB 5456 – Clarify Liability in Asbestos Litigation

Passage of a bill to discourage fraud and prevent abusive double dipping in asbestos litigation, thereby limiting liability exposure for solvent companies. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 160

TALENT

SB 684 – Robust Career Exploration

Passage of a bill to increase student awareness of career opportunities and cultivate skills at a younger age. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 412

TAX POLICY

HB 4976 – Allow Settlements of Tax Disputes

Passage of a bill to give taxpayers the opportunity to rectify discrepancies in tax assessments without having to go through a long, expensive and time consuming legal battle. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 542

SB 94 – Sales Tax Break on Auto Purchases

Passage of a bill to lower the sales tax liability to consumers who trade in their old vehicle for a new one. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 87

HB 4999 – Prohibit Local Taxes on Food/Drinks

Passage of a bill to prohibit local governments from taxing soda, unhealthy food and prepared foods served at restaurants so to avoid a patchwork of taxation. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 386

ENERGY (2016)

SB 437 – Energy Reforms (2016)
Passage of a bill to reform Michigan’s energy laws by sustaining customer choice, implementing meaningful competitive bidding and improving reliability for all Michigan ratepayers. The Chamber supported this reform. The bill passed.
Roll Call Number 856 of 2016

Note: This vote is included for informational purposes only and was not used to determine the lawmaker’s 2017-18 Job Providers Index rating.