

# A WIN FOR JOB PROVIDERS!

## Chamber Delivers Key Regulatory Reforms

### ENVIRONMENTAL RULEMAKING REFORM [SB 652]

**PURPOSE:** Ensures the rulemaking process is transparent and that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has proper oversight.

**6 of 12** members of the **environmental rules review committee** will represent different sectors of the business community to ensure everyone has a voice.

- The committee reviews all rules proposed by the DEQ and makes a recommendation.
- If the committee decides a rule should not move forward, they can exercise several options that could result in a rule being delayed by almost two years.

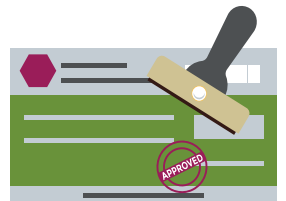
This legislation was created and drafted by members of the **Chamber's Energy & Environment Policy Committee**.



### ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REFORM [SB 653]

**PURPOSE:** Provides due process to permit applicants, creates transparency for all interests, provides oversight of department decisions, and requires permitting decisions to be based on science. There are 3 appeal options for applicants before having to spend a small fortune going to circuit court:

- 1** You can request a review of the department's decision by an independent permit review panel, the **Environmental Permit Panel**.
- 2** You can request a hearing before an **administrative law judge** who has the power to overrule the department director.
- 3** You can appeal the **Environmental Permit Panel** for final determination on whether the department and the administrative law judge got it wrong.



### ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD [SB 654]

**PURPOSE:** Recreates the environmental science advisory board, which was originally created by Governor Engler during his tenure. This board provides the governor with a science based second opinion on critical environmental science issues.

**10** different **scientific specialties** will be represented in the advisory board. These individuals will be selected and appointed by the Governor.

Those specialties are:

|                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Biology</b>               | <b>Geology</b>         |
| <b>Chemistry</b>             | <b>Human Medicine</b>  |
| <b>Economics</b>             | <b>Physics</b>         |
| <b>Engineering</b>           | <b>Risk Assessment</b> |
| <b>Environmental Science</b> | <b>Statistics</b>      |



### WATER WITHDRAWAL ASSESSMENT TOOL REFORM [HB 5638]

**PURPOSE:** Reforms Michigan's water withdrawal assessment tool to provide an alternative to the traditional site-specific review process. It reduces the time to get approval for a large quantity water withdrawal, which can be very **problematic for business owners and farmers**.

The law provides applicants with **new options** that allow them to hire professionals to provide the DEQ with the data they need to make a final decision.

This **streamlined approach** will:

- Reduce staff time for review
- Increase data flow
- Allow quicker approvals
- Increase the quality and accuracy of staff decisions.



**MICHIGAN**  
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### SOLVING YOUR BUSINESS PROBLEMS

Is your business facing an environmental issue?

We can help solve your problems or answer questions regarding these new laws.

Contact Jason Geer at 517-371-7673 or [jgeer@michamber.com](mailto:jgeer@michamber.com).

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