



**MICHIGAN  
CHAMBER**

PROTECT. CONNECT. STRENGTHEN.

# Advocacy in Action: Results for MICHIGAN BUSINESS

VOTED MICHIGAN'S  
MOST EFFECTIVE **20** Years  
MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION RUNNING



## A WORD FROM THE MICHIGAN CHAMBER

Michigan's political and policy landscape has swung sharply over the past two years — bringing a wave of consequential proposals and changing legislative majorities and priorities. From sweeping employment mandates to ongoing tax and regulatory challenges, the environment for employers has become more complex — and at times, more confrontational.

Throughout it all, the Michigan Chamber stayed focused on what matters: advancing a pro-business, pro-growth agenda.

Our advocacy is about forging meaningful relationships with lawmakers and balancing both defense and offense — delivering smart, strategic wins that matter to your business:

### ON DEFENSE

We helped improve and implement new paid leave and minimum wage laws in ways that preserved flexibility, softened rigid, one-size-fits-all mandates and protected tipped-wage workers.

### ON OFFENSE

We advanced more investment and opportunities for workforce training, childcare for working parents and environmental redevelopment. We pushed for tax relief and modernization. We championed practical solutions to grow jobs, develop talent and strengthen communities.

Because of your engagement and support, the Michigan Chamber was once again recognized as Michigan's most effective membership organization in 2025 — 20 years and counting.

This report outlines the tangible results of that work. Wins rooted in the Michigan Chamber mission. Progress shaped by your input and priorities. And a powerful reminder that when employers have a seat at the table, Michigan's future gets brighter for everyone.

We're here to serve you. Reach out anytime with feedback, issues or questions.

  
Jim Holcomb  
President & CEO



The more connected you are, the stronger our collective voice becomes. Here's how you can get involved:

- Join our member-only policy committees to gain insider access to legislative developments and influence priorities and positions.
- Stay informed with our best-in-class weekly e-newsletter and distribute materials to your teams.
- Communicate with your elected officials via important action alerts.
- Share your story to help personalize the real-world impact of proposed legislation on your business, employees and community.
- Contribute to the Chamber's political action efforts.
- Contact us when you have compliance questions or a worrisome policy issue that impacts your business.



# The Michigan Chamber's **Advocacy Efforts**

## **Pro-Business** Legislative Victories

HBs 4001  
& 4002

### **Fixing paid sick leave and minimum wage mandates** **Signed into law (2025)**

Secured bipartisan passage of changes that eased an unprecedented MI Supreme Court ruling instituting a sweeping paid sick leave mandate and steep minimum wage hike. The legislation helped preserve flexibility for employers and employees alike.

HBs 5100  
& 5101

### **Increasing R&D jobs in Michigan** **Signed into law (2025)**

Supported creation of a research and development (R&D) tax credit in Michigan, adding a beneficial economic development tool to attract and retain businesses, spur innovation and keep more of our world-class college graduates here. Michigan was just one of 12 states that didn't offer such an incentive.

SB 747

### **Funding workforce training** **Signed into law (2024)**

Secured ongoing funding for the important Going Pro Talent Fund, that provides competitive awards to employers to assist in training, developing and retaining current and newly hired employees. \$54 million appropriated.

SB 747

### **Making childcare more affordable** **Signed into law (2024)**

Secured funding to support Tri-Share, an innovative program that helps make childcare more affordable for working parents and better meet needs of job providers. \$3.4 million appropriated.



# The Michigan Chamber's **Advocacy Efforts**

## **Pro-Business** Legislative Victories

### **SB 229** Stopping double tax on delivery services Awaiting action in the Senate (2025)

Allows delivery platforms to deduct the sales tax they've already paid on delivered goods, preventing it from being counted again in their own tax liability. By allowing that prior payment to be excluded, SB 229 prevents redundant taxation and potential disputes. *Estimated savings for businesses:* This change would translate into approximately \$2 million in tax savings for businesses involved in delivery services.

### **HBs 4056 & 4057** Childcare Savings Program Awaiting action in the House (2025)

Together, these bills would give families an additional way to manage childcare costs — with state-backed savings accounts that offer real tax breaks. That means less stress for working parents, more stability for employers and stronger communities. *Estimated savings for businesses:* Treasury estimates \$15–25 million savings for families and businesses in the form of reduced payroll pressures.

### **SB 747** Cleaning Up Contaminated Sites Signed Into Law (2024)

Secured funding to support environmental remediation and redevelopment efforts at contaminated sites. \$80 million appropriated.



## The Michigan Chamber's Advocacy Efforts

### Addressing policy threats to **Michigan Employers and Economic Prosperity**

HB 4144

#### **Onerous Corporate Income Tax (CIT) increase** **Thwarted action for now (2025)**

Would raise Michigan's Corporate Income Tax (CIT) rate from 6% to 8.5% — a more than 40% tax increase on Michigan employers. This would make our CIT one of the highest in the country, far above Midwest competitors like Ohio (0%) and Indiana (4.9%), and undermine Michigan's ability to attract and retain jobs nationally. *Estimated annual cost to businesses:* \$800 million or more, hitting small and mid-sized businesses and job providers statewide.

HB 4446

#### **Aggressive new local employment laws** **Thwarted action to date (2025)**

Would give Michigan's 1,800-plus local units of government — the 7th most in the country — the ability to enact their own laws governing wages and other employee benefits. *Estimated annual cost to businesses:* Will vary by jurisdiction and could be significant.

SB 74

#### **Detrimental changes to workers' compensation program** **Thwarted action to date (2025)**

Would significantly increase workers' compensation losses — and premiums on employers — by dismantling key reforms and destroying many of the foundational principles of Michigan's Worker's Disability Compensation Act going back to its inception in 1912. *Estimated annual cost to businesses:* Employers saved approximately 45% on premiums thanks to 2011 reforms — or roughly \$446 million in savings. Rolling back these reforms would likely erase those savings and drive premiums up by similar levels.



# The Michigan Chamber's Advocacy Efforts

## Addressing policy threats to **Michigan Employers and Economic Prosperity**

SB 6

### **Independent contractor restrictions** **Thwarted action to date (2025)**

Would alter the definition of independent contractors, severely limiting individuals' rights to be self-employed or to do freelance and gig work and more — hurting the very workers lawmakers say they're aiming to help. *Estimated annual cost to businesses:* Indeterminate but means employers will need to hire these workers as employees.

SB 134

### **New opportunities to sue businesses** **Passed Senate on partisan basis; action stalled in House to date (2025)**

Would spur new and costly litigation against more than 80 different regulated businesses, trades and professions under the Michigan Consumer Protection Act. *Estimated annual cost to businesses:* Indeterminate but one lawsuit could result in ruinous liability.

HBs 4636-40;  
SBs 385-87 &  
391-393

### **Punitive changes related to site cleanup** **Stalled action for now (2025)**

Would make significant changes to Part 201, Michigan's contaminated site cleanup law, creating a counterproductive and punitive environment for property owners regardless of their involvement in on-site contamination. *Estimated annual cost to businesses:* Indeterminate – but would make brownfield redevelopment cost-prohibitive and stall cleanup of sites across Michigan.

SBs 359 +  
360-64

### **Harmful data mandates** **Stalled action for now (2025)**

Would add new costly and unworkable “data privacy” and data breach mandates in place, creating new restrictions on how private companies collect, use and process consumer data. *Estimated annual cost to businesses:* Indeterminate —v but any violation (intentional, unintentional or perceived) could result in ruinous liability for companies.



## The Michigan Chamber's Advocacy Efforts

### Addressing policy threats to **Michigan Employers and Economic Prosperity**

#### HB 4603 **Misguided pay ratio surcharge** **Stalled action for now (2025)**

Imposes a tiered surcharge (5–50%) on corporate income tax for companies whose CEO-to-median-worker pay ratio exceeds certain thresholds. Instead of advancing productivity and investment, this penalizes employers based on internal salary structures, distorting fair compensation decisions and discouraging job growth. *Estimated annual cost to business:* Undetermined, but would put an unnecessary tax burden onto job providers and jeopardize statewide competitiveness.

#### HB 4161 **Costly 'Trash Tax'** **Provision in the state budget is dead for now (2025)**

Would create a massive fee increase of the state's tipping fee, aka the 'trash tax,' from \$0.36 per ton of solid waste to \$5 per ton. This would severely impact manufacturing and industrial companies, along with hospitals and educational institutions, that deal with large quantities of low hazard waste. *Estimated annual cost to businesses:* Will vary. This 1,300% increase in fees would cost an industrial business with annual tonnage of 89,000 approximately \$455,000 per year.

#### HB 4142 **Burdensome new Digital Advertising Tax** **Thwarted action for now (2025)**

Would create a new tiered tax on digital advertising based on a company's global revenues, driving up marketing costs for Michigan businesses of all sizes. Similar taxes in other states have been struck down or repealed for being overly complex and unfair. *Estimated annual cost to businesses:* If enacted, Michigan employers could face tens of millions in added costs annually, making the state less competitive in the digital economy.



## The Michigan Chamber's Advocacy Efforts

### Addressing policy threats to **Michigan Employers** and **Economic Prosperity**

#### **SBs 246 & 247** **Costly waste disposal mandates** **Stalled action to date (2025)**

Would significantly increase fees and impose new restrictions on disposing of hazardous waste and low-level radioactive material — byproducts of many manufacturing processes, wastewater treatment and road construction. The added requirements could force disposal out of state via costly truck or rail transport, driving up operational costs and risks for Michigan employers.  
*Estimated annual cost to business: (pending MA)\**



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Want to learn more about any of these bills? Visit the MI Chamber's "Key Bills" page at [michamber.com/keybills](http://michamber.com/keybills). Have questions or need help on an issue? Contact the MI Chamber at [info@michamber.com](mailto:info@michamber.com) or reach out directly to these team members.