



This Week in Lansing

MHSA • Muchmore Harrington Smalley & Associates, LLC

Highlights of the Latest Major Legislative, Administrative and Regulatory Activity in the State Capitol

Volume MMXXII – Issue 50

December 22, 2022

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! – *MHSA* would like to wish all of our clients a happy, healthy, and restorative holiday season! We hope your holidays are spent with those you love most, and we look forward to sharing a healthy and prosperous 2023 with all of you.

Please note, the *MHSA* office will be closed from Friday, December 23rd until Tuesday, January 3rd.

2023 JANUARY CREC ANNOUNCED – The 2023 January *Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference (CREC)* is set for Friday, January 13th at 9 a.m.

CREC is used to reevaluate the consensus revenue estimates for Fiscal Years 2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25. Directors from the *Senate Fiscal Agency (SFA)* and *House Fiscal Agency (HFA)* participate in the conference, as does a representative from the *Governor's Office* which is either the *State Budget Director* or *State Treasurer*, but often both. The professionals share and discuss their independent economic and revenue forecasts, and then reach consensus agreements on these forecasts to be used in preparing the state government budget.

Kathryn Summers, Director of *SFA*, will serve as chair of the Conference. In addition to *Director Summers*, *HFA Director Mary Ann Cleary*, and either *State Budget Director Chris Harkins* or *State Treasurer Rachel Eubanks*, some of the state's top economists will be participating in the conference to discuss state government revenue estimates and supply chain issues in the economy. School Aid analysts from the *SFA*, *HFA*, and the *State Budget Office* will also present estimates of K-12 pupil membership and the annual percentage growth in the foundation allowance.

Please find attached to *This Week In Lansing* a memorandum from *SFA* announcing *CREC*.

GOVERNOR WHITMER INAUGURATION SCHEDULE PUBLISHED – *Governor Gretchen Whitmer* announced her inauguration schedule for her second term. *Governor Whitmer* will be sworn in as Michigan's 49th *Governor* on January 1st, 2023.

The ceremony will begin at 10:30 a.m. and will include the swearing in of other statewide elected officials. Specifically, *Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist II*, *Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson*, *Attorney General Dana Nessel* and members of the *Michigan Supreme Court*, *Michigan Court of Appeals*, *State Board of Education*, University of Michigan Board of Regents, Michigan State University Board of Trustees, and Wayne State Board of Governors will also take their oaths of office during the ceremony.

Governor Whitmer released a statement on her inauguration for her second term, saying, “It is the honor of a lifetime to have the support and trust of millions of Michiganders to continue serving our beautiful state. Over the last four years, our state has shown that we can come together as Michiganders to tackle the toughest challenges of our lifetime. We’ve made great progress, but our work isn’t finished. I am more confident than ever that our state’s future is bright because of the tough, hardworking people who call this place home. As governor, I promise to embody those same values—grit, grace, passion—and continue to be a practical problem solver who gets things done. Let’s move Michigan forward!”

The inauguration is free to attend. Those interested must RSVP at www.michiganstrong.org to receive a free ticket to be admitted to the event.

LEGISLATOR SPOTLIGHT: SENATE MAJORITY LEADER-ELECT WINNIE BRINKS – **MHSA** is excited to continue our spotlight series on the incoming leadership of the 102nd Legislature. This week’s profile highlights *Senate Majority Leader-elect Winnie Brinks (D-Grand Rapids)*.

Shortly after the 2022 General Election, *Senate Democrats* elected *Senator Brinks* to serve as *Senate Majority Leader* in the 102nd Legislature. Before her career in public service, *Senator Brinks* attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids. After college *Senator Brinks* worked as a caseworker at the Source in Grand Rapids where she helped businesses and nonprofits improve workplaces to grow and retain employees. *Senator Brinks* also previously served as the executive director of a community-based corrections agency and as a school paraprofessional.

Senator Brinks began her career in public service in 2012 when she was first elected to the *State House*. *Senator Brinks* served three terms in the *House* until she was term-limited. In 2018 she chose to run for the *State Senate*. *Senator Brinks* became the first woman to represent Grand Rapids in the State Senate since *Eva McCall Hamilton*, who was the first woman elected to the Michigan Senate in 1921. *Senator Brinks* served on multiple Senate committees in her first term, including the Senate Committees on Energy and Technology, Environmental Quality, and was the minority vice chair of Health Policy and Human Services.

When asked about what she is most looking forward to as *Senator Majority Leader*, *Senator Brinks* told **MHSA**, “As we head into the new year with a new majority, I’m most excited to see new voices at the table — voices that have long been silenced or underrepresented. Our first and only order of business is tackling real problems that Michiganders face in their everyday lives, and we have a brilliant group of senators ready to do just that.”

ODDS AND ENDS

- *Senate Majority Leader-elect Winnie Brinks (D-Grand Rapids)* announced that *Tim Bowlin* will be the new *Senate Business Office director* starting in January. *Mr. Bowlin* previously served as the chief financial officer and business director in the *House* from 1989 to 2004, and then from 2006 to 2017. In 2017 until 2019 *Mr. Bowlin* served as chief financial officer and project manager for the *Michigan State Capitol Commission*.
- The *Michigan Civil Service Commission* approved a 2 percent increase for unclassified workers and an increase in the minimum compensation for some classified workers. The increases in pay are expected to take effect in October 2023.
- *Senator Marshall Bullock (D-Detroit)* will lead the City of Detroit’s government affairs team for *Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan* beginning in 2023. *Senator Bullock* lost his primary election to *Senator Mallory McMorrow (D-Royal Oak)* in August.
- *Governor Gretchen Whitmer* announced all Michigan families who are eligible for food assistance benefits will receive at least an additional \$95 monthly payment in December to help lower the cost

of groceries. According to the **Governor**, the additional assistance will help more than 1.3 million Michiganders in more than 700,000 households.

- **Senator-elect Sam Singh (D-East Lansing)** announced that **Senators Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor)** and **Kristen McDonald Rivet (D-Bay City)** will serve as assistant majority floor leaders in the **Senate** in the 102nd Legislature.
- **Former Representative Larry Inman** is set to stand trial a second time in April 2023. The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled earlier this year that **Mr. Inman** could be retried on two charges that received a mistrial after a jury could not agree. **Mr. Inman** was charged with lying to the FBI, attempted extortion and soliciting a bribe after he sent text messages to lobbyists that prosecutors said were an attempt at receiving campaign contributions in exchange for a specific vote.
- The **Board of State Canvassers** certified the partial recounts conducted for **Proposal 2022-2** and **Proposal 2022-3** this Wednesday. The **Board** rejected all but one challenge and vote totals for the two proposals barely changed. **Proposal 2022-2**, gained 14 yes votes while 20 no votes were found, translating to a net of six no votes. The proposal passed by more than 861,000 votes in its favor. **Proposal 2022-3**, gained 116 yes votes while seven no votes were found, resulting in a net change of 111 yes votes. The proposal passed by more than 583,400 votes in its favor.

MHSA

Muchmore Harrington Smalley & Associates, LLC

Patrick Harrington
pharrington@mhsa.com

Jon Smalley
jsmalley@mhsa.com

Sandra Jones
sjones@mhsa.com

Adrian Cazal
acazal@mhsa.com

Bret Marr
bmarr@mhsa.com

Evelyn Zois Sweeney
esweeney@mhsa.com

Malcolm Kletke
mkletke@mhsa.com

Mandy Bolter
mbolter@mhsa.com

124 West Allegan St., Suite 1900 | Lansing, MI 48933 | Phone: 517-484-8800 | Fax: 517-484-4442 | Email: rsmith@mhsa.com
Follow MHSA on [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

