



# 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 MMXXIV – Issue 13

March 29, 2024

**ICRC REMEDY MAPS APPROVED BY FEDERAL JUDGE PANEL** – The Michigan *Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission's (ICRC)* remedy map submitted to a three-judge panel was approved this week by the judges.

**Why it matters:** The federal judges required the *ICRC* to redraw seven *House Districts* at the end of 2023 due to select districts in Detroit violating the *U.S. Constitution's Equal Protection Clause* by using race as a predominant factor in those districts. The *ICRC* submitted their remedy map in February, which was approved on Wednesday as resolving the *Equal Protection Clause* issues. The Motown Sound FC E1 will be the new map utilized in the 2024 elections.

To read more, please click [here](#) .

**COURT OF APPEALS RULING ON MICHIGAN'S INCOME TAX APPEALED TO THE MSC** – Business groups and *Republican* lawmakers have made an appeal to the *Michigan Supreme Court (MSC)* about a ruling issued by the *Court of Appeals* earlier this year that a 2015 road funding law triggering a cut to the state's income tax was for one year only.

**The bigger picture:** Earlier in March, a *Court of Appeals* panel agreed with *Court of Claims Judge Elizabeth Gleicher* that the state's income tax reduction, triggered by a surplus in state revenues would be for one year only, not in perpetuity. Multiple business groups and *Republican* legislators are appealing this ruling to the *MSC* in an effort to make the income tax reduction permanent.

To read more, please click [here](#).

## **ELECTIONS**

- *Representative Pat Outman (R-Six Lakes)* announced this week that he will seek reelection in the *House* in 2024, rather than wait for *Senator Rick Outman (R-Six Lakes)*, who is his father, to term out in 2026 and then run for his seat. *Representative Outman* said he contemplated a run for the *Senate* in 2026 and saving two terms of eligibility in the *Senate* but due to family commitments is again running in the *House*, which leaves him with six years of eligibility remaining in 2026.

## **ODDS AND ENDS**

- The City of Detroit received its first investment grade credit rating since 2009, with Moody's Investment Services issuing a two-notch bump from Ba1 to Baa2 status. Moody's issued a report last week describing Detroit's financial performance improvements over the last 10 years as reasons

for continued confidence. **Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan** released a statement, saying, “It has been 10 years of hard choices and sound financial management by these great leaders. No one in 2014 would have predicted Detroit returning to investment grade in less than a decade.”

- The **Michigan Supreme Court (MSC)** is considering making amendments to its original actions rules to allow for two new actions related to presidential elections. One change would add an action for judicial review under **Michigan Election Law** to challenge determinations made by the **Board of State Canvassers** and those involving mandatory recounts (MCL 168.46); and another regarding procedures for contesting presidential elections for erroneous certification, or a determination of the results (MCL 168.845a). The **MSC** will collect public comment on the rules change until July 1.

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