

GOV WHITMER SIGNS BUDGET DEAL BILLS – *Governor Gretchen Whitmer* continued signing bills that the *Legislature* passed alongside the budget earlier this month.

The bigger picture: The *Governor* signed over a dozen bills this week bringing the Public Act number up to 91. Signed bills limit lobbying activities for government officials, improve resources for animal shelters, and make foreclosure programs permanent.

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

DEMOCRATS REINTRODUCE VETOED BILLS – *Democratic* lawmakers in the *Senate* reintroduced nine bills from the 2023-24 term that were vetoed by *Governor Gretchen Whitmer* this month.

The bigger picture: The now-vetoed legislation sat in the *House* for 18 months since the end of the 2023-24 term without being presented to the *Governor* while a legal battle between the *House* and *Senate* was ongoing. After the courts ruled that the *House* must present the bills to *Governor Whitmer*, the *Governor* quickly vetoed the bills. While *Democrats* voiced their frustrations with the vetoes, *Governor Whitmer* claimed that administrative burden was the reasoning behind the vetoes and encouraged *Democrats* to introduce them again.

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

PRIMARY ELECTION ON TUESDAY – The 2026 August primary is set to take place on Tuesday, August 4th.

The bigger picture: Over 832,000 Michigan residents had cast their ballots as of Tuesday, one week before primary election day. The first weekend of in-person early voting saw a 78% higher turnout compared to the 2024 primary. Of the ballots cast, more than 800,000 were absentee ballots.

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

ELECTIONS

- In a statewide poll, voters claimed that education will be a deciding issue in the gubernatorial race. 91.3% of voters said that an education plan matters when casting their vote for *Governor*, while 67.7% say it is extremely or very important.
- The *American Federation of Teachers (AFT)* endorsed *Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson* for *Governor*. In a statement announcing the endorsement, *AFT* said that *SOS Benson's* education plan is what led the union to endorse. The Michigan chapter of *AFT* represents over 35,000 workers throughout Michigan.

ODDS AND ENDS

- The Gordie Howe International Bridge connecting Michigan and Canada opened to traffic on Monday. The creation of the bridge spanned three Michigan Governors, several court challenges, and recent pushback from *President Donald Trump*. *Governor Gretchen Whitmer* and *U.S. Senator Gary Peters (D-Bloomfield Township)* celebrated the opening by being among the first to cross the bridge.