

MICHIGAN EDUCATION SAVINGS PROGRAM REACHES MILESTONE – The *Michigan Education Savings Program (MESP)* has officially passed \$10 billion in assets under management.

The bigger picture: The program is Michigan's direct-sold 529 investment college savings plan, the program consists of over 340,000 account holders who are saving for college, career training, and other education expenses. With this milestone, the annual management fee was also reduced from 0.02% to 0.01%.

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

GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES SPEAK TO DETROIT ECONOMIC CLUB – *Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson* and *U.S. Representative John James* spoke to the Detroit Economic Club this week about hot topic issues ahead of the November election.

The bigger picture: Both candidates were asked about the same eight topics, including the tariffs on Canada, data centers, and how to run the economic development agency. The candidates both spoke on their concerns surrounding the state, such as low rankings in income per capita and education. *SOS Benson* and *Representative James* also expressed concerns about the automotive industry and healthcare costs.

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

NEW MEMBER PROFILES – As introduced in a previous edition of *This Week in Lansing*, *MHSA* will be continuing to introduce new legislative members in *This Week in Lansing*.

This feature is intended to introduce those that are expected to come to Lansing in 2027 given the safe seats they are running for. This is highlighting only new members in the *House* and *Senate*, so no incumbents will be highlighted. For the sixth edition of new member profiles, we will be highlighting the 2nd, 4th, 59th and 78th *House Districts*.

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

ELECTIONS

- The Detroit Regional Chamber announced this week it is endorsing *Republican Mike Rogers* for *U.S. Senate*. The chamber is not endorsing in the *Governor's* race. The chamber also endorsed *Democrat Garlin Gilchrist* for *Secretary of State*, and *Republican Doug Lloyd* for *Attorney General*.

ODDS AND ENDS

- The *Senate Fiscal Agency* reported that the General Fund collections for the fiscal year to date are up \$500 million compared to the estimates from May. For the School Aid Fund, revenue collections are up \$250 million. Major tax collections for August were also up \$73.1 million from the predictions.
- The *Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)* announced it is reducing its workforce by 15 percent. *MEDC CEO Quentin Messer Jr.* told reporters that the workforce cuts comes amid “declining corporate revenue.” Notably, the reduction also includes positions that are currently vacant.

- **Governor Gretchen Whitmer** has traveled to South Korea on a trade mission to promote Michigan's maritime manufacturing and robotics industries. The trip intends to focus on growing relationships and exploring opportunities in shipbuilding.
- A **House** committee designed to provide oversight into the **Board of State Canvassers'** recent meetings held its first meeting on Tuesday. The **House Select Committee on the Rules and Procedures of the Bureau of Elections and the Board of State Canvassers** was created in response to the board rejecting a petition from the group **American for Citizen Voting**. **House Speaker Matt Hall (R-Richland Township)** created the committee with **House Resolution 350** and appointed **Representative Mike Harris (R-Waterford)** as chair. The first hearing served as a housekeeping meeting, as well as having representatives from both petitions, administrators of the process and independent experts to testify on technical questions.
- **Detroit PBS** will be hosting an exit interview with longtime friend of **MHSA, U.S. Senator Gary Peters** on September 22 at 11:55 a.m. The interview will cover the **Senator's** past 30 years in public service, discussing both the positive changes as well as the frustrations **Senator Peters** has faced during his time. To watch the interview on Facebook, click [here](#), to watch on YouTube, click [here](#).