

June 20, 2025

Senate committee approves minimum staffing requirement

Legislation to require minimum staffing levels to be a mandatory subject of collective bargaining between the public employer and the representative of its police and fire department employees is expected to be considered by the Senate next week after approval by the Senate Labor Committee this week. [Senate Bill 319](#), sponsored by Sen. Veronica Klinefelt (D-Eastpointe) and opposed by MTA, would amend the Public Employment Relations Act to require minimum staffing levels be included as a subject of collective bargaining. In addition to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment, minimum staffing would also be subject to arbitration for labor disputes involving public police and fire departments.

While contracts are typically multi-year agreements, SB 319, a reintroduction from last session, creates a one-year look-back on local government revenues (revenue sharing and property tax values). This legislation would have a negative impact on municipalities by creating further risk and uncertainty to the financial security of a municipality. MTA encourages members with collective bargaining contracts to consider the impact this legislation would have on your township and to share the concerns with [your state senator](#).

Wildlife habitat restoration grant application open through July 29

Local governments can now submit a grant application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the [Wildlife Habitat Grant Program](#). This funding cycle is focused on projects that restore complexes of grassland and savanna habitat of 100 acres or more. Applications must be submitted through the [MiGrants system](#) by July 29 to be considered for funding, which starts at \$50,000 per project. More information on evaluation criteria and timelines is available in the [program handbook](#).



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Upcoming MTA Training & Events

[Now You Know lunchtime webinars](#)

July 16: [Mid-year Legislative Update](#)

[Earned Sick Time Act & Your Township](#) (9-11:30 a.m.)
June 24: [Mt. Pleasant](#)

[Cemetery Challenges & Solutions](#) (1-5 p.m.)
June 24: [Mt. Pleasant](#)

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New round for MSHDA's Community Development Block Grants

The Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) is now accepting Letters of Intent (LOI) from local governments to request up to \$1.5 million from the next round of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Eligible projects include manufactured housing, housing infrastructure, home repairs, rehabilitation in unoccupied rentals, and reconstruction on vacant residential lots. The grant funding is available to non-entitlement local units (townships, cities, villages and counties) that do not receive direct CDBG allocations (see [CDBG Municipalities Map](#) to determine eligibility). LOIs must be date stamped or submitted [online](#) or by overnight mail to the MSHDA Neighborhood Development Division, 735 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48912, by July 17. To learn more, a virtual Q&A on the program is scheduled for June 24 at 2 p.m. on [Microsoft Teams](#). Submit any questions to MSHDA-CDBG@michigan.gov

Grant funding available for solar projects benefiting low-income communities

Local governments are eligible to receive funding for [MI Solar for All](#) pilot projects that reduce energy costs, enhance resiliency and expand access to solar. The second round of the Solar for Savings Grant Program will accept [applications](#) through June 30. Eligible projects, including rooftop and community solar as well as storage and enabling upgrades, must deliver at least 20% average annual savings to low-income households.



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Mental Health in the Workplace webinars uploaded

All three parts of the most recent Mental Health in the Workplace [webinar series](#) are now available online. The [first session](#) of the series introduced why mental health matters in the workplace, while the [second session](#) aimed to help leaders understand their role in fostering a supportive workplace culture. The [final session](#) of the series focused on actionable strategies for embedding mental health and well-being into workplace culture, going

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beyond awareness to real impact.

Reminders for clerks

- **Post-election audit.** May 6 election audits should be completed and entered in the state Bureau of Elections eLearning as soon as possible.
 - **Continuing education.** 2024-2025 continuing education curriculum is available in the Elections eLearning Center. Continuing education is required by Michigan Election Law for county, city and township clerks to renew their accreditation status every two years.
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Federal updates for week of June 16

Check out the National Association of Towns and Townships [Weekly Legislative Update](#) for the latest on federal actions impact townships.

Michigan Townships Association | 512 Westshire Drive | Lansing, MI 48917 US

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