

Sept. 26, 2025

Agreement reached on budget and road funding; questions remain on revenue sharing

While details must still be worked out, an agreement was reached late Thursday on both a road funding plan and the framework for the state's FY 2026 budget to avert a state government shutdown on Oct. 1. Legislators, the administration and staff will be working Friday through Monday to work out the major differences between the House, Senate and governor's budget proposals. The road funding proposal will provide \$1.5-\$1.8 billion in new revenue for roads. Funding includes a new 24% wholesale tax on marijuana (estimated \$420 million) and redirecting the sales tax at the pump to the fuel tax, which will provide an additional \$1 billion for roads. However, the elimination of the sales tax will reduce constitutional revenue sharing for townships, cities and villages by \$95 million, and over \$700 million to the state School Aid Fund. No information was provided on how *or if* the plan will backfill funding for local units of government, though leaders stated it was the intent to make schools whole.



If the Legislature does not provide funding for the \$95 million in lost sales tax revenue for constitutional revenue sharing, **townships could receive an estimated 8.8% decrease in constitutional revenue sharing funding.** This would be **in addition to the proposed decrease in statutory revenue sharing** that MTA shared earlier this week, creating a double hit to townships, as well as cities and villages, which rely on revenue sharing as one of their main revenue sources.

We need our members to reach out to your [state representative](#) and your [state senator](#)—call or text today—and ask them if they plan to 1) fund the \$95 million for constitutional revenue sharing and 2) maintain FY 2025 funding levels for statutory revenue sharing. While other municipalities will receive a direct benefit from the increased road funding, townships do not receive any state funding for roads. *Help MTA ensure the township voice is heard to protect revenue sharing and contact your state lawmakers today.*

Protection to individuals administering emergency care

Legislation passed the House this week to extend civil liability protection to individuals who voluntarily provide bleeding control in an emergency. The act currently shields certain individuals from liability when they administer emergency care in specific

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situations. [House Bill 4108](#), sponsored by Rep. Dave Prestin (R-Cedarville Twp.), would add protection from liability for damages for anyone who, in good faith, assists in an emergency medical situation by applying bleeding control measures. Measures would include direct pressure, applying a dressing, wound packing and using a tourniquet. However, the immunity from liability proposed by the bill would not extend to an act or omission that constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct. HB 4108 will next be considered by the Senate.



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Bill expanding disaster response and mitigation grants approved by Senate

Limitations on grant awards from the Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund (DECF) would increase under a bill passed by the Senate this week. Currently, municipalities with a population under 25,000 may receive an award of up to \$250,000, municipalities with populations between 25,000 and 75,000 could receive up to \$500,000, and municipalities with populations of 75,000 or more could receive up to \$1 million from the fund during a declared state of disaster or state of emergency. Under [Senate Bill 109](#), introduced by Sen. Sean McCann (D-Kalamazoo), those limits would rise to \$2.5 million, \$5 million and \$10 million respectively. The bill also eliminates the \$10 million ceiling on the DECF.

Additionally, the bill creates the Hazard Mitigation Fund (HMF) to fund grants to local governments pursuing a Federal Emergency Management Agency-approved hazard mitigation plan to reduce the likelihood of disasters. The HMF would receive \$500,000 for every \$10 million remaining in the DECF at the end of a fiscal year. The bill moves to the House for consideration.

* [Bauckham, Thall, Seeber Kaufman & Koches PC](#)

* [Consumers Energy](#)

* [Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes PLC](#)

* [Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC](#)

* [Hartleb Agency](#)

* [ITC Holdings Corp.](#)

* [Rosati, Schultz, Joppich & Amtsbuechler, P.C.](#)

* [Mika Meyers, PLC](#)



Municipal filing fee increase

Municipalities that have not been granted qualified status could soon see an increase in filing fees and late fees for municipal securities. [Senate Bill 575](#), sponsored by Sen. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing), to modify the Revised Municipal Finance Act was approved by the Senate this week. The bill would also require the state Department of Treasury to annually adjust filing fee percentages, minimum and maximum filing fee amounts, and associated late fees by the inflation rate beginning on Jan. 1, 2026. The legislation would update a reference to the Financial Stability and Choice Act and permit a municipality's chief administrative officer's designee to certify an application for qualified status. The adjustments would result in fees that more closely reflect Consumer Price Index increases since the act's enactment in 2001. The bill moves to the House for action.

'No stricter than federal' bill clears House

Legislation to prohibit state agency rules from being more stringent than federal regulations was approved by the House this week. [House Bill 4160](#), sponsored by Rep. Gina Johnsen (R-Lake Odessa), would reinstate the requirement first enacted in 2018 and repealed in 2023. A state agency director would have to demonstrate a “clear and convincing need” to institute a rule stricter than the federal standard. The bill moves to the Senate for review.

Nuisance dumping and local government webinar

Local governments are often saddled with the burden of cleaning up unlawful or excessive dumping, abandoned buildings and their contents, and hidden dump piles. On Oct. 16 at 10 a.m., the state Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) will host a webinar for local officials to learn about recognizing and addressing properties and scenarios in which waste has gotten out of control. EGLE will also share information on recycling more difficult materials, like tires and electronics, to bolster your township’s recycling portfolio. Register [online](#).

A promotional banner for Michigan Township Associations (MTA) retreats. The background shows a large, multi-story resort building with a red roof and a sign that says 'FRANKENMUTH'. The text is overlaid on the image. In the top left corner is the Michigan Township Associations logo. The main title 'MTA RETREATS' is in large white letters. Below it, the dates and topics for the retreats are listed: 'CLERKS | SEPT. 29-30', 'TREASURERS | OCT. 1-2', 'SUPERVISORS | OCT. 14-15', 'TRUSTEES | OCT. 27-28', and 'PLANNING & ZONING | OCT. 29-30'. A call to action 'CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION' is in a white box on the left. The text 'RETURNING TO FRANKENMUTH' is in the top right corner.

MTA RETREATS
RETURNING TO FRANKENMUTH
CLERKS | SEPT. 29-30
TREASURERS | OCT. 1-2
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EGLE water testing lab hours change

Water system administrators and homeowners who utilize the state Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy’s (EGLE) laboratory for drinking water quality analysis should be advised of the facility’s new hours beginning Oct. 1. Water samples submitted to the lab for analyses such as E. coli and Total Coliform will no longer be accepted on Fridays. These sample submissions can still be submitted in person Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or shipped overnight Monday through Wednesday to arrive by Thursday.

Workplace mistreatment webinar series recordings

Recordings are now available for all three sessions of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity’s webinar series on building respectful, inclusive organizations and combating mistreatment at work. [Episode one](#) covered incivility and microaggressions, [episode two](#) discussed what to do if you witness someone being mistreated in the workplace, and [episode three](#) offered guidance on how to conduct respectful and effective workplace investigations.

Reminders for clerks

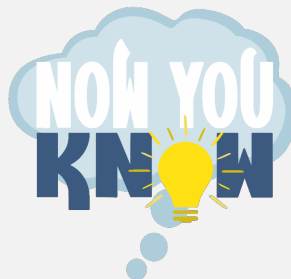
- **Election inspectors**—Election inspectors for the Nov. 4 election must be appointed by election commissions no later than Oct. 14.
- **Continuing education**—The [2024-2025 Continuing Education Curriculum](#) is available in the state Bureau of Elections eLearning Center. Continuing education is required by Michigan Election Law for clerks to renew their accreditation status every two years.
- **Early tabulation**—Jurisdictions with an established absent voter (AV) counting board intending to process or tabulate AV ballots before Election Day must submit written notice to the Secretary of State by Oct. 7 by completing the [Early Tabulation Declaration form in eLearning](#).
- **QVF hours**—Oct. 6 is the deadline for all clerks with a Nov. 4 election to post and enter into the Qualified Voter File (QVF) the hours the clerk's office will be open on the Saturday or Sunday or both immediately before the election to issue and receive AV ballots.

MTA webinar reviews governmental immunity

Ever wonder where the line is between your responsibilities and personal liability? Can you really get in trouble for that vote, action or comment? Join MTA legal counsel at **noon on Oct. 22** for our next live webinar ***Wait, I Can Get in Trouble for That?!*** We'll break down governmental immunity in plain language—explaining what protections exist for townships (and their officials!) and where the limits are. Through real-world examples and practical guidance, you'll gain a clear understanding of when you're covered and when you're not—all in one hour!

[Click here to register now!](#)

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