

No. 25
STATE OF MICHIGAN
Journal of the Senate
94th Legislature
REGULAR SESSION OF 2007

Senate Chamber, Lansing, Tuesday, March 20, 2007.

10:00 a.m.

The Senate was called to order by the President, Lieutenant Governor John D. Cherry, Jr.

The roll was called by the Secretary of the Senate, who announced that a quorum was present.

Allen—present
Anderson—present
Barcia—present
Basham—present
Birkholz—present
Bishop—present
Brater—present
Brown—present
Cassis—present
Cherry—present
Clark-Coleman—present
Clarke—present
Cropsey—present

Garcia—excused
George—present
Gilbert—present
Gleason—present
Hardiman—present
Hunter—present
Jacobs—present
Jansen—present
Jelinek—present
Kahn—present
Kuipers—present
McManus—present
Olshove—present

Pappageorge—present
Patterson—present
Prusi—present
Richardville—present
Sanborn—present
Schauer—present
Scott—present
Stamas—present
Switalski—present
Thomas—present
Van Woerkom—present
Whitmer—present

Pastor Anne Schaefer of Celtic Cross Presbyterian Church of Warren offered the following invocation:

O mighty God, You give us the changes of the seasons so that we might always know of Your constant presence with us. You give us the gift of years so that we might grow in wisdom and compassion. With each moment of each hour of each day, we are reminded of Your greatness in so many ways. We are always amazed at the fact that You can be so grand and majestic, so as to watch over all of the universe and make the oceans even flow, and at the same time, sit with us at times like this at meetings by giving us ears to hear and minds to learn.

We give You thanks for the accomplishments of those gathered in this room. We give You thanks for the blessings in this hour and for the tradition that we share, and now continue us in that same manner of wisdom and tradition. Amen.

The President Lieutenant, Governor Cherry, led the members of the Senate in recital of the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Motions and Communications

Senator Cropsey moved that Senator Garcia be excused from today's session.
The motion prevailed.

Senator Cassis asked and was granted unanimous consent to make a statement and moved that the statement be printed in the Journal.

The motion prevailed.

Senator Cassis' statement is as follows:

I rise today with a heavy heart. Today we pay tribute to Marine Corporal Mark Kidd, who put on his uniform to defend and fight for his country in a very distant land—Iraq. We also want to celebrate the short but very impressive life of a handsome, bright, and intelligent man who loved his family and cherished our American heritage—a smart, inquisitive student and a historian.

Mark planned on pursuing studies in international law. Beyond that, he was the beloved son of caring parents, Frank and Janet Kidd of Milford, and the proud grandson of Joseph and Wanda Kidd of Milford, and Dan and Hulda Piercecchi of Livonia. Very importantly, Mark was extremely close to and admired by his brother Matt. Matt, his dad Frank, and Mark Piercecchi, his uncle, are here with us today. This is a family whose love and devotion to country truly knows no bounds; parents who had no illusion of the safety and combat, yet offered their offspring for the ultimate cause. God bless you.

Religion played a very central role in Mark's life as a member of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church. Strong faith grounded him on several active tours of duty and gave him strength.

On January 25 of this year, Mark made the ultimate sacrifice, losing his life protecting freedoms that he so cherished in the hellhole known as Anbar province, Iraq. As our tears dry for Mark and for all the young men and women who have given their lives or who today are in harm's way, let us persevere. Let us remind and always remain memorable of the devout, the bravery, the fortitude, and the devotion of these fine Americans. Their lives will not be in vain. Their memories will sustain us.

This special tribute is signed by myself and Representative Christopher Ward.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Marine Corporal Mark Kidd.

Senator Kuipers entered the Senate Chamber.

The following communication was received:
Unemployment Insurance Agency

February 28, 2007

In accordance with Section 8 of the *Michigan Employment Security Act*, being Section 421.8 of the *Michigan Compiled Laws*, the Unemployment Insurance Agency is required to report annually to the Governor and the Legislature any amount, in excess of \$1.00, that the maximum weekly unemployment benefit rate would increase if the annual increase in the United States Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index (CPI) were applied to the maximum weekly benefit rate.

I am therefore transmitting to the Governor, and to the House and Senate for publication along with this letter in the *Journals* of their respective bodies, the enclosed report showing that since the last increase in the maximum weekly benefit rate to \$362.00, the increase in the CPI would result in an increase in the maximum weekly unemployment benefit rate to \$411.81. Using the method of applying a percentage of the state average weekly wage, the maximum weekly benefit rate would increase to \$465.84.

Respectfully submitted,
Liza Estlund Olson
Acting Director

The message was referred to the Secretary for record.

The following communication was received:
Department of Human Services

March 12, 2007

Pursuant to Section 1002 of P.A. 345 of FY 2006, we are enclosing a copy of the following reports:

Type of Report	Facility	Report #	License #
Special Investigation Reports	Adrian Training School	2007C0212012	CS460200931
		2007C0212014	
Renewal	Adrian Training School		CS460200931

These reports were performed in compliance with the requirements of P.A. 116 of 1973 as amended, and the Administrative Rules for Child Caring Institutions. The reports may also be viewed on our website, within 48 hours, under "News, Publications & Information" at the following address: <http://www.michigan.gov/dhs/>.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact Miriam E.J. Bullock at 517-373-8383.

Sincerely,
Marianne Udow

The message was referred to the Secretary for record.

The Secretary announced that the following House bills were received in the Senate and filed on Thursday, March 15:
House Bill Nos. 4167 4168 4189 4285 4327 4441

The Secretary announced the enrollment printing and presentation to the Governor on Thursday, March 15, for her approval the following bills:

Enrolled Senate Bill No. 166 at 2:11 p.m.

Enrolled Senate Bill No. 184 at 2:13 p.m.

The Secretary announced the enrollment printing and presentation to the Governor on Monday, March 19, for her approval the following bill:

Enrolled Senate Bill No. 176 at 11:33 a.m.

The Secretary announced that the following official bills and joint resolution were printed on Thursday, March 15, and are available at the legislative website:

House Bill Nos. 4459 4460 4461 4462 4463 4464 4465 4466

House Joint Resolution F

The Secretary announced that the following official bills were printed on Friday, March 16, and are available at the legislative website:

Senate Bill Nos. 351 352 353 354 355 356

House Bill Nos. 4467 4468 4469 4470 4471 4472 4473 4474 4475 4476

Messages from the Governor

The following messages from the Governor were received and read:

March 16, 2007

I respectfully submit to the Senate, pursuant to Section 6 of Article 5 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, the following appointment to state office under Section 4 of the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Act, 1982 PA 250, MCL 722.604:

State Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board

Ms. Renee T. Farhat of 6069 Skyline Drive, East Lansing, Michigan 48823, county of Ingham, succeeding Teresa V. Staten, whose term has expired, representing the general public, for a term commencing March 16, 2007 and expiring December 19, 2008.

March 19, 2007

I respectfully submit to the Senate, pursuant to Section 6 of Article 5 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, the following reappointment to state office under Section 20 of the Michigan Boxing Regulatory Act, 2004 PA 403, MCL 338.3620:

Michigan Boxing Commission

Mr. Kevin D. Moore of 26250 Tennant Street, Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48127, county of Wayne, reappointed to represent the general public, for a term expiring February 19, 2011.

Sincerely,
Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor

The appointments were referred to the Committee on Government Operations and Reform.

By unanimous consent the Senate proceeded to the order of
General Orders

Senator Cropsey moved that the Senate resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole for consideration of the General Orders calendar.

The motion prevailed, and the President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, designated Senator Clarke as Chairperson.

After some time spent therein, the Committee arose; and, the President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, having resumed the Chair, the Committee reported back to the Senate, favorably and without amendment, the following bill:

Senate Bill No. 307, entitled

A bill to provide for the levy, assessment, and collection of an excise tax on certain services; to provide exemptions; to appropriate the proceeds; to prescribe certain powers and duties of certain state departments; and to prescribe penalties.

The bill was placed on the order of Third Reading of Bills.

The Committee of the Whole reported back to the Senate, favorably and with a substitute therefor, the following bill:

Senate Bill No. 69, entitled

A bill to provide for the establishment of a neighborhood improvement authority; to prescribe the powers and duties of the authority; to correct and prevent deterioration in neighborhoods and certain other areas; to authorize the acquisition and disposal of interests in real and personal property; to authorize the creation and implementation of development plans and development areas; to promote residential and economic growth; to create a board; to prescribe the powers and duties of the board; to authorize the issuance of bonds and other evidences of indebtedness; to authorize the use of tax increment financing; to prescribe powers and duties of certain state officials; to provide for rule promulgation; and to provide for enforcement of the act.

Substitute (S-2).

The Senate agreed to the substitute recommended by the Committee of the Whole, and the bill as substituted was placed on the order of Third Reading of Bills.

Resolutions

The question was placed on the adoption of the following resolution consent calendar:

Senate Resolution No. 28

The resolution consent calendar was adopted.

Senator Patterson offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 28.

A resolution proclaiming March as Hemophilia Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Hemophilia is the name of several hereditary genetic illnesses that impair the body's ability to control bleeding; and

Whereas, Hemophilia is defined as excessive, uncontrollable bleeding because of the missing or low-level clotting factor in the blood; and

Whereas, Bleeding may occur even when there is no injury and most often occurs in the joints and in the head; and

Whereas, There are approximately 20,000 U.S. citizens with hemophilia, and each year approximately 400 babies are born with the disease; and

Whereas, Hemophilia affects males almost exclusively—1 in 7,000—and is found in all populations; and
 Whereas, There is no cure for hemophilia. It is a lifelong condition that can be controlled with regular injections of the deficient clotting factor; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body do hereby declare March as Hemophilia Awareness Month. We call upon the people of Michigan and all city government agencies to observe the appropriate ceremonies and activities paying tribute to those affected by this lifelong condition; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan.
 Senators Cherry, Clarke and Pappageorge were named co-sponsors of the resolution.

Senators Birkholz, Van Woerkom, Prusi, Richardville, Anderson, Barcia, Hunter, Scott, Kuipers, Jansen, Schauer, Thomas, Jacobs, Gleason and Hardiman offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 27.

A resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to invest in Head Start and quality child care.

Whereas, Head Start and high-quality child care prepare children for school and life success by narrowing the educational achievement gap between lower- and upper-income kids, increasing high school graduation rates, and reducing crime; and

Whereas, Studies show that at-risk children who attend Head Start and high-quality child care are better prepared for school. For example, Head Start narrows the literacy skills gap by nearly half between children in poverty and all children. The research is clear that quality early childhood education programs work to prevent crime. In Ypsilanti, Michigan, three- and four-year-olds from low-income families who were randomly assigned to a group that did not receive preschool preparation were five times more likely to have become chronic lawbreakers by age 27 than those who were assigned to the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation's Perry Preschool program; and

Whereas, Currently, only about half of eligible low-income children can attend Head Start due to state and federal funding limitations, and even fewer infants and toddlers. Less than five percent of eligible children three years old and younger are able to participate in Early Head Start. Moreover, only one in seven eligible children in working, low-income families receives help paying for quality child care through the Child Care and Development Block Grant. The combination of state and federal money for preschool has helped Michigan reach two of three at-risk four-year-olds and one of five at-risk three-year-olds; and

Whereas, Real dollar funding levels for Head Start and child care have been cut for the last several years, falling far behind the rising costs that programs face. Instead of reaching more eligible kids with comprehensive health, nutrition, and early education services, Head Start programs have been forced to shorten program hours, cut back staff, reduce parent coaching, and reduce transportation and other services that help families participate; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to increase discretionary funding in the federal budget for 2008 by \$750 million in additional funding over current levels for Head Start and \$720 million in additional funding over current levels for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). This request does not address the unmet need in Head Start and CCDBG, but simply restores services to children to the Fiscal Year 2002 level. This is a crucial first step toward meeting the need to provide quality early childhood education and care for at-risk children. Investing in Head Start and quality child care now will improve education outcomes for our nation's at-risk children and will save lives and money down the road; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

Pending the order that, under rule 3.204, the resolution be referred to the Committee on Government Operations and Reform,

Senator Cropsey moved that the rule be suspended.

The motion prevailed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

Senator Cropsey moved that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Education.

The motion prevailed.

Senators Anderson, Cassis, Cherry, Clarke, Gleason, Hardiman, Pappageorge and Richardville were named co-sponsors of the resolution.

Introduction and Referral of Bills

Senators Kuipers and Allen introduced

Senate Bill No. 357, entitled

A bill to amend 1927 PA 175, entitled "The code of criminal procedure," by amending section 16x of chapter XVII (MCL 777.16x), as amended by 2006 PA 234.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senators Kuipers and Allen introduced

Senate Bill No. 358, entitled

A bill to amend 1931 PA 328, entitled "The Michigan penal code," (MCL 750.1 to 750.568) by adding section 498c. The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Senators Brown, Van Woerkom, Gilbert, Barcia, Kuipers, Birkholz, Sanborn, Bishop, Cropsey, Stamas and Cassis introduced

Senate Bill No. 359, entitled

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending sections 2685 and 2688 (MCL 333.2685 and 333.2688).

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

Senators Gilbert, Kahn, Jansen, Birkholz, Pappageorge, Gleason and Prusi introduced

Senate Bill No. 360, entitled

A bill to amend 1951 PA 51, entitled "An act to provide for the classification of all public roads, streets, and highways in this state, and for the revision of that classification and for additions to and deletions from each classification; to set up and establish the Michigan transportation fund; to provide for the deposits in the Michigan transportation fund of specific taxes on motor vehicles and motor vehicle fuels; to provide for the allocation of funds from the Michigan transportation fund and the use and administration of the fund for transportation purposes; to set up and establish the truck safety fund; to provide for the allocation of funds from the truck safety fund and administration of the fund for truck safety purposes; to set up and establish the Michigan truck safety commission; to establish certain standards for road contracts for certain businesses; to provide for the continuing review of transportation needs within the state; to authorize the state transportation commission, counties, cities, and villages to borrow money, issue bonds, and make pledges of funds for transportation purposes; to authorize counties to advance funds for the payment of deficiencies necessary for the payment of bonds issued under this act; to provide for the limitations, payment, retirement, and security of the bonds and pledges; to provide for appropriations and tax levies by counties and townships for county roads; to authorize contributions by townships for county roads; to provide for the establishment and administration of the state trunk line fund, local bridge fund, comprehensive transportation fund, and certain other funds; to provide for the deposits in the state trunk line fund, critical bridge fund, comprehensive transportation fund, and certain other funds of money raised by specific taxes and fees; to provide for definitions of public transportation functions and criteria; to define the purposes for which Michigan transportation funds may be allocated; to provide for Michigan transportation fund grants; to provide for review and approval of transportation programs; to provide for submission of annual legislative requests and reports; to provide for the establishment and functions of certain advisory entities; to provide for conditions for grants; to provide for the issuance of bonds and notes for transportation purposes; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state and local agencies and officials; to provide for the making of loans for transportation purposes by the state transportation department and for the receipt and repayment by local units and agencies of those loans from certain specified sources; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," by amending sections 11e and 11f (MCL 247.661e and 247.661f), section 11e as amended by 2006 PA 141 and section 11f as added by 2006 PA 140.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

Senators Jansen, Kuipers, Jacobs, Brown, Birkholz, Pappageorge and Gilbert introduced

Senate Bill No. 361, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 388, entitled "Michigan campaign finance act," by amending section 50 (MCL 169.250), as added by 1994 PA 385.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Campaign and Election Oversight.

House Bill No. 4167, entitled

A bill to amend 1931 PA 328, entitled "The Michigan penal code," by amending sections 234a and 234b (MCL 750.234a and 750.234b), as amended by 2005 PA 303.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

House Bill No. 4168, entitled

A bill to amend 1927 PA 175, entitled "The code of criminal procedure," by amending section 16m of chapter XVII (MCL 777.16m), as amended by 2005 PA 106.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

House Bill No. 4189, entitled

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled "The general property tax act," by amending section 27a (MCL 211.27a), as amended by 2006 PA 446.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

House Bill No. 4285, entitled

A bill to regulate political activity; to regulate certain candidates for elective office and state officials; to require financial statements and reports; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state and local governmental officers and agencies; to impose fees; to prescribe penalties and civil sanctions; and to provide remedies.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Campaign and Election Oversight.

House Bill No. 4327, entitled

A bill to repeal 1939 PA 113, entitled "An act relative to domestic or foreign grown tomatoes; and to prescribe penalties for the violation of the provisions of this act," (MCL 752.751 to 752.752).

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

House Bill No. 4441, entitled

A bill to amend 1993 PA 330, entitled "State real estate transfer tax act," by amending sections 5 and 11 (MCL 207.525 and 207.531), section 5 as amended by 1994 PA 224.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Statements

Senators Scott, Jacobs, Hunter and Sanborn asked and were granted unanimous consent to make statements and moved that the statements be printed in the Journal.

The motion prevailed.

Senator Scott's statement is as follows:

I rise today in honor of March as Women's History Month and to pay tribute to a legend in national politics, former United States Representative Shirley Chisholm. Ms. Chisholm was born in 1924 in New York City. She graduated cum laude from Brooklyn College with a Bachelor of Arts and from Columbia University with her master's degree. After over a decade of service in childcare and preschool education, she was elected as a New York state assemblywoman, representing the 55th District in New York City. In 1968, she was elected to the United States House of Representatives, where she served for 14 years. She quickly gained national attention as a vocal critic of the war in Vietnam and the House seniority system. She was also an outspoken advocate of the interests of the urban poor.

I became aware of Ms. Chisholm in 1972 when I was being persuaded to run as a precinct delegate. It was my first venture into elected politics and I was a very reluctant participant. Then a close friend pointed out that Ms. Chisholm was running for the Democratic nomination for President of the United States. Well, that really inspired me and, as you all know, it was the beginning of my political career.

During her political career, Ms. Chisholm also served as a delegate to the National Democratic Mid-term Conference in 1974 and as a Democratic national committeewoman. After her retirement from politics, she co-founded the National Political Congress of Black Women in 1984, an organization to which I proudly belong. Her National Political Congress of Black Women platform was that every woman was important and all women had something to offer, from the housewife to the Ph.D. Under her leadership, it was a very inclusive organization.

Shirley Chisholm died on January 1, 2005. I was privileged to travel to Florida to attend her funeral and then this past January to participate in a memorial anniversary program to dedicate a children's room in her home church in her name. Shirley Chisholm was a tiny, little bit of a woman, but she had a great and powerful voice. And as a result, her legacy will live on forever as an inspiration to all women with political dreams.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, the 2007 state legislative sessions will see 1,736 women legislators serving across the country. Women currently hold 23.5 percent of legislative seats in the 50 states, a ratio that has increased only slightly over the past ten years. Representative Nancy Pelosi was elected the first female Speaker of the United States House of Representatives. In addition, there are currently nine female Governors, 11 Lieutenant Governors, four Attorneys General, 12 Secretaries of State, 10 State Treasurers, and 6 state auditors.

As Desmond Tutu was fond of saying, “Politics is the art of the possible.” As Shirley Chisholm would say, “especially for women.”

And, in my last few minutes here, I would just like to encourage my colleagues here to do what they did in the House and take up my insurance bills. We need to work on these bills immediately. Mine includes not only car, but home also.

Senator Jacobs’ statement is as follows:

I rise today to contest recent remarks from colleagues regarding the integrity of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and its management of the 21st Century Jobs Fund. Frankly, I am getting weary of hearing these groundless and specious allegations, especially when these charges are based on nothing more than wishful thinking on the part of some members who would stoop to the lowest levels to derail the Governor’s efforts and thwart its success.

Let me educate you all on the ABCs of the MEDC. Abatements lure Business toward areas they would otherwise ignore, resulting in viable and thriving Cities.

The 21st Century Jobs Fund is intended to provide start-up funding for companies in life sciences, homeland security, alternative energy, and advanced automotive fields. It uses a portion of the tobacco settlement money to attract private investment dollars for such projects. Last year, it invested \$135 million which is expected to create 3,800 new jobs. And, parenthetically, other states have many millions of dollars more that their legislatures have given them to spend on like projects.

But the naysayers can always find fault, and if they can’t find it, they will make it up. Critics now allege that a disproportionate amount of funding has gone to universities. What a surprise. Michigan is home to several nationally-recognized research institutions which are predictably involved in advance technology, research, and commercialization. Is it surprising that they would be among the recipients of such funding? And may I remind you that the six university presidents who sit on the Jobs Fund board were placed there through legislation passed by this very chamber, and the elected Republican Attorney General himself monitors these funds.

My colleagues and I are confident that the MEDC has the necessary policies and procedures in place to protect the integrity of the fund. We are also confident that this fund will play a significant role in Michigan’s turnaround and move Michigan forward. But if my colleagues across the aisle want to divert their attention from these positive efforts to a pointless and vindictive witch hunt, feel free. Just let the record show that obstructionism and opposition can only impede Michigan’s recovery.

Senator Hunter’s statement is as follows:

I, too, stand in support of the efforts of the MEDC and the 21st Century Jobs Fund. It is unfortunate that there are those of us who refuse to acknowledge all the good things that are happening across this state as a result of the leadership of Governor Granholm and this job growth initiative. A great example is in my district, particularly in the city of Inkster, which is the home to Advance Resources Recovery, LLC. For the past 42 years, Advance Resource Recovery has been a major fuel oil supplier and hazardous waste controller for customers that include the Big Three automotive companies, Visteon, DTE Energy, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and the major oil companies.

Advance Resource Recovery, recognizing the environmental and health benefits of biodiesel fuels, believes strongly that Michigan, as the automotive capital and a leader in agriculture, has the potential to become a leader in biodiesel production. They saw an opportunity in Wayne County, Michigan, in the great city of Inkster to advance and expand their goals.

Recently, Advance Resource Recovery and the city of Inkster were selected from over 800 candidates for a \$2 million investment by the 21st Century Jobs Fund. The award will allow them to convert their facilities from an oil recycling center to a biodiesel production facility. Advance Resource Recovery was the only Wayne County commercialization project in alternative energy that will create immediate jobs.

This is a high-profile project at both the state and county level. And it is expected that Advance Resource Recovery will help attract other businesses to Inkster. So, thanks to Governor Granholm and our 21st Century Jobs Fund, local employment opportunities will be created, spin-off economic benefits will be provided, the tax base will be increased, and Michigan’s goal of aggressive biotech leadership will be furthered—all right there in the city of Inkster.

Through the 21st Century Jobs Fund award, Michigan has chosen to invest in this company, and the state of Michigan, Wayne County, and the city of Inkster will reap the benefits as part of Michigan’s 21st century economic recovery. This, indeed, is something of which we should all be very proud. On behalf of my district, Mr. President, I am very proud of this. I would like to thank Governor Granholm for her vision, her leadership, and her commitment to move this great state forward.

Senator Sanborn’s statement is as follows:

I rise to make my own statement. This statement is about the alphabet—the ABCs as it relates to the 21st Century Jobs Fund and how the money was disbursed. Colleagues from the 14th and 5th Districts have already stood up saying what a great job we did with the disbursement and how it will jump-start the economy. Well, here are the ABCs: the

abysmal oversight of the MEDC; B – the back-door appropriation to the universities. We already give them \$1.2 billion—the ones who sat on the board—and then they take another \$40 million back-door appropriation; C – for cronyism; 71 percent of the money handed out in the 21st Century Jobs Fund went directly to or directly-related to the 19 members who sat on the board—71 percent. There are your ABCs.

What I'm asking for is not to eliminate the MEDC. I think, in fact, the leader of the MEDC, Mr. Epolito, does a fine job at what it is that he does do. But my questions are with regard to the oversight and the compliance as it relates to the 21st Century Jobs Fund. What is the problem with transparency and looking into the oversight? Do we just look the other way and say what a great job we did; pat ourselves on the back and say we did a wonderful job of jump-starting the economy. Who in the world thinks Michigan's economy is in fine shape because of the wonderful job we did? What's the problem with pulling away the curtain and showing the public how we have recklessly spent their money? If there is a conflict of interest, don't we have an obligation to disclose this to the public, or are we just busy patting ourselves on the back and looking the other way while this money gets handed out in this fashion?

We talk about a compliance officer. Well, we had a compliance officer in place. Just today in *MIRS* I see where the compliance officer is saying, "It's not my responsibility to check on conflict of interest or inform. I need to be asked whether it is a conflict of interest." I find that a little odd. I also find it a little bit odd that while the compliance officer was in place when the first \$135 million went out—which, by the way, 100 percent of the money went out before the election; none has gone out since. I guess we've stopped doing a good job in that regard. While the compliance officer was in place, there were no rules set up. He didn't have the compliance rules put into place until last Thursday—six months after the money was handed out. Yes, we've done a fine job of jump-starting Michigan's economy.

Senators from the 14th and the 5th District, I want you to know I was sent here to be a watchdog for the taxpayers' money, not the lapdog for this Governor's reckless and irresponsible spending.

Committee Reports

The Committee on Homeland Security and Emerging Technologies reported
Senate Resolution No. 20.

A resolution to urge the United States Department of Homeland Security to complete an economic analysis of the costs of compliance with the requirements of the federal Real ID Act and the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative.

(For text of resolution, see Senate Journal No. 20, p. 249.)

With the recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Cameron Brown
Chairperson

To Report Out:

Yeas: Senators Brown, Garcia, Richardville, Pappageorge, Hunter, Olshove and Thomas

Nays: None

The resolution was placed on the order of Resolutions.

The Committee on Homeland Security and Emerging Technologies reported
Senate Resolution No. 21.

A resolution to memorialize the United States Department of State and the Department of Homeland Security to develop a pilot program in Michigan for a dual purpose state driver's license/personal identification card to comply with the provisions of the Real ID Act and the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative.

(For text of resolution, see Senate Journal No. 20, p. 250.)

With the recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

Cameron Brown
Chairperson

To Report Out:

Yeas: Senators Brown, Garcia, Richardville, Pappageorge, Hunter, Olshove and Thomas

Nays: None

The resolution was placed on the order of Resolutions.

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Homeland Security and Emerging Technologies submitted the following:

Meeting held on Tuesday, March 13, 2007, at 1:00 p.m., Room 100, Farnum Building

Present: Senators Brown (C), Garcia, Richardville, Pappageorge, Hunter, Olshove and Thomas

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Agriculture submitted the following:

Meeting held on Thursday, March 15, 2007, at 9:00 a.m., Room 110, Farnum Building

Present: Senators Van Woerkom (C), Gilbert, Birkholz and Whitmer

Excused: Senator Gleason

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Joint Subcommittee on Capital Outlay submitted the following:

Meeting held on Thursday, March 15, 2007, at 9:00 a.m., House Appropriations Room, 3rd Floor, Capitol Building

Present: Senators McManus (C), Jelinek, Brown, Cropsey, Hardiman, Pappageorge, Switalski, Cherry, Clark-Coleman

and Scott

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Finance submitted the following:

Meeting held on Thursday, March 15, 2007, at 11:42 a.m., Room 110, Farnum Building

Present: Senators Cassis (C), Gilbert, McManus, Jansen, Prusi, Jacobs and Whitmer

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Energy Policy and Public Utilities submitted the following:

Meeting held on Thursday, March 15, 2007, at 1:00 p.m., Room 210, Farnum Building

Present: Senators Patterson (C), Brown, Birkholz, Kuipers, Richardville, Olshove and Thomas

Excused: Senator Prusi

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Finance submitted the following:

Public hearing held on Friday, March 16, 2007, at 1:12 p.m., Grand Valley State University, Downtown Campus, Eberhard Center, Room 215, 301 W. Fulton Street, Grand Rapids

Present: Senators Gilbert, Jansen, Prusi and Whitmer

Excused: Senators Cassis (C), McManus and Jacobs

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The Committee on Finance submitted the following:

Public hearing held on Monday, March 19, 2007, at 10:40 a.m., Troy Community Center, Room 303, 3179 Livernois, Troy

Present: Senators Cassis (C), Gilbert, Jansen and Jacobs

Excused: Senators McManus, Prusi and Whitmer

Scheduled Meetings**Appropriations -****Subcommittees -**

Community Health Department - Wednesday, March 28, 1:00 p.m., Senate Hearing Room, Ground Floor, Boji Tower (373-2768)

Higher Education - Tuesday, March 27, 2:00 p.m., Senate Appropriations Room, 3rd Floor, Capitol Building (373-2768)

Transportation Department - Wednesday, March 21, 8:30 a.m., Room 405, Capitol Building (373-2768) (CANCELED)

Banking and Financial Institutions - Wednesday, March 21, 9:00 a.m., Room 210, Farnum Building (373-3543)

Campaign and Election Oversight - Wednesday, March 21, 12:30 p.m., Room 405, Capitol Building (373-1725)

Energy Policy and Public Utilities - Thursday, March 22, 1:00 p.m., Room 210, Farnum Building (373-7350)

Finance - Wednesday, March 21, 3:00 p.m., Room 210, Farnum Building; Thursday, March 22, 1:00 p.m., Saginaw Valley State University, Malcomb Field Theater, 7400 Bay Road, University Center; and Friday, March 23, 10:00 a.m., Baker College Student Center, 9600 E. 13th Street, Cadillac (373-1758)

Legislative Retirement Board of Trustees - Wednesday, March 21, 3:00 p.m., Room H-252, Capitol Building (373-0575)

Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs - Wednesday, March 21, 1:00 p.m., Room 110, Farnum Building (373-3447)

Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs - Wednesday, March 21, 9:00 a.m., Room 100, Farnum Building (373-2413)

State Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee - Tuesday, March 27, 9:30 a.m., Legislative Council Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Boji Tower (373-0212)

Senator Cropsey moved that the Senate adjourn.
The motion prevailed, the time being 10:50 a.m.

The President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, declared the Senate adjourned until Wednesday, March 21, 2007, at 10:00 a.m.

CAROL MOREY VIVENTI
Secretary of the Senate

