

Action Alert

We expect HB 5820-5821, bills that create the Michigan Community Investment Pilot Program, to have a committee hearing in early December. Now is the time for supporters to contact their state representatives and urge support for HBs 5820-5821. **This is especially critical if you live in the district of a committee member**

For more information on the legislation:

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) about House Bills 5820-5821
- To review the actual text of the bills, go to: <http://legislature.mi.gov/>
- [Two pager](#) with talking points
- [Infograph](#) explaining the program

To find your state representative, go to:

<https://www.house.mi.gov/MHRPublic/frmFindARep.aspx>

Sample Message – Please personalize, feel free to shorten

Tip: Always keep messages brief, to-the-point, positive and respectful.

Dear Representative <last name>:

I am <calling, emailing> to urge you to support House Bills 5820-5821, legislation creating the Michigan Community Investment Pilot Program and creating the Michigan Community Investment Tax Credit.

As you know, very large community development projects have a number of tax incentives to attract investors (one example is the recent 2017 expansion of Michigan's Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, which made \$1 billion worth of incentives available for "transformational" projects). But small- to medium-sized neighborhood and rural community revitalization projects are often overlooked because they lack the same tools to attract investment.

House Bills 5820-5821 would create the Michigan Community Investment Pilot Program, a donation based state tax incentive that would provide support for locally based revitalization work in neighborhoods and rural communities. Under the proposed legislation, a corporate or individual donor makes a contribution directly to a place-based nonprofit for eligible projects or activities, including:

- Affordable housing •
- Financial empowerment •
- Workforce attraction & retention •
- Neighborhood & community revitalization •
- Commercial corridor revitalization

In exchange, the donor receives a 50% state tax credit on their donation. As drafted the bills would cap the program at \$25 million in donation-based tax credits, reflecting a minimum \$50 million in new, local investments. The proposed pilot program is based upon similar, successful programs in 14 other states (for more information, please see the attached background piece).

These bills are important to me because <add 1-2 brief statements>.

Again, I urge you to see that these bills are taken up in committee (House Committee on Commerce and Tourism) for a hearing and a vote as soon as possible.

Thank you so much for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Name,

full address where you live (no P.O. Boxes)