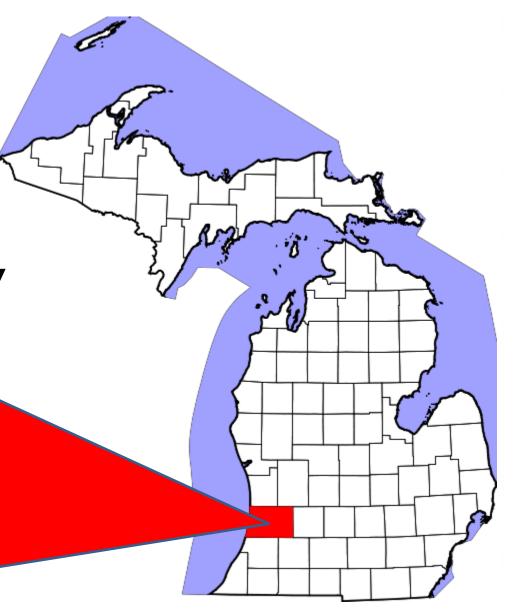


Presentation to Allegan County

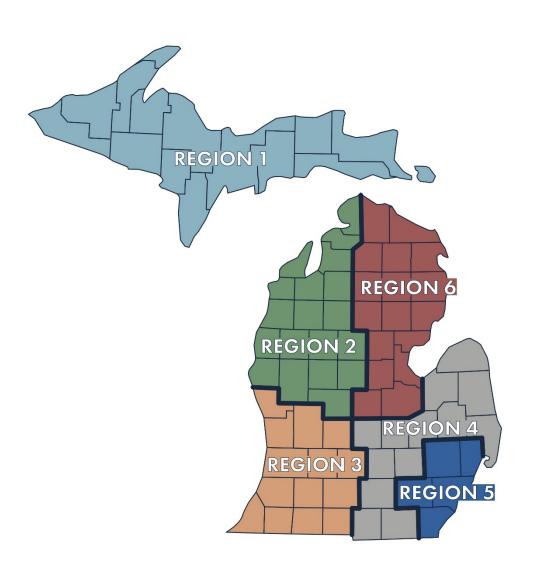






### Leadership

- Board of 16 members elected by commissioners
- Two seats from each of six regions ensure broad representation
- MAC Board meets four times a year: Legislative Conference, June, Annual Conference, November
- Elections held in August/September at Annual Conference





# Leadership



Veronica Klinefelt President



Stephan W. Currie Executive Director scurrie@micounties.org



Phil Kuyers
First Vice President



Stan Ponstein
Second Vice President



### **MAC**

#### What is Purpose of MAC?

- Advocacy: To be the voice of Michigan counties at the state and federal level
- Education: To provide educational opportunities to county commissioners to ensure they can do their jobs to the best of their abilities
- Services: To make available services that counties can take advantage of that save their staff time and money





Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association













### COVID-19 Aid

#### **American Rescue Plan**

- \$1.9 billion direct to Michigan counties
- Funding for COVID-related expenses, water and broadband projects and replacement of revenue loss due to pandemic
- Revenue loss could materialize in the future
- Coordination of efforts with locals, businesses and service providers
- \$3.9 billion ask for state matching funds





### **MAC 2021 Priorities**

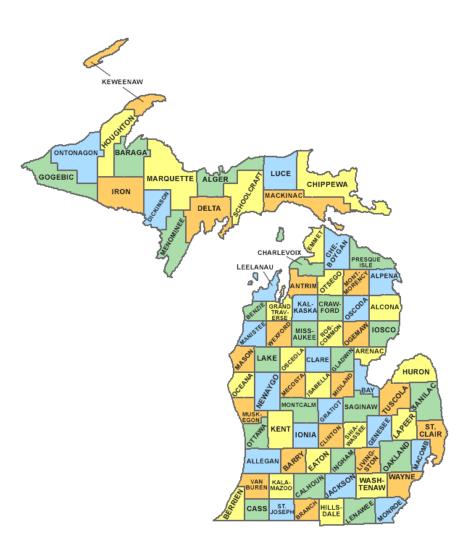
- Extending County Commissioner Terms to Four Years
- Enacting Reforms to Improve the Functioning of Local Courts
- Bolstering Michigan's System of Financing Local Government
- Ensuring the State Covers Costs for Property Tax Exemptions
- Adopting Measures to Reverse Damage Inflicted by "Dark Stores"
- Bolstering Michigan's Human Services Programs





### **4-year Commissioner Terms**

- Michigan is among only 5 states in nation that limit all commissioner terms to 2 years
- All other elected county officials receive 4-year terms
- MAC supports Senate Bills 242 & 245, which would enact 4-year terms, starting with 2024 presidential election
  - Bills passed Senate 32-4
  - Now in House committee

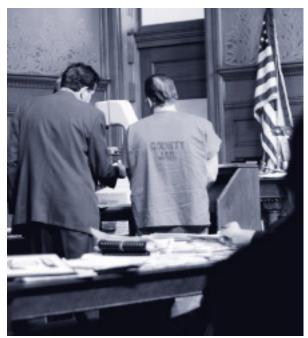




#### **Reforms for Local Courts**

- Create a Trial Court Fund that receives revenue from the General Fund and trial court assessments and payments and distributes those funds to trial courts based on caseloads, case types and basic operational needs
- Create a state-funded case management system to enhance court technology and get all courts using the same system

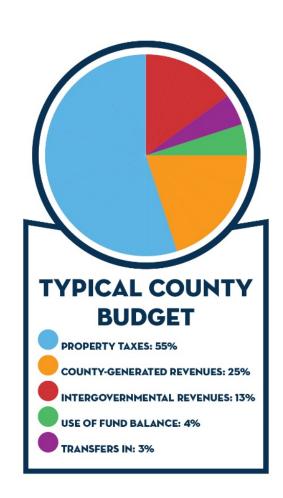






#### **Local Government Finance Reforms**

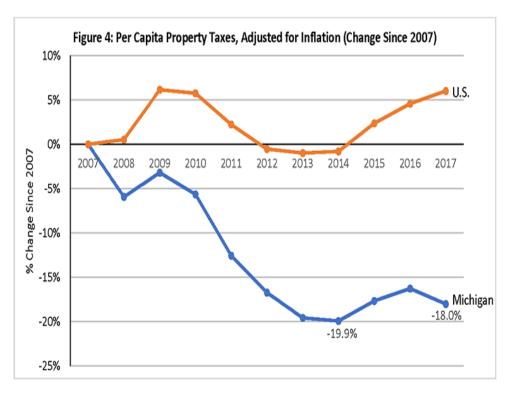
- Secure a dedicated revenue stream to support a county revenue sharing trust fund
- Ensure stable and sufficiently funded revenue streams for new or increases in mandated services
- Create a tourism reinvestment excise tax for our counties
- Re-open the window of opportunity for counties to transfer their foreclosure responsibilities to the state
- Exempt special millages from tax capture and allow for opting out of tax captures at the expiration of the original plan agreement





# Property Tax Exemptions

- Moratorium winners & losers
- Veteran exemptions
- Poverty, commercial, foreclosures
- Nonprofit & charitable
- Expansion of PPT exemptions
  - Solar and alternative energy
  - Broadband
  - Heavy equipment
  - Micro-fulfillment centers



Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2017).



#### **Human Services**

- Ensure state fulfills obligation to fund 100% of new costs to cover 17-yearolds entering juvenile justice system on Oct 1, 2021, pursuant to statute and data from family courts
- Amend County Veteran Service Fund to ensure emergent relief expenses are eligible; provide 1-year reduction to a county MOE (HB 4122/Glenn)



- Mental health: Senate vs. House proposals
  - Shirkey plan prompts concern
  - Whiteford bills (HBs 4925-929) create state entity to manage MH services
  - MAC supports local control on MH, using evidence-based services



#### **Addressing Infrastructure Needs**

- Adopt legislation to adequately fund infrastructure upgrades, such as roads, bridges and the separation of storm and sanitary sewers
- FY22 budget expectations
  - Governor seeks more local revenue options for roads
  - \$300M to fix 120 local bridges
  - o \$290M for Michigan Clean Water Plan
  - \$40M for high water level and coastal erosion planning
  - \$15M for a dam safety emergency fund









### **Advocacy**

### **MAC Policy Committees**

- MAC has six committees that study legislation and make recommendations to the MAC Board:
  - Finance and General Government Meets the 1st Friday at 10 a.m.
  - Environmental, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs Meets the 2nd Friday at 10 a.m.
  - Health and Human Services Meets the 4th Monday at 10 a.m.
  - Judiciary and Public Safety Meets the 4th Monday at 2 p.m.
  - Transportation Meets the 4th Friday at 10 a.m.
  - Agriculture and Tourism Meets at the call of the chair
- To join a MAC committee, fill out application at micounties.org

### **Advocacy**



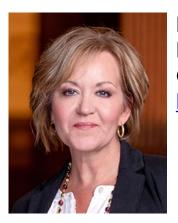
- Provides financial support to incumbent state legislators who are friends of county government
- 31 former county commissioners now serving in the Michigan Legislature (MAC County Caucus)

## Donate at www.micounties.org



# **Advocacy**

#### **Your MAC Team**



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### **Services**

#### Conferences

#### **Summer Regional Summits**

• July 19, 22, 26, 29

#### **Annual Conference (summer/fall)**

Sept. 26-28, 2021

MAC conferences provide top speakers, intensive policy workshops and plenty of opportunities to network with county leaders





#### **Communications**

- Full suite of social media channels
- Podcast 83 is MAC's video briefing on news and trends in county government
- Website has county resolutions database; digital advocacy tools; conference archives

### **Services**



Facebook.com/ MIcounties



Podcast 83



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www.micounties.org