



2014 Spring Michigan Legislative Update

The \$37.3 billion general budget plan for FY 2015 was signed by Governor Snyder. The budget scraps the Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP) and spends 2.8 percent more on transportation funding. In getting rid of EVIP, most of the hurdles local government units had to jump through to get statutory revenue sharing dollars from the state will disappear. Details of the bill include:

- Increased Medicaid funding
- \$8 million for financially distressed cities, villages and townships
- \$94 million in the budget stabilization fund
- An additional \$14 million into mental health
- \$285 million more for roads
- \$50 million for film incentives

The legislature passed other high-priority legislation before breaking for the summer. This included a package of nine bills dealing with the Detroit bankruptcy which was signed by the Governor on June 20 (details can be found [here](#)) and legislation signed by the Governor to increase the minimum wage in Michigan (details can be found [here](#)). No agreement was reached on raising more revenue for transportation funds, and Senate Majority Leader Richardville said the next step was to convene a workgroup over the summer to look at the issue. Governor Snyder has called for \$1.3 billion in additional annual funding to fix crumbling roads and bridges across the state.

The legislature is now on break for the summer, with two tentative session days scheduled in July and two tentative August session days.