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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director   
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: November 1, 2024

RE: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SB PACKAGE 647-654**

Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a resolution supporting Senate Bills 647-654, which would address Michigan's failing tobacco grades by implementing policies to prevent minors and young adults from using tobacco products.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

**BY COUNCIL MEMBER ANGELA WHITFIELD-CALLOWAY**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SB PACKAGE 647-654**

- WHEREAS,** The Detroit City Charter mandates that the City “shall provide for the public peace, health and safety of persons” within the City, and commits the City to “the development and welfare of our youth;” and
- WHEREAS,** Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death in Michigan, causing roughly 16,000 deaths per year;<sup>1</sup> and
- WHEREAS,** Although tobacco use among youth and young adults had been declining since the early 2000s, tobacco use began to rise again in 2013 with the introduction of e-cigarettes<sup>2</sup> and now 14% of high school students use e-cigarettes;<sup>3</sup> and
- WHEREAS,** According to the American Lung Association’s annual State of Tobacco Control Report released in January 2024, Michigan received mostly failing grades with a “Grade F” in Funding for State Tobacco Prevention Programs, Coverage and Access to Services to Quit Tobacco, and Ending the Sale of All Flavored Tobacco Products;<sup>4</sup> and
- WHEREAS,** Various Michigan Senators have introduced Senate Bills 647-653, which is a package of legislation aimed at reducing the ability of minors to use and access tobacco products; and
- WHEREAS,** SB 647 would restore local control over tobacco regulation and allow municipalities to enact local policies regarding tobacco sales; and
- WHEREAS,** SB 648 would raise the price of all tobacco products, taxing e-cigarettes just like all other tobacco products and dedicating new funds to prevention and cessation services; and
- WHEREAS,** SB 649 and 650 would end the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-cigarettes and menthol-flavored cigarettes, as flavored tobacco products are largely preferred by minors; and
- WHEREAS,** SB 651 and 652 would establish statewide Tobacco Retail Licensing (TRL) to ensure tobacco sellers are held accountable for following laws, especially laws prohibiting the sale of tobacco to minors; and
- WHEREAS,** SB 653 and 654 would repeal ineffective penalties that punish kids for tobacco purchase, use, and possession; and
- WHEREAS,** The Detroit City Council reaffirms its commitment to the health and welfare of the City’s youth and welcomes the potential ability to regulate the sale of tobacco products within City limits; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/-/media/Project/Websites/mdhhs/Keeping-Michigan-Healthy/Chronic-Disease/Tobacco/10-Data-and-Statistics/Michigan-Tobacco-Fact-Sheet.pdf?rev=be73d6d77bfa41848030e075ab7fa99c&hash=CC121289B582DB254EC729CB8D55E273>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/keep-mi-healthy/chronicdiseases/tobacco/data-statistics-about-tobacco-in-michigan>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/problem/toll-us/michigan>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.lung.org/media/press-releases/mi-sotc-fy24>

**RESOLVED,** That the Detroit City Council hereby proclaims its strong support for the passage of Senate Bills 647-654 and urges the Michigan legislature to pass these bills as soon as possible;  
**THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY**

**RESOLVED,** That the Detroit City Clerk provide a copy of this resolution to the Detroit delegations of both the Michigan State House and Senate, in addition to Governor Gretchen Whitmer.