

# Legislative Update

Michigan Association of Superintendents & Administrators | September 6, 2019



## In This Update

- Summary
- [Governor Proposes Flavored Vaping Ban Supported by MASA](#)
- [House Regulatory Reform Talks School Safety](#)

---

## Summary

It was reported on Thursday that legislative leaders have agreed to a budget framework and will begin passing bills next week. This is expected to happen despite that fact that no deal has been reached on road-funding with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. Senate Majority Leader Shirkey and House Speaker Chatfield met with the governor yesterday, and the rumor is they are no closer to a deal on road funding. Target spending levels were also sent to budget subcommittee leaders yesterday along with instructions to begin pushing out conference committee budgets next week. Committees are already scheduled for late next week. How much of this is real and how much is political posturing remains to be seen. Either way, get your popcorn ready.

There are 25 days until the next fiscal year, and we continue to advocate for a budget solution that must involve new revenue for schools (hold-harmless is not enough and is, in fact, a false promise), a structural change that includes the tenets of the SFRC weighted foundation, and changes to the school aid shell game related to university and community college operating budgets.

---

## **Governor Proposes Flavored Vaping Ban Supported by MASA**

On Wednesday, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer released three emergency rules to ban all flavored vaping products in Michigan.

Michigan's Chief Medical Executive Dr. Joneigh Khaldun and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) found that our state is facing a vaping crisis among youth. They cited the rising number of children using e-cigarettes, and that the majority of youth are using flavored products.

Gov. Whitmer's office says emergency rules banning flavored e-cigarettes will last six months once they are issued with the Secretary of State in the next few weeks. Once they are filed, they will be effective immediately. After the first six months, they can be renewed for an additional six months. In the meantime, DHHS will start creating permanent rules to be in place when emergency rules expire in 12 months. Retailers have 30 days to comply with the ban once the rules are filed.

MASA members continue to express concerns surrounding e-cigarette products and children, and this ban is aimed at keeping marketing and products away from students and out of schools. We were supportive of recent legislation signed into law that banned the sale of e-cigarettes to anyone but adults.

---

## **House Regulatory Reform Talks School Safety**

In the midst of budget battles, there were actually some committee meetings this week. In the House, the Regulatory Reform Committee met and heard testimony on a school safety bill. HB 4689 is sponsored by Rep. Scott VanSingel (R-Grant) and allows for temporary door barricade devices to be installed in school buildings.

These devices are anchoring mechanisms that are installed in the interior of a door to prevent forced entries. In committee, manufacturers of these items said that these devices can withstand 16,000 pounds of force.

HB 4689 spells out a number of standards for these devices, including a requirement that they are portable and not permanently affixed to the door. They would also need

to be able to be disengaged from the inside of the door without a special tool. The law would further require that school administrators would have to notify local law enforcement and the fire department before installing these devices and that all staff would have to complete in-service training on these devices.

Several Michigan schools have already installed and are using these products. HB 4689 is necessary to codify this practice and would prevent the state from creating and enforcing any rules that prohibit schools from having these devices.

The committee chair stated that an amendment to the bill will be introduced to make the language more inclusive and allow for multiple providers of the barricade devices in the bill.