



**UPLP Newsletter
#7 - November 2021**

Editor's Opinion on HB 4058

BY DAVE CROCKETT - NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE CHAIR

HB 4058 is a bill introduced by Republican Representative Steve Johnson as part of the Defend the Guard movement. The intent of this bill is to prevent Michigan's National Guard from active-duty combat unless Congress passes an official declaration of war. The bill also includes the following verbiage in defining "active-duty combat":

- (ii) Performance of a hazardous service.
- (iii) Performance of a duty under conditions simulating war.

On the surface, the bill's intent is to mitigate injury or loss of life for our national guard when there is no declared war. Unfortunately, additional wording in this bill puts our guard at risk of failing to complete missions and survive combat should war occur.

Training is essential for military personnel. The more realistic that training, the greater the chance of success and survival. There is no disputing this fact.

Military training is hazardous and has risks. Whether jumping out of a helicopter, exiting a submarine at 60 feet

underwater, or handling live ordinance, risk of injury or death is always real. It is that reality that prepares a soldier for combat.

In time of war, our guard will fight alongside our own military and allies (NATO). They currently train with them overseas in simulated war settings. This prepares them for knowing how to interact with other military units in combat settings. You remove that training; you risk failure and death due to miscommunications and confusion.

You cannot start training after Congress declares war. You go to war with what you have and know. Against a trained adversary, untrained troops will lose battles and die.

By reducing or eliminating our national guard's training we risk their ability to complete their mission, come home alive, and in the end - put our liberties at risk.

For safety of our guard members, and our future liberties, HB 4058 needs to be scrapped or defeated.

The Budget of Michigan State

BY JOSHUA JONGEMA - SECRETARY

While Michigan's budget promises to help small businesses and the little people, every action by the state has crushed those very people and small businesses without relent. The semi-permanent coronavirus state of emergency has been a windfall for the state of Michigan and the mega corporations that operate here. These companies benefit from the policies of the state which destroy the economic liberty of small businesses and individuals.

Despite claiming a deficit for the state in early 2020, and a need of billions in emergency assistance, last year Michigan pulled in a surplus of over 3 billion dollars. Michigan has yet to spend about 1.8 billion of its federal dollars, and has passed a 70 billion dollar budget for the next fiscal year. The state can hardly spend your money fast enough, and is now placing 500 million dollars of it away for a "rainy day."

With money poured into the coffers of the state and big business through bailouts, it is amazing that two years into the largest theft in American history, the state cannot seem to come around to spending money to help people in the Upper Peninsula. From up here, it is easy to imagine beautiful shining cities of vast wealth downstate. Otherwise, where would all that money really be going?

The new budget promises to be the injection of capitol into the economy that is needed during this time of need, but with a massive surplus it is hard to see why intervention by the government is even necessary. It funds important things like schools, but has in the past shut down schools that elect not to follow decrees and mandates by unelected bureaucrats.

This budget gives free pre-college classes and childcare to a few hundred thousand children and adults, but this hardly seems like more than window dressing. It fixes only a few hundred bridges. This all seems like run-of-the-mill stuff for a state. Why the large price tag for this bill?

The new budget also raises the wage for direct care workers. While this seems like a popular move, fixing the wage of employment denies those workers and their companies the right to negotiate their own contracts freely. Wage fixing harms people because employers will not simply raise the wage of all the people it employs. It will fire some portion of them to keep its bottom line fixed. Less people will have jobs at that higher wage, and that won't benefit them due to inflation.

If the government cannot tighten its belt and save money then we will all be more broke than before. This taxation without due representation is theft.

The Legislation Station

BY JOSHUA JONGEMA - SECRETARY

The MCRGO and your gun lobbied representatives have been touting House Bill 5187 as a miracle on steroids for your gun rights, and want to rile you up about the legislative process to get your rights back, as if that weren't the domain of the judiciary, and as if you don't already have those rights.

HB 5187 changes a lot of MCL 333.2253 and 333.2453, but didn't change one small provision, which reads, "A local health department or the department may provide for the involuntary detention and treatment of individuals with hazardous communicable disease in the manner prescribed in sections 5201 to 5210."

Sec 5201 holds the following, that, "'Carrier" means an individual who serves as a potential source of infection and who harbors or who the department reasonably believes to harbor a specific infectious agent or a serious communicable disease or infection, *whether or not there is present discernible disease,*" (emphasis added). Sec 5210 is the one that makes knowingly and willingly giving someone HIV a felony.

If the legislature would introduce a bill that specifically restricts or defunds the MDHHS and local health departments for locking down people without a disease being discernibly present, or an evidenced

way to prevent its spread, I would become a direct lobbyist. However after reviewing HB 5187 it seems clear this bill would only help some gun stores and factories maintain the positive right to stay open while private citizens and other small businesses remain locked down against their negative rights. It is a farce.

What the people taking massive amounts of money to sell you up the river want you to believe, is that biding your time and doing nothing will get you somewhere. The only one protecting your rights is you. By taking human action, one person can make a difference in their own lives and the world around them.

Vote Recall

Ed McBroom voted yes to 2021 HB 4066 which preemptively blocks local laws against knives.

Greg Markkanen voted yes on HB 4295, the Let government officials' spouses get a medical marijuana business license bill.

Wayne Schmidt did not vote on HB 4087 (2021) which passed 35 to 0 in the state senate. The bill, "To require the state health and welfare department to maintain in the future "a stockpile of materials and supplies (and personnel) that will be necessary to respond to a disaster or emergency," like Covid-19.

Libertarian Community Spotlight

AUTOMATED SPEED ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS

BY AARON GARDNER

The Legislative Committee would like to inform you of a bill that has been introduced in the Michigan House that we believe represents a clear threat to individual liberty.

The proposed bill would add a section to the Michigan vehicle code, that would allow various levels of government to establish “automated speed enforcement systems”. These systems would take photographs of alleged speeding cars that would be used to issue citations against vehicle owners.

Aside from the fact that this bill makes it easier for governments at all levels to further extort individuals, the biggest problem with it (there are many), is that it establishes a de facto guilty-until-proven-innocent scenario, in which a registered owner of a vehicle is presumed by law to be the driver without proof. Owners would be forced to provide sworn testimony in defense of themselves. This is likely a violation of the 5th Amendment which guarantees that no one is compelled to testify against oneself. This law would allow courts to penalize individuals who exercise their right to remain silent, under the guise that a civil infraction is not considered a crime. We recognize that this is functionally a difference in semantics only as a failure to comply with a court’s

ruling on a civil infraction leads to criminal charges.

This is complete bullshit and sets a dangerous precedent.

This is a call to action for our party members to contact everyone on this Committee to get the following bill REJECTED. Please call and email these committee members and tell them that not only should they vote down this bill, but they should also ceremoniously burn a printed copy on the steps of the capital, as a show of support for the rights of the constituents they were elected to represent.

The bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled “Michigan vehicle code,” is HB 5284.

Committee on Judiciary Members

Graham Filler (93rd District), Mike Mueller (51st), Steven Johnson (72nd District), Bronna Kahle (57th), Daire Rendon (103rd), Ryan Berman (39th), Douglas Wozniak (R), 36th District, TC Clements (56th), David LaGrand (75th) Tenisha Yancey (1st), Kyra Bolden (35th) Kara Hope (67th), Kelly Breen (38th).

Call or email these legislators today to ask them to vote Nay on HB 5284.