

MPA/MACS FACTS

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June 4, 2020

STATE HOUSE PASSES CHANGES TO UNATTENDED FUELING

Legislation that would loosen the rules for unattended fueling in Michigan passed the State House or Representatives by a 60-49 vote, mainly along party line with most Republicans supporting the legislation. Democrats voting in support included Reps. Wendell Byrd (D-Detroit), Sara Cambensy (D-Marquette), Brian Elder (D-Bay City) and Karen Whitsett (D-Detroit). Republicans voting no included Rep. Scott Van VanSingel (R-Grant) and Rep. Larry Inman (R-Williamsburg). House Bill (HB) 4792 was introduced by Rep. Beau LaFave (R- Iron Mountain) and passed out of the House Ways and Means committee last week.

Rep. LaFave told MIRS News Service after the vote that one of the main reasons this legislation is needed, "I am legitimately concerned that if we don't change this public policy, a teenager or a lost tourist is going to freeze to death in the Upper Peninsula because they couldn't get a gallon of gas at midnight to stay warm at 30 degrees below zero."

The bill as introduced would allow any gas station, anywhere in Michigan to be able to leave some of its dispensers turned on for customer use without any safety measures put in place. Due to concerns raised by MPA/MACS, the updated version passed by full House does address some safety measures including requiring fire extinguishers and signage, automatic-closing nozzles without a latch-open device, required shut-off valves and approval by the state regulated department.

MPA/MACS still does not support HB 4792. The legislation does not require any training and allows the use of regular credit card payment. Credit card fraud has been a problem many retailers have been fighting. Without an attendant present, fraudulent activity could provide criminals an easy target. Current law requires unattended fueling sites to issue a card (or other method) that is unique to each user. MPA/MACS has not seen evidence of staffing problems or widespread reports of consumers not being able to get fuel that requires a change in current law. Many retailers have made substantial investments in training and equipment to follow current regulations to keep their customers safe through card-lock locations.

Another concern many MPA/MACS members have raised is how big box retailers react if this legislation is enacted into law. Particularly concerning would be big boxes that operate a kiosk style store. They may run unattended fueling 24/7 and use the lower labor costs to severely undercut the local market more than they are doing now.

The legislation now moves to the State Senate Natural Resources committee chaired by Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan). To view the House passed version of HB 4792 go to: www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2019-2020/billengrossed/House/pdf/2019-HEBH-4792.pdf

Attend the Michigan Show—August 11-12, 2020 Same Great Show—Great New Dates DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, MI https://www.mpamacs.org/tradeshow

UPCOMING EVENTS

2020

- Spring Convention & Trade Show - DeVos Place, Grand Rapids (8/11-8/12)
- Fall Convention -Boyne Mountain Resort (9/17-9/20)
- Central Michigan
 Oilmen's Club Golf
 Outing The Emerald,
 St. John's (TBD)
- NACS Show / PMAA -Las Vegas Convention Center (10/11-10/14)
- Christmas Party -Soaring Eagle Resort, Mt. Pleasant (12/3)

"Membership in MPA/MACS -It Pays to Belong"



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U.S. SENATE APPROVES MODIFICATIONS TO THE PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM PRESIDENT EXPECTED TO SIGN

The U.S. Senate cleared the "Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Flexibility Act of 2020" (H.R. 7010) by unanimous consent and sent the bill to the President for his signature. The U.S. House already recently approved the bill which provides businesses with more flexibility to spend PPP loans on payroll and other business expenses.

Key details in the bill:

- Extends the PPP loan forgiveness period from eight weeks to 24 weeks or through the end of the year, whichever
 comes first.
- Reduces the 75 percent threshold needed to be spent on payroll to 60 percent which allows a greater percentage of the PPP loans to be used on rent and other approved non-payroll expenses.
- Increases the PPP loan repayment period from two year to five years.
- Allows businesses that receive loan forgiveness to defer payroll taxes.
- Extends the June 30 rehiring deadline to December 31, 2020. PPP loans will be forgiven if businesses restore staffing or salary levels that were previously reduced. The provision would apply to worker and wage reductions made from Feb. 15 through 30 days after enactment of the CARES Act, which was signed into law on March 27.
- The White House has signaled it will sign the legislation into law.

UHY LLP has provide an analysis of the changes of the legislation from the original CARES Act. The UHY summary is attached.

PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION TO MPJPAC

Legislation affects all members of the Michigan Petroleum Association and Michigan Association of Convenience Stores (MPA/MACS). Whether you're a marketer, or own a service station, convenience store, truck stop, a propane retailer, MOCA member or an associate member, you will be impacted by legislation. The Michigan Petroleum Jobbers Political Action Committee (MPJPAC) is the voice for all MPA/MACS members at the state capitol.

MPAMACS needs to be in position to have a impact on important state elections. The entire State House of Representatives is up for election. All the positive gains MPA/MACS has made over the last several years could go by the wayside if we don't help get the right people elected.

Members can donate directly from the MPA/MACS website at https://nbmediasolutions.wufoo.com/forms/mpjpac-signup-form. Or use the donation form attached. A list of current MPA/MACS donors can be found below.

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