



**AREA AGENCIES ON AGING ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN  
ASSOCIATE MEMBER NEWS  
Week of December 7, 2009**

*This week in Lansing . . .* Michigan became the 38<sup>th</sup> state to ban smoking in most workplaces, including restaurants and bars. House Bill 4377 (sponsor – Lee Gonzales) passed the House in May, but was held up in the Senate when Majority Leader Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) said the bill was not a priority as long as the state budget was unresolved. In October, when the budget was settled, supporters of the bill started flooding Senate offices with messages. When Bishop didn't act, Senator Ron Jelinek (R-Three Oaks) stepped to the plate to move the bill. Critical to success was the agreement of some 'ban purists' in the Senate to agree to the same exceptions approved by the House – Detroit casinos, tobacco shops, cigar bars and home offices. The historic legislation travelled a long and hard road lasting 10 years, with Senator Ray Basham (D-Taylor) the hero and champion of the issue throughout that period. The ban goes into effect in May of 2010. The full text of the bill, along with an analysis, can be found at [www.michiganlegislature.org](http://www.michiganlegislature.org). This is how the House and Senate voted on HB 4377:

**HOUSE DEMOCRATS VOTING YES :** Angerer, Barnett, Bauer, Bledsoe, L. Brown, T. Brown, Byrnes, Byrum, Constan, Corriveau, Coulouris, Dean, Dillon, Donigan, Durhal, Ebli, Geiss, Gonzales, Gregory, Griffin, Haase, Hammel, Jackson, Johnson, Robert Jones, Kandrevas, Kennedy, LeBlanc, Leland, Lemmons, Lindberg, Lipton, Liss, McDowell, Meadows, Melton, Miller, Nathan, Nerat, Polidori, Roberts, Scripps, Segal, Sheltroun, Slavens, Slezak, Smith, Spade, Stanley, Switalski, Tlaib, Valentine, Warren, Womack and Young.

**HOUSE DEMOCRATS VOTING NO:** Espinoza, Haugh, Lahti, Mayes, Neumann, R. Schmidt and B. Scott.

**HOUSE REPUBLICANS VOTING YES:** Ball, Calley, Crawford, DeShazor, Green, Haines, Hansen, Knollenberg, Kowall, Lori, Marleau, Meltzer, Moss, Opsommer, Proos, Rocca, Schuitmaker, P. Scott, Tyler and Walsh.

**HOUSE REPUBLICANS VOTING NO:** Agema, Amash, Bolger, Booher, Caul, Daley, Denby, Elsenheimer, Genetski, Haveman, Hildenbrand, Horn, Rick Jones, Kurtz, Lund, McMillin, Meekhof, Moore, Pavlov, Pearce, Rogers, W. Schmidt and Stamas.

**HOUSE MEMBERS NOT VOTING:** Clemente, Cushingberry and Huckleberry.

**HOUSE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bennett and Simpson.

**SENATE DEMOCRATS VOTING YES:** Anderson, Basham, Brater, Cherry, Clark-Coleman, Clarke, Gleason, Hunter, Jacobs, Olshove, Prusi, Scott, Switalski, Thomas, Whitmer.

**SENATE DEMOCRAT VOTING NO:** Barcia.

**SENATE REPUBLICANS VOTING YES:** Birkholz, Cassis, George, Jelinek, Kahn, McManus, Nofs, Pappageorge, Patterson.

**SENATE REPUBLICANS VOTING NO:** Allen, Bishop, Brown, Cropsey, Garcia, Gilbert, Jansen, Kuipers, Richardville, Sanborn, Stamas, Van Woerkom.

**SENATE REPUBLICAN ABSENT:** Hardiman.

*Should people with diabetes be allowed to drive school buses?* That's the issue being considered in House Bill 5356. Federal standards ban people with insulin-dependent diabetes from driving any commercial vehicle. But standards in Michigan have allowed it if the person has their blood sugar under control. However, State Police are concerned about two recent situations where bus drivers lost control because of diabetic attacks. Luckily, others on the bus were able to regain control of the vehicle. The bill is in the House Transportation Committee, chaired by Rep. Pam Byrnes (D-Chelsea).

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