



# KELLEY CAWTHORNE

## Prepared for the Fire Service Clients of Kelley Cawthorne

### Legislative Update for December 5<sup>th</sup> – December 21<sup>st</sup>

The legislature adjourned sine die at 11:15 a.m. on Monday, December 21, ending the 100<sup>th</sup> Legislature. The legislature is expected to begin the 101<sup>st</sup> Legislature on January 3, 2021.

The legislature passed a supplemental funding bill aimed at providing relief to those hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill, totaling \$465.07 million, comprised of \$443.3 million General Fund and \$21.7 million federal dollars, passed the Senate 35-2 and the House 97-5. Budget items include:

- \$220 million for a temporary extension of unemployment benefits
- \$55 million for small business grants to assist hard-hit businesses, specifically those impacted by closure of in-person dining and entertainment venues
- \$45 million for grants to individuals employed in facilities affected by gathering restrictions
- \$51.3 million for COVID-19 vaccine strategies
- \$26.7 million for an increase of \$2 per hour for direct care workers

A bill that would allow utility workers to return to work more quickly in emergency situations and bring state-required quarantine periods into line with federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance was moved by the legislature. SB 1258, sponsored by Sen. Pete MacGregor (R-Rockford), received a 37-1 vote in the Senate and a 92-8 vote in the House of Representatives.

SB 1253, sponsored by Sen. Lana Theis (R-Brighton), passed the House of Representatives on a 59-44 vote, with the Senate concurring 21-16. The legislation would limit public health orders issued by the Department of Health and Human Services to 28 days unless extended by the legislature. The move would bring MDHHS orders in line with the Emergency Management Act of 1976. The bill is expected to receive a veto from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

Legislation providing funding for the major expungement package adopted earlier this year was passed by the Senate 38-0 and the House 96-6. SB 1077, sponsored by Sen. Adam Hollier (D-Detroit), redirects funding from the Marijuana Registry Fund to a new fund created for helping implement the expungement legislation.

Other bills were moved by the legislature as well, including:

- SB 241, sponsored by Sen. Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit), which would prohibit water shutoffs in the state until March 31, 2021.
- A large package of bills to allow public bodies to continue to meet remotely, as well as codifying other coronavirus-related executive orders.



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- HB 5217 and HB 5218, sponsored by Reps. Brandt Iden (R-Oshtemo) and Joe Tate (D-Detroit), which would allow student athletes to be compensated for using their name or likeness.
- HB 4910 and HB 4911, sponsored by Reps. Matt Hall (R-Emmett Twp.) and Sara Cambensy (D-Marquette), which would regulate emotional support animals.
- SB 1254, sponsored by Sen. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan), which would allow for expungement of DUI convictions.
- SB 681 and SB 682, sponsored by Sens. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) and Pete Lucido (R-Shelby Twp.), which would allow for expungement of crimes committed when an individual was a minor.

### **Miscellaneous:**

The lame duck session was more “lame” than normal due to a number of issues with Covid cases running rampant in the legislature. Despite a limited number of session days, the legislature was able to push through a number of bills.

The Governor was able to strike a deal on a supplemental that would add much needed stimulus for those hurting from the pandemic. This provided a fix to the First Responder Hazard Pay ensuring that communities could get access to hazard pay.

The legislature passed Rep. LaFaves’ HB 4792 on party lines which would prohibit LARA from imposing rules on unattended self-servicing fuel stations. This legislation was opposed by the State Fire Marshal and will most likely be vetoed by the Governor.

SB 417 & SB 418 were passed to allow both law enforcement and fire fighters to have access for prescribers to prescribe epinephrine directly.

### **Bill Introductions:**

No activity at this time.

### **Bill Activity:**

**PASSED, ENROLLED or ADOPTED By the CHAMBER**

[SB 0417 of 2019](#)

Health: pharmaceuticals; epinephrine; allow prescribers to prescribe and pharmacists to dispense to firefighters and law enforcement agencies for purposes of the law enforcement and firefighter access to epinephrine act. Amends secs. 17744a & 17744d of 1978 PA 368 (MCL 333.17744a & 333.17744d). TIE BAR WITH: SB 0418'19



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[SB 0418 of 2019](#)

Health: other; administration of epinephrine by law enforcement officers and firefighters under certain circumstances; allow, and limit liability. Creates new act. TIE BAR WITH: SB 0417'19

[HB 4792 of 2019](#)

Energy: gas and oil; requirement for security measures preventing public access to unattended self-service fueling stations; prohibit LARA from imposing. Amends sec. 21106 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.21106).