

THE REINVENTION OF MICHIGAN CONTINUES.

2015 STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS

GOVERNOR RICK SNYDER



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2014

In 2014, we continued our focus on creating more and better jobs for Michiganders while solving our state's toughest problems. More than 300,000 private sector jobs have been created since December 2010, over half a million Michiganders now have health care under the Healthy Michigan plan, and Detroit is on the threshold of a brighter future.

Together, we achieved great results, but our work is not yet done.

MAKING MICHIGAN #1 IN SKILLED TRADES

- ▶ **The Community College Skilled Trades Equipment Program** will make \$50 million available to community colleges for the purchase of training equipment for in-demand occupations, and the **Skilled Trades Training Fund** helps Michigan companies find the talent they need by training Michiganders for skilled trades.
- ▶ **Expanded career apprenticeships** with the MAT2 apprenticeship program in high-tech fields, more than doubling the number of students and participating companies.
- ▶ **FIRST Robotics** continues to grow, and Michigan is now first in the nation with 349 high school teams -- more than any other state.

HELPING MICHIGAN BUSINESSES GROW

- ▶ **Eliminated the Personal Property Tax**, removing a disincentive for businesses to expand.
- ▶ **Pure Michigan Business Connect** continues to connect Michigan businesses with each other so they can grow. The program has facilitated \$2 billion in contracts since it started in 2011.

IMPROVING EDUCATION

- ▶ **Expanded Preschool Education** for low-income children with \$65 million in additional funding in FY2015, helping to make Michigan a no-wait state for preschool.
- ▶ **Pathways to Potential** provides better service to Michiganders by bringing caseworkers to 219 schools in 22 counties. The program has reduced chronic absenteeism by 33% for 2013-2014 school year in Pathways schools.

HELPING MICHIGANDERS

- ▶ **Healthy Michigan** was launched in April 2014, and more than 500,000 low-income, working Michiganders are enrolled. Within first nine months we have seen almost 350,000 primary and preventive care visits, over 26,000 mammograms and over 12,000 colonoscopies.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2014 (continued)

- ▶ **Helping People with Disabilities:** Issued an executive directive eliminating hurdles faced by people with disabilities as they seek a career in public service and called for increased training for all state employees to raise awareness of disability etiquette and best practices.
- ▶ **Jobs for Veterans:** Partnered with Hiring Our Heroes program to help active-duty members find jobs after leaving the military; added \$4.7 million for a tuition assistance program for Air and Army National Guard personnel; launched a 24/7, 365-day hotline (1-800-MICH-VET) to provide veterans and their families access to benefits they deserve.
- ▶ **Serving Older Michiganders** by increasing funding to make Michigan a “no-wait” state for in-home services and to combat elder abuse.

IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY

- ▶ **Secure Cities Partnership** has reduced violent crime from 2011 to 2014 by 20.2% in Detroit, 28.1% in Flint, 28.3% in Pontiac and 26.7% in Saginaw.
- ▶ **Investing in Public Safety** to train more troopers and to update the state’s public safety communications system, bringing Michigan’s trooper strength from 957 in 2011 to 1,184 in 2015.

CONSERVING OUR ENVIRONMENT

- ▶ **Expanded Recycling** with a statewide initiative to double Michigan’s recycling rate within two years, and we’re on a path to success.

PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER RESPONSE

- ▶ We’ve seen good government at its best in the preparedness and response to several disaster situations throughout our state that impacted the lives of thousands. Whether it was the flooding in Southeast or Mid-Michigan, addressing a propane shortage in the Upper Peninsula, or even preparing for the threat of Ebola, we saw cooperation and coordination from all levels of government that shows we are prepared to respond to unforeseen threats to our people.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- ▶ **Balanced Budget:** We’ve had four years of balanced budgets, all of which were completed in June, giving school districts, local governments and other recipients of state funding the info they need to plan their budgets.

RESTORING OUR CITIES

- ▶ **Detroit:** Detroit’s bankruptcy was completed, securing pensions, putting the city on a sound fiscal path, allowing for a reinvestment into city services, safeguarding the Detroit Institute of Arts, and improving the quality of life for the city’s 700,000 residents.
- ▶ **Other Cities:** The financial emergencies in Benton Harbor and Allen Park were resolved last year, and we are on a path to transition out of financial emergency in Flint. Progress is being made in restoring fiscal health to the public sector, and we should be proud that we’re tackling the tough challenges at all levels.