

Dakota Soda

From: Fern Spence <fernspace@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 9:24 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Subject: HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)

Dear Clerk of the Ethics Committee, Dakota Soda,
Please submit the following as a card of support.

Committee: House Ethics & Oversight Committee Date: April 18, 2024

Bills: HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)

Wish to speak: No

Support Bills: Yes

Time needed: None

Name: Fern Spence-Grand Traverse County

Representing: Taxpayers

[Email:fernspace@gmail.com](mailto:fernspace@gmail.com)

Phone:231-409-4960

City: Traverse City State: Michigan

Please also submit this email as written testimony.

I support this legislation due to what I have witnessed as irresponsible use of taxpayer money on personal expenditures as shown by recent exposure of Lee Chatfield's spending. Another example, three of my Grand Traverse County Commissioners have billed per diems for meetings occurring at the same time, same day at different locations(per diem double dipping). It is unethical, dishonest, lacks transparency and there has been no accountability for their actions, although now they know they are being watched and have improved documentation of details, dates and times of their meetings. I am running for public office and plan to be as transparent and respectful of my position to serve my constituents ethically. I believe the B.R.I.T.E. Act is necessary and ask that you please support.

Respectfully,

Fern Spence

Dakota Soda

From: Susan Beckett <susanbeckett@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 4:47 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Support for H 5583 and HB 5586
Attachments: Comment Card 001.jpg

Statement by Susan Beckett
On the behalf of American Promise Michigan
For Committee hearing on HBs 5583 & 5586, April 18, 2024

Dear members of the Michigan House Committee on Ethics & Oversight,

The members of American Promise Michigan have long been dismayed at seeing the voices and wishes of our citizens drowned out by the undue influence of special interest groups and select corporations. This undue influence stems from the wild west environment of campaign financing in which we find ourselves. The bills of the BRITE Act are a first step toward accountability and transparency in campaign funding.

The bills that are part of the BRITE Act, including those under discussion today, HBs 5583 and 5586, get to the heart of our concerns as citizens of this great state: that for years Michigan has ranked near the bottom of all states in terms of governmental ethics, transparency, and accountability. Voters are demanding change as seen in the overwhelming support in 2022 for Proposition One, requiring financial disclosure reports of candidates for state office. The legislation that put Prop One into effect doesn't go far enough. It is important that you support and expedite the BRITE ACT, including HBs 5583 and 5586, and know that we are behind you taking bolder steps in the future.

I ask that you expeditiously vet these bills and do all that is within your power to see that they, along with the other BRITE Act bills, are passed into law.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter. My comment card is attached.

Susan Beckett

Dakota Soda

From: Leah Gillon <leahg@umich.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 6:46 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HBs 5583 & 5586 (2024)

I am a member of Ann Arbor inDivisible for Democracy and protecting our democracy is one of our key missions. The bills of the BRITE Act will further our work toward effective and responsive government in this state. The bills under discussion today, HBs 5583 and 5586, address matters of great concern, that is governmental ethics, transparency, and accountability. Proposition One, which requires financial disclosure reports of candidates for state office, was passed in 2022 but it doesn't go far enough.

HB 5586 will prevent former members of the legislature and certain executive officers from engaging in certain lobbying activities for a period of time. HB 5583 will strengthen our campaign finance laws. There are issues that monied interests probably don't support BUT the less privileged among us know are integral to shoring up the democratic process.

I ask that you expeditiously vet these bills and do all that is within your power to see that they, along with the other BRITE Act bills, are passed into law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Leah Gillon

Dakota Soda

From: Kathy and Kent Wiejaczka <kmwiej@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 8:50 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: In support of HB 5584, 5581, 5586, 5585, 5580, 5582, 5583

Hello,

I am in total support of these bills to promote government accountability and ethics.

I am a registered nurse who has only practiced total accountability, fairness, and justice. We must have our elected officials be accountable and honest with gifts and monies that they receive from outside sources especially dark money.

I implore you to pass this legislation. Michigan is the worst state in the union for legislator accountability and transparency.

Thank you,
Kathleen Wiejaczka MSN, RN
11746 S. Sleepy Valley Trail
Empire, MI 49630
231-883-4418

Dakota Soda

From: Michael Radke <mwradkephd@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 1:09 PM
To: Rep. Erin Byrnes (District 15); Rep. Kara Hope (District 74); Rep. Tom Kunse (District 100); Rep. Kelly A. Breen (District 21); Rep. Mike Harris (District 52); Rep. Jaime Churches (District 27); Rep. Douglas C. Wozniak (District 59); Rep. Jason Hoskins (District 18); Rep. Dylan Wegela (District 26)
Cc: Dakota Soda
Subject: Support for the BRITE Act

Dear members of the Michigan House Ethics & Oversight Committee,

I am writing to testify in strong support of the Bringing Reforms in Integrity, Transparency and Ethics (BRITE) Act, House Bills 5583 and 5586. This important legislation seeks to increase transparency and accountability for elected officials and their staff, ensuring that taxpayer dollars are spent wisely and ethically.

As a concerned citizen and co-chair of the Social Justice Action team of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse, I believe it is crucial that our government operates in a transparent and accountable manner. By prohibiting certain lobbying activities for a time and enhancing enforcement, the BRITE Act will help to prevent inappropriate influence and enforce ethical oversight.

I urge the members of the Michigan House Ethics & Oversight Committee to support passage of the BRITE Act. This legislation will help to restore public trust in government and ensure that our tax dollars are used for their intended purpose. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

MIKE RADKE
mwradkephd@gmail.com
517-281-2861

The right way is not always the popular or easy way. Standing for right when it is unpopular is the true test of moral character.

Margaret Chase Smith, Senator

Dakota Soda

From: Sue Hadden <hadden.sue@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 7:55 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Submitting a card for Committee on Ethics and Oversight Hearing April 18th

Statement by Sue Hadden

For Committee hearing on HBs 5583 & 5586, April 18, 2024

Dear members of the Michigan
House Committee on Ethics & Oversight,

I am emailing in support of the bills of the BRITE Act which I believe will help with my work toward effective and responsive government in my city and in Michigan.

The bills that are part of the BRITE Act, including those under discussion April 18th, HBs 5583 and 5586, help address our problem: that Michigan has ranked near the bottom of all states in terms of governmental ethics, transparency, and accountability. Statewide, voters are demanding change as evidenced by the 2022 vote where two thirds of Michigan voters approved Proposition One that required financial disclosure reports of candidates for state office. But the legislation that put Prop One into effect doesn't go far enough. We know that there is a lot of resistance to change in Lansing by Democrats and Republicans. There is too much money that represents power and influence far beyond that of the common citizen. This is why it is important that you support and expedite the BRITE ACT, including HBs 5583 and 5586.

Thank you for taking the time in this hearing to discuss these important bills.

Sue Hadden
Ann Arbor, Michigan
House District 47

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Sue Hadden

Dear members of the Michigan House Committee on Ethics & Oversight,

I represent a group of hundreds of engaged and active citizens in Grand Traverse County, known as Traverse Indivisible. Our group for years has partnered with other groups that are interested in counteracting the effects of money in politics, groups such as American Promise Michigan, Michiganders for Fair & Transparent Elections, and Rise UP MI!. Our motto is "We believe in respectful dialog, mutual support, and political action to further our ideal of effective and responsive government for all citizens." The bills of the BRITE Act will further our work toward effective and responsive government in this state.

The bills that are part of the BRITE Act, including those under discussion today, HBs 5583 and 5586, get to the heart of our concerns as citizens of this great state: that for years Michigan has ranked near the bottom of all states in terms of governmental ethics, transparency, and accountability. Statewide, voters are demanding change. In 2022, two thirds of Michigan voters approved Proposition One that required financial disclosure reports of candidates for state office. But the legislation that put Prop One into effect doesn't go far enough. We know that there is a lot of resistance to change in Lansing, resistance on both sides of the aisle, fueled in large part by money that represents power and influence far beyond that of the common citizen. This is why it is important that you support and expedite the BRITE ACT, including HBs 5583 and 5586.

I ask that you expeditiously vet these bills and do all that is within your power to see that they, along with the other BRITE Act bills, are passed into law.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

John DeSpelder
Traverse City, Michigan
House District 103

Dakota Soda

From: Carlton Ketchum <cgketchum@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 14, 2024 7:17 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Cc: Rep. Betsy Coffia (District 103)
Subject: HB 5583 and 5586

(Clerk Soda, I didn't see a link to email the entire committee and ask that you forward this to each of them)

Committee Representatives,

I am writing in support of HB 5583 and HB5586. In fact, I'm writing in support of all the bills that comprise the BRITE Act. I enthusiastically solicited signatures for Proposition 2 and was elated when it passed. Regrettably, its first iteration was, I'm being kind here, watered down; the bills comprising the Brite Act restore the promise of Proposition 2. You have the opportunity to put Michigan into ethical leadership by approving the bills that comprise the BRITE Act.

Carlton Ketchum
Traverse City
House District 103

Dakota Soda

From: harold@haroldlassers.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 12:15 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Subject HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)

Dear Clerk of the Ethics Committee, Dakota Soda ,
Please submit the following as a card of support.
Committee: House Ethics & Oversight Committee Date : April 18, 2024
Bills: HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)
Wish to speak: No
Support Bills: Yes
Time needed: None
Name: Harold Lassers
Representing: self
Email: harold@haroldlassers.com
Phone: 6306436875
City: Williamsburg State: Mi

Please also submit this email as written testimony.

This package of bills will add greatly to the confidence we have in honest government. These bills will add transparency which is sorely lacking in Michigan Law.

Dakota Soda

From: Judy Karandjeff <jkarandjeff44@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 14, 2024 6:42 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Cc: Paula Bowman; Denise Hartsough
Subject: Card for House Ethics and Oversight Committee

Dakota:

Below is information for a card to be submitted for the Thursday committee meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!

Judy Karandjeff, LWVMI

Committee: House Ethics and Oversight Committee

Date: April 18, 2024

Bill #s - HB 5583 and HB 5586

Wish to speak--NO

Support Bills

Name: Paula Bowman and Denise Hartsough, Co-Presidents

Representing: League of Women Voters of Michigan

Address: 600 W. St. Joseph, Suite 3G

Lansing MI 48933

(517) 484-5383

denise.harsough@gmail.com

Dakota Soda

From: David Freedman <david@cleadership.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 1:40 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)

Dear Clerk of the Ethics Committee, Dakota Soda

Please submit the following as a card of support.

Committee: House Ethics & Oversight

Committee Date: April 18, 2024

Bills: HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)

Wish to speak: No

Support Bills: Yes

Time needed: None

Name: David Freedman

Representing: n/a

Email: david@cleadership.net

Phone: (954) 854-4134

City: Traverse City State: MI

Please also submit this email as written testimony.

I believe transparency in government is the cornerstone of Democracy and accountability of public officials is a paramount concern. This legislation will expand the financial disclosures elected officials have to make and will assist in monitoring 'dark money' groups from Michigan and elsewhere. It is a sad state of affairs when government is overly influenced by the wealthy and providing this information to the electorate will go a long way in creating a more transparent system.

Thank you.

Dave Freedman, M.Ed.
Community Leadership Consulting
david@cleadership.net
(954) 854-4134
www.cleadership.net

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Dakota Soda

From: Barbara Conley <tel124now@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 2:20 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Card in support of HB 5583 and 5586

Subject HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)

Dear Clerk of the Ethics Committee, Dakota Soda,

Please submit the following as a card of support.

Committee: House Ethics & Oversight Committee Date: April 18, 2024

Bills: HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)

Wish to speak: No

Support Bills: Yes

Time needed: None

Name: Barbara Conley

Representing self

Email: tel124now@aol.com

Phone: 231-632-0453

City: State: Northport, MI

Please also submit this email as written testimony.

It is long past time that Michigan lawmakers address the revolving door for lobbying and reporting.

Dakota Soda

From: jerdevig@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 3:17 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB5583

Dear Committee Clerk Soda, My name is John Erdevig, of Ann Arbor.

I support HB5583. Michigan has some of the weakest campaign finance laws in the country. This bill will go some way to putting teeth in compliance.

Best Regards,

John D. Erdevig

Cell 734-709-6594

Dakota Soda

From: Linda Pepper <lbpepper@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 1:30 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Card of Support

Dear Clerk of the Ethics Committee, Dakota Soda

Please the following as a card of support.

Committee: House Ethics & Oversight Committee Date: April 18, 2024

Bills: HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)

Wish to Speak: No

Support Bills: YES

Time needed: None

Name: Linda B. Pepper

Representing: None

Email: lbpepper@gmail.com

Phone: 269.254.1603

City: Grawn State: Michigan

Please also submit this email as written testimony.

While I support all the BRITE bills, these two are particularly important. HB 5583 will allow the Bureau of Elections to act when they become aware of irregularities by a complaint being filed. They (Secretary of State) can file for an injunction to require the practice or violation to stop. Currently they do not have this power.

HB 5586 prevents a state elected official from becoming a lobbyist for one year after their term as an elected official is completed. This makes common sense. A representative could vote for a bill advantageous to an industry and one month later be acting as a lobbyist for that industry. Such temptation should not be placed before legislators.

Thank you
Linda Pepper



Virus-free www.avg.com

Dakota Soda

From: Carrie Betlyn-Eder <betlyn.eder@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 12:30 PM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Card in support of HB 5583 & 5586

Please find attached card in support of HB 5583, 5586

Thank you

Committee: Ethics and Oversight **Date:** 04/17/2024

Bill #(s): 5583, 5586 (2024)

Wish To Speak: Yes No

Support Bill Oppose Bill Neutral

Time Needed: _____

Please leave a copy of any prepared statement with the committee clerk.

Name: Carrie Eder

Representing: myself

Email: betlyn.eder@gmail.com

Phone: 17732803802

City: Maple City **State:** MI

CARD FOR LEGISLATIVE USE ONLY

Sent from my iPhone

Dakota Soda

From: Rachel Tocco <rsc235@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 11:14 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB5583

Hello,

My name is Rachel Tocco from Dexter, MI. I am writing today to state my support for HB5583.

Campaign finance reform is badly needed and Michigan can lead the way. Giving the Secretary of State additional means to monitor compliance and enforce our campaign laws is a step in the right direction.

Thank you,
Rachel Tocco
7162 Wilson St.
Dexter, MI 48130
(734) 747-1055

Dakota Soda

From: Helen Hankins <helenmountfordhankins@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 11:11 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: BRITE bill.

Please register my support for the BRITE bill,
HS5583 & HS5586,
I am a member of Indivisible nationally & Traverse City MI Helen M Hankins.
.4671 Lakeview Drive,
Interlochen,
MI 49643
Thank you!
Sent from my iPhone

Dakota Soda

From: Yalcin Yanikoglu <yy@repliq.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 11:10 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: Support HB5583

I am Yalcin Yanikoglu from Ann Arbor Michigan, and I support HB5583.

Yalcin Yanikoglu
Yy@repliq.com
734-717-6762

Dakota Soda

From: dirk mayhew <engineer.mayhew@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 10:46 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Cc: Rep. Felicia Brabec (District 33)
Subject: I support HB5583

Hello, Michigan House Ethics Committee
I am Dirk Mayhew from Ann Arbor Michigan, and I support HB5583

Dakota Soda

From: Christine Walter <chris9709@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 8:52 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Cc: Christine Walter
Subject: HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)

Dear Clerk of the Ethics Committee, Dakota Soda,

Please submit the following as a Card of Support, and also submit this email as Written Testimony.

Committee: House Ethics & Oversight Committee

Date: April 18, 2024

Bills: HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)

Wish to speak: No

Support Bills: Yes

Time needed: None

Name: Christine T. Walter

Representing: N/A

Email: chris9709@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 989-430-4776

City: Traverse City State: MI

I strongly support these bills as a start toward bringing our Michigan government "into the light". As time goes on these bills will become ingrained in legislators' thinking and become more common practice. Ethics should be a cornerstone to legislators desire to serve their constituents. Thank you.

Christine Walter
chris9709@sbcglobal.net
989-430-4776
607 Arbutus Trail, TC 49696

Dakota Soda

From: Roberta/Robbi/Duda <raduda2010@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 10:58 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Subject: In Support of BRITE Bills HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024) - I will be at this meeting

Dear Clerk of the Ethic & Oversight Committee, Dakota Soda,

Please submit the following as a card of support.
Committee: House Ethics & Oversight Committee Date : April 18, 2024
Bills: HB 5583 and HB 5586 (2024)
Wish to speak: IF Time
Support Bills: Yes

Name: Robbi Duda
Representing: American Promise Michigan
Email: raduda2010@gmail.com
Phone: 734-741-8586
City: Ann Arbor
State: Michigan 48104

Statement by Robbi Duda
On the behalf of American Promise Michigan
For Committee hearing on HBs 5583 & 5586, April 18, 2024

Dear members of the Michigan
House Committee on Ethics & Oversight,

I represent a group of engaged and active citizens around the state of Michigan, known as American Promise. Our group for years has partnered with other groups that are interested in counteracting the effects of money in politics, groups such as Statewide Indivisible Michigan, Michiganders for Fair & Transparent Elections, and Rise UP MI!. The bills of the BRITE Act will further our work toward transparent, effective and responsive government in this state.

The bills that are part of the BRITE Act, including those under discussion today, HBs 5583 and 5586, get to the heart of our concerns as citizens of this state: that for years Michigan has ranked near the bottom of all states in terms of governmental ethics, transparency, and accountability. Statewide, voters are demanding change. In 2022, two thirds of Michigan voters approved Proposition One that required financial disclosure reports of candidates for state office. But the legislation that put Prop One into effect doesn't go far enough. We know that there is a lot of resistance to change in Lansing, resistance on both sides of the aisle, fueled in large part by money that represents power and influence

far beyond that of the common citizen. This is why it is important that you support and expedite the BRITE ACT, including HBs 5583 and 5586.

American Promise Michigan asks that you expeditiously vet these bills and do all that is within your power to see that they, along with the other BRITE Act bills, are passed into law.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

Robbi Duda
2128 Wallingford Road, Ann Arbor 48104
House District 33