



## MEMORANDUM

To: House Commerce & Tourism Committee  
From: Alexa Rae Kramer- Director of Government Affairs  
Subject: Opposition to HB 4835-4838  
Date: October 17, 2019

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The Grand Rapids Chamber is the voice of the West Michigan business community and the premier business membership organization in the region with over 2,300 members. As an organization that is focused on creating policy that addresses our business community's issues, we oppose HB 4835, HB4836, HB 4837, and HB 4838.

The Grand Rapids Chamber values a limited government approach to policy, breaking down barriers and cutting through red tape in order for businesses to thrive. We believe these bills go against that core value, and instead create more bureaucracy that in the end would be more detrimental to our business community. We believe our state agencies should focus on creating a thriving environment for businesses at all stages of development and agree that there is work to be done to ensure this is done productively and thoughtfully. While we agree with the issue these bills are intended to solve, we don't believe these bills adequately address the business community's needs and fear these bills would in fact add to the problem.

As the Grand Rapids Chamber, we are deeply invested in the growth and well-being of small businesses and support policies that would grow business, making our state a great place to work and play. However, we do not believe these bills solve the underlying issue. We look forward to continued conversation with stakeholders to address how government can be more customer service oriented and meet the needs of businesses so West Michigan, and the entire state, can prosper.

**We urge the committee to oppose HB 4835, HB 4836, HB 4837, and HB 4838.**