

# THE MICHIGAN VEGETABLE COUNCIL, INC.

6835 S Krepps Rd • St Johns, MI 48879 • 517-663-6725

Co-Sponsor of the

## GREAT LAKES FRUIT, VEGETABLE AND FARM MARKET EXPO

Grand Rapids, Michigan

December 7-9, 2021 • December 6-8, 2022

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May 17, 2021

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To: Chair of Michigan House Agriculture Committee, Representative Julie Alexander

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Re: House Bill 4550 - Jury Duty

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The Michigan Vegetable Council, INC. (MVC) is a non-profit organization supporting Michigan's vegetable industry.

**JOHN BAKKER**  
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The farmers of Michigan's vegetable industry have always been faced with the task of completing the necessary farming tasks on time or risk losing a season of crops. There are many windows in the vegetable growing season that cannot be missed. This has always been the case for vegetable farming.

**GREG BIRD**  
Mason, MI

In looking at modern times, the constant pressure of finding and retaining an agricultural workforce has made it impossible for vegetable farmers to have consistent help that can cover for them in times of an absence. For this reason, the MVC supports House Bill 4550 in its request to allow farmers to have an exemption from jury duty from April 1 through November 30 each year.

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Sincerely,

**STEPHANIE (ANDERSEN) KIPP**  
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Greg Bird

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Michigan Vegetable Council

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**GREG BIRD**  
Mason, MI