



City Manager's Office
Phone: 810.664.5231
Fax: 810.664.2610

June 8, 2021

The Honorable Representative Matt Hall, Chair
Members of the House Tax Policy Committee
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Chairman Hall,

I am writing to the Tax Policy Committee and would like the attached comments to be read into the record. I want to express opposition to (HB 4513) the bill that would affect the ability for the City of Lapeer to levy personal income tax for non-residents who work principally in our city but may reside elsewhere.

The City of Lapeer (Lapeer) which is the County Seat of Lapeer County and has been the driving force for economic development in the region. Lapeer is home to two industrial parks, a regional hospital with a critical care facility, Lapeer Community Schools that services 225 square miles of students, Mott Community College and a host of parochial schools and lastly Lapeer houses a County Jail and a State Prison. Lapeer is the community that three counties in the thumb of Michigan travel to for shopping, dining and entertainment. Many of the jobs that Lapeer recruited and host must be filled by citizens that live outside the City limits. However, those non-City resident employees like to get to work on well-maintained streets that have been plowed of snow when necessary and lit with street lights when appropriate. Those non-City resident employees like to flush a toilet at work and have it function. Additionally, those non-City resident employees feel safe coming to work in a community that has the best police force in Michigan. Why do I mention the amenities enjoyed by non-City resident? It is because these things cost money, money generated by a non-City resident income tax.

The City of Lapeer installed its City Income Tax in 1964. At the same time the City limited its ability to tax property as a benefit to the City Residents. Of course, the Legislature installed Proposal A and the Headlee Amendment which has a negative impact on its long-range City financing. Add to that additional Legislative action with the elimination of Personal Property Tax and the State Legislature has put the financing of local government in grave danger. Our ability to levy tax, specifically income tax, at current levels is essential to providing for the expectations of our citizens, employers, students, tourists and non-City resident employees.

House Bill 4513 should meet with a quick and sound opposition. I am happy to discuss this more with you or your committee. Thank you for taking the time to read this into the record.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale Kerbyson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dale Kerbyson, Manager
City of Lapeer

The Honorable Members of the House Tax Policy Committee
The Honorable Representative Pamela Hornberger

576 Liberty Park • Lapeer, MI 48446
Website: www.ci.lapeer.mi.us

