

MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE 2026 LEGISLATIVE POLICY

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THE GRANGE is a nationwide fraternal organization of people interested in agriculture, their rural community and the family. As a group, these people achieve what individuals cannot do alone. Granger's voluntarily share their resources, talents and skills in providing leadership in community, state and national issues. Through the local Grange, each member is offered the opportunity to be a part of a movement which seeks to build a better state and nation by providing services to meet human needs. Through community service, leadership training, legislative action and member services, members are able to build an organization which meets their needs and serves their community.

GRANGE DECLARATION OF PURPOSES - GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

We must resolve to labor for the good of our organization, our country and mankind.

We propose meeting together, talking together, working together. We shall constantly strive to secure harmony, goodwill and brotherhood.

To our business interests, we desire to bring producers and consumers into the most direct friendly relations possible.

We shall advance the cause of education.

Deaf Awareness is the Grange health program, aiding and assisting deaf and hard of hearing people, promoting hearing protection, educating members and non-members about deafness and the hazards of noise.

The Grange - National, State, County, and Local - is not a partisan or party organization.

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AGRICULTURE POLICY

FARM PROGRAMS

1. FARM PRICES versus RETAIL PRICES—R. 2025

Michigan State Grange petition Congress to investigate the inequity of farm prices versus retail prices in regard to the amount of income received by the farmer for his products versus the amount paid by the consumer and ask Congress to take action to correct unfair balances to assure the farmer a fair price for his products, and that the cost of machinery, seed, fertilizers, labor, and other aspects of farm production be considered.

2. FARMLAND DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange urges research by the Michigan Legislature to explore the Development Rights type of programs in other states, where the farm owner sells the development rights to the state and the land has to be kept in agriculture use.

3. FARM WASTE MANAGEMENT -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange urges the Michigan State Legislature to make sure that no one can take away the right of the farmers to use manure from farm animals as fertilizer on the fields, further, the Michigan State University Extension Service do all they can to continue to educate urban and city citizens to eliminate anger and frustration against the farmer on this subject.

4. AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY-- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange supports the surface water quality movement, and voluntary implementation of grass buffer strips along drains, creeks, and streams, further, the Michigan State Grange encourages that grass buffer strips and riparian corridors be promoted and implemented along drain, creeks, and streams for non-agricultural land uses: residential, commercial, industrial, etc. The Michigan State Grange also recognizes that some filter strips need additional technical assistance for appropriate erosion control measures which can be provided through (NRCS) Natural Resources Conservation Service formerly the Soil Conservation Service.

5. VANISHING FARMLAND AND URBAN SPRAWL -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange reaffirms its policy that state and federal governments be urged to strengthen, expand and enforce its farmland protection programs, and that federal and state estate tax laws and local tax assessments encourage farm families to keep their land in agriculture by holding down and/or lowering taxes, and to enable farmers to pass it on to future generations without prohibitive taxation.

6. FOOD SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION-- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange opposes the concentrated marketing, growing and distribution of animals and farm produce by large corporations other than farm cooperatives in the United States.

7. AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM PAYMENTS -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange strongly urges that the U.S.D.A. and Farm Service Agency scrutinize all subsidies more carefully so that all qualified family farmers receive market loss assistance payments, and other government farm program payments.

8. MAEAP (MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSURANCE PROGRAM -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange encourages all agricultural producers to strive for MAEAP (Michigan Agricultural environmental assurance Program) verification.

9. DISASTER ASSISTANCE -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange urges disaster assistance to all farmers in a designated disaster.

10. DUST THAT IS GENERATED WHEN HARVESTING— R. 2025

Michigan State Grange recommends to the state of Michigan and the U.S. Government that no laws or regulations be adopted that would require any producers of food to manage the control of dust.

11. EQUINE ACTIVITY ACT— R. 2025

Michigan State Grange urges the Michigan Department of Agriculture to educate the public about the existence of the Equine Activities Act.

12. CROP INSURANCE — R. 2025

Michigan State Grange opposes any budget cuts to the Risk Management Agency and the Federal Crop Insurance Program

AGRICULTURE EXPORTS

1. AGRICULTURE EXPORTS -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange favors an American Export Policy, which provides U.S. Farmers with dependable markets for their produce and recommends that restrictions which may be imposed by the United States Government be done only if our nation's interests are threatened by foreign action detrimental to our economic or political well being.

DAIRY

1. MICHIGAN DAIRY POOL -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange endorses the concept and principal of legislation that provides for fair and equitable pooling of milk producer funds for the purpose of equitable payment to all milk producers in Michigan; the Michigan Department of Agriculture be the administrator of this mandatory pooling fund and that the administrative costs be deducted from the pool fund and be kept at a minimum.

2. FEDERAL MILK ORDER -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange favors retention of the Federal Milk Order System.

3. MANDATORY CHECK-OFF -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange supports a continuation of the mandatory check-off for advertising and product development at the dollar amount as recommended for milk.

4. MICHIGAN DAIRYMAN MARKET PROGRAM FOR GRADE "A" MILK -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange supports the Dairymen Market Program for Grand A milk.

IMPORTS

1. APPLES -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange supports tariffs on all imported apple juice concentrate.

2. MILK PROTEIN CONCENTRATE -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange supports Legislation which will apply tariffs on imports of dairy proteins including milk protein concentrate (MPC) and casein.

3. CHINESE FRESH APPLE IMPORTS -- R. 2025

Michigan State Grange supports the efforts of US Apple and its partner organizations the approval of phyto-sanitary standards to provide a window for research which will allow the American apple industry to become

the most competitive, lowest cost producer of fresh apples.

GRAIN STORAGE

1. GRAIN STORAGE IN ELEVATORS – R. 2025

Michigan State Grange recommends an enactment of laws upon determination of the facts that the grain is only being stored and applicable fees are being paid and have been paid, that ownership of the grain is still with the grower or farmer and not with the storage facility, be it an elevator or other business, and that the grower or farmer be allowed to remove said grain immediately upon the filing of the bankruptcy.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. TARIFF ON IMPORTED HONEY -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends the enactment of a realistic tariff on imported honey so that American bees keepers/honey producers can help American farmers produce the food the world needs.

2. MEAT INSPECTION RULES -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors trade agreements that will assure imported meat and poultry inspection standards protect the health of the consumer and establishing better guidelines for inspection of meat by the Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service.

3. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors Michigan State University to be used for research and development of products that utilize more of the goods produced on Michigan farms and ranches.

4. SAFETY EDUCATION ON FARMS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors continued use of a safety program to promote awareness of potentially hazardous conditions on farms and ranches, and recommends that efforts be made in cooperation with other groups and safety councils to develop a comprehensive education program designed to help reduce injuries and deaths to children on farms and ranches.

5. FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF U.S. FARMLANDS -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange requests the Michigan Legislature to enact legislation prohibiting foreign investors from purchasing or owning, or holding vested interests in, Michigan farmland unless they become permanent residents within the area of ownership and become U.S. citizens.

6. COLLECTION POINTS FOR FARM CHEMICAL CONTAINERS -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports the use of area collection points for farm chemical containers and unused chemical, and encourage the use thereof.

7. MORE SLAUGHTERHOUSE INSPECTORS NEEDED -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange urges the MDA and USDA to increase the number of meat inspectors to inspect all slaughterhouses.

8. KEEP THE WASTE OUT OF MICHIGAN-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange urges the Michigan Legislature to pass legislation to limit other states and countries from dumping their wastes to Michigan landfills.

9. THE TERMINATOR SEED TECHNOLOGY-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports legislation that would require joint regulation of the introduction of seed

products covered by U.S. Patent US5723765 “control of Plant Gene Expression” (a.k.a. “Terminator” Seed technology), by the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Food and Drug Administration, and further, the Michigan State Grange supports legislation that would prohibit the inclusion of seed products covered by U.S. Patent US5723765 “Control of Plant Gene Expression” (a.k.a. “Terminator” Seed technology) in any foreign aid packages.

10. AGRICULTURE SCIENCE-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange encourages the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to continue to assist the companies in their efforts to produce seeds that will increase production; and further urges the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the companies producing the seed be required to retain viable seed stock.

11. FARM INCOME-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange encourages the National Grange to urge Congress and the Department of Agriculture to work to restore a fair return to the agricultural producer.

12. CARBON CREDITS -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors a nationwide program of purchasing carbon credits.

13. FARMLAND PRESERVATION-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange encourages land use preservation guidelines in zoning ordinances and land use plans by permitting the development practices such as cluster housing development, multi housing development, multi story shopping, malls and medical service as well as others that are, or may become available.

14. RIGHT TO FARM-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports, all new Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO’S) be required to have a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) and a siting plan before construction can begin, and also that Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) do an annual review of the operation to see all laws, rules and regulations are being followed, and that if all rules and regulations are being followed , that the operation be granted a storm water exemption and protection from harassment.

15. DRAINAGE INTERFERENCE AND OBSTRUCTION-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports action by the Michigan legislative that would prohibit any obstructions and interference with county drains, and that allows the Drain Commission to remove the obstruction or interference in a time frame that minimizes damage to agricultural production in the drainage district.

16. FOOD SAFETY-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange believes government regulators should have scientific evidence before shutting down processing plants and issuing warnings on unsafe foods, and that processing plants be inspected and allowed to open as soon as corrections have been made.

17. SOIL AND SEDIMENTATION ACT-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports Section 9115A of the Michigan Soil and Sedimentation Act that exempts certain earth change activities such as stump removal, postholes, gardening and the planting of trees and shrubs from needing to obtain a permit. Also, the Michigan State Grange supports amendments to this act that exempt all agriculture-based operations from obtaining permits.

ORGANIZATIONS, AGENCIES, ETC.

1. SUPPORT FOR THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange commends and thanks the Michigan Department of Agriculture for their continued concern and solutions to problems concerning agriculture.

2. SUPPORT FOR MSU EXTENSION/VETERINARY PROGRAM -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange reaffirms its support of the Michigan State University Extension and Veterinary Programs, including 4-H programs.

3. RURAL DEVELOPMENT ADMIN. RETENTION OF FARM OWNERSHIP-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends: the Rural Development Administration should not retain ownership of farms but should put them up for sale and if these are not sold, they must be withheld from active production.

4. MICHIGAN STATE FAIR -- R. 2026 Michigan State Grange supports the Michigan State Fair which promotes agriculture, thereby bringing together rural and urban people in their understanding of each other and the process of providing food for Michigan residents, as well as for other parts of the United States and the world.

5. T.B. IN MICHIGAN-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends that the Michigan Department of Agriculture and the Department of Natural Resources continue to share information and work together to eradicate Bovine and Cervine Tuberculosis TB in Michigan.

6. WATER REGULATIONS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports including sensible use of water for irrigation in Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices (GAMPS) and educational programs for producers and handlers emphasizing water conservation measures.

7. DEQ OVERSIGHT-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange requests our Legislature to monitor the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and take whatever action is necessary to ensure that scientific principals are followed.

8. CHILD LABOR LAW CHANGES IN AGRICULTURE—A. 2011

Michigan State Grange recommend the National Grange to oppose the movement by U.S. Department of Labor and their attempt to eliminate children under the age of 16 from agricultural employment, and further that Michigan State Grange propose that current U.S. Department of Labor law already adequately protects children under the age of 16 pertaining to agricultural activities.

9. MICHIGAN FARMERS HALL OF FAME —A. 2016

Michigan State Grange suggests to the Granges in Michigan to donate funds to the Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame for its operation and are urged to find possible inductees to the Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame.

10. HEIFER INTERNATIONAL – A. 2021

Michigan State Grange supports the Heifer International Program and encourage our local Granges to make contact with them for program material and more information.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH POLICY

EDUCATION

1. EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports the Michigan Department of Education's continued research for providing meaningful education.

2. EDUCATION LOANS - DELINQUENT-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends that the United States Government continue its policy towards the collection of delinquent educational loans.

3. FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION FOR PREGNANT TEENAGERS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports the redirection of education funds, through the public school system, to serve the teen-age pregnant population in Family Life Centers, or similar programs by local schools, rather than setting up new government programs.

4. MILK VENDING MACHINES IN SCHOOLS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors milk vending machines being placed in all schools.

5. FEDERALLY MANDATED PROGRAMS -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange encourages the federal government to provide adequate funding for federally mandated education programs.

6. LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE TO ESTABLISH MANDATORY SCHOOL FUNDING LEVELS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange opposes any legislative initiative to establish mandatory school funding levels.

7. "NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND" IN MICHIGAN—2012 (Revised in 2018) -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports the enactment of legislation in the State of Michigan, to establish and protect both financial and programmatic support for the education and advancement of elementary and secondary-age students who perform above the minimum grade requirements.

8. CURSIVE WRITING AND PENMANSHIP -A. 2018

Michigan State Grange recommends the Michigan Department of Education reinstate cursive writing and penmanship lessons in school curriculum.

9. CHILDHOOD LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports legislation directing the Michigan Department of Education and other agencies to develop resources for assessing language development in children's language and communication methods from birth to 5 years. Further, we support this policy being extended to children with other underlying causes of language delay.

HEALTH

1. WIC (WOMEN, INFANT, CHILDREN) PROGRAM-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports continuation of the WIC program funding for the purpose of preventing the problems of malnutrition in infants, children, and pregnant women.

2. NICOTINE IN CIGARETTES – Move to Leg. Policy – Alcohol and Tobacco-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports legislation to control the amount of nicotine the manufacturer may put into all products

3. FOOD SAFETY – Combined with #2 Ag - Miscellaneous-- R. 2026

4. ALTERNATIVE APPROACH TO CURE CANCER-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange encourages research on the alternative treatments, which may be used in conjunction with standard treatments that are showing results in the fight of cancer.

5. FIRST AID CLASSES-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange encourages everyone to avail themselves of any opportunity to take basic first aid in their geographical area.

6. HEALTHY HUNGER-FREE KIDS ACT—A. 2012

Michigan State Grange support the efforts to modify the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act and allow the local communities to make their own guidelines.

HEALTH CARE

1. LONG TERM HEALTH CARE COSTS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports the efforts of the coalition of organizations seeking solutions to long-term health care costs.

2. COST OF MALPRACTICE INSURANCE-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports the medical profession, the judicial process, insurance companies, and the legislature to help establish guidelines which will reduce the cost of malpractice insurance.

3. MEDICARE PAYMENTS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange urges that either longer hospital care, or home health care for Medicare patients be adequately funded and the compensation rate be programmed in accordance with the rate of inflation or deflation of the economy.

4. MEDICARE AND MEDICAID ALLOWANCES-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange urges that lists be made available of those physicians who will accept payment in full from Medicare and Medicaid so that people may have a knowledge of services covered in advance.

5. MEDICARE CUTS AND TAX CUTS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange opposes any legislation that both reduces taxes and at the same time cuts Medicare.

6. HEALTH CARE REFORM- Hearing Aids for Children-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends that any future Health Care Reform Package include coverage for hearing aids for children.

7. VA HOSPITALS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends that the services of the VA hospitals be kept up to current standards and further that the VA hospitals remain in current localities whenever possible.

8. MEDICARE-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends that Congress continue to investigate the service and courtesy of the

Medicare system, and take corrective action so it is possible to talk directly to someone who can help resolve problems.

9. SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH FAIRNESS -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports legislation which would allow professional associations to offer members group health insurance on a national basis thus making it more affordable.

10. INSURANCE GATEKEEPING—A. 2025

Michigan State Grange urges lawmakers to pass legislation that would prevent insurance companies from denying doctor ordered medical procedures or prescribed medication.

DRUGS

1. BANNING USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS PARAPHERNALIA-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends that legislation be passed that would prohibit specialty businesses from selling equipment exclusively for the use of any illegal drug.

2. CANCER RESEARCH-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports further research of drugs and other treatment of all cancer to extend the life expectancy.

3. DRUG AND PILLS DISPOSAL—A. 2012

Michigan State Grange support having well-advertised places in our communities/counties where residents can safely dispose of outdated or unused medicines.

4. OPIOID CRISIS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange urges the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services continue to monitor the amount of Opioid drugs that are being prescribed.

SOCIAL

1. CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATION-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports increased awareness for more expedient reporting and investigation of child abuse.

PORNOGRAPHY

1. CHILD PORNOGRAPHY-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports law enforcement to increase their efforts to abolish child pornography.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. HUMAN STEM CELL RESEARCH-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports continued stem cell research that may involve naturally aborted fetuses or unused harvested embryos

2. FOOD AND PHARMACEUTICAL IMPORTS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports increased inspections consistent with the international law, by the U.S. FDA (Food and Drug Administration) of food and drug production facilities located outside the United States that source goods to the U.S.

3. CERTIFICATION OF STERILE PROCESSING TECHNICIANS—A. 2013

Michigan State Grange recommends that the state of Michigan enact legislation requiring certification of all Sterile Processing Technicians, and that continuing education be required.

LEGISLATIVE POLICY

BOTTLE DEPOSIT LAW

1. **AMENDMENT TO BOTTLE DEPOSIT LAW-- R. 2026**

Michigan State Grange urges the Michigan State Legislature to amend the “Bottle Law” to include all single serve bottled beverages.

COURTS, CRIME, GUN CONTROL

1. **RESIGNATION OF TERM OF OFFICE-- R. 2026**

Michigan State Grange recommends that legislation be enacted that would require any public official convicted of a felony to resign from their office.

2. **PAROLES-- R. 2026**

Michigan State Grange recommends that the Department of Corrections adopt stricter criteria for paroling prisoners who have been convicted of violent crimes.

3. **PLEA OF INSANITY-- R. 2026**

Michigan State Grange supports legislation which would require persons who are acquitted of crimes using the insanity plea, and then being declared sane and released from treatment, to be sentenced to the maximum terms permitted under the law.

4. **CAPITAL PUNISHMENT-- R. 2026**

Michigan State Grange supports capital punishment legislation in the case of treason, pre-meditated murder, hijacking or rape resulting in death. All these proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

5. **PUNISHMENT OF VIOLENT FELONS-- R. 2026**

Michigan State Grange supports life imprisonment for two time violent offenders.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1. **IMPORTED FOODS – Move to Agriculture - Imports-- R. 2026**

Michigan State Grange urges that laws and rules be enacted that would require that all food grown in foreign countries for export to the United States be grown and processed under the same restrictions placed upon American agriculture and industry.

GOVERNMENT

1. **GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES, STATE/NATIONAL TERMS-- R. 2026**

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan Legislature and the U.S. Congress that laws be enacted that when a Representative or Senator fails to answer roll call to carry out his or her duties for a continuous 90 days, a qualified resident of the same party and district or state be appointed by the Governor to represent the constituency of said district or state until the elected official can resume his or her duties, or until the next regular election.

2. **CONGRESSIONAL EXEMPTIONS-- R. 2026**

Michigan State Grange opposes legislation which would exempt members of Congress from any U.S laws..

3. PRESIDENTIAL LINE-ITEM VETO-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends legislation to give the President of the United States the power to veto line-items that they consider unnecessary.

4. UNITED STATES FLAG-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports legislation that would forbid the desecration of the U.S. Flag.

5. CAMPAIGN FINANCING-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors enforcement of the rules for campaign contributors, and the lowering of amounts which may be contributed by individuals, corporations, or PACs.

6. PART-TIME LEGISLATURE IN MICHIGAN-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports the concept of a part-time legislature for Michigan.

7. DRAIN CODE-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would require at least fifty-one per cent of the property owners in the watershed on the drain, sign a petition before a drain could be cleaned, and that property owners outside of the watershed on the drain be ineligible to sign said cleaning petition.

8. ABOLISH CAPITAL GAINS TAX-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors Legislation that would abolish capital gains tax on farms and livestock used in farming.

9. ROAD FUNDING FOR MICHIGAN ROADS AND HIGHWAYS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange resolve and urge the Michigan legislature not to change the formula in Public Act 51 and continue it in its present form.

10. THE PROTECTION OF CEMETERY SITE, MEMORIALS, AND MARKERS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan State Legislature a law be enacted that would allow the Michigan State Court System upon the conviction of individual(s) who vandalizes any memorial markers be required to pay all court costs and the cost of repairs to the damaged property.

11. OPPOSING TRANSFER OF TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange opposes the transfer of township services to county governments and urges the retention of township government in Michigan.

12. DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) ISSUES — A. 2017

Michigan State Grange supports legislative action to make the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program permanent.

15. ABSENTEE VOTER BALLOTS—A. 2018

Michigan State Grange supports Legislation that ensures that absentee ballots are forwarded per any mail forwarding requests.

HUMAN WELFARE

1. DOGS IN PUBLIC PLACES-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange opposes the presence of dogs, except service dogs , in the areas of public beaches, state and county parks except where permitted by regulation for the safety of the people who patronize these public areas.

2. “ONE NATION, UNDER GOD” -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports current National Grange policy against deletion of any words from our Pledge of Allegiance.

3. POSTING OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends to the U.S. Legislature, and the Michigan State Legislature that they enact laws that would approve the display of the Ten Commandments, along with other historical documents, in their governmental structures and on property owned.

4. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange opposes any affirmative action programs that give preferential treatment to groups or individuals based on their race, gender, color, ethnicity, or national origin for public employment, education, or contracting purposes.

INSURANCE

1. STATE POINT SYSTEM-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would require that the method of assessing points, as pertains to automobile insurance, be uniform among all insurance companies and that the number of points assessed be the same as are on the driver's license, and that after three years of no accidents or tickets that a person's driving record be considered clean and auto insurance rates be standard for a person's age and classification, and when a insurance company assesses points against a policy holder that these points be printed on the declaration page at renewal date.

2. HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange encourages legislation that would prevent insurance companies from using credit scores as a basis to set homeowners insurance premiums.

3. INSURANCE POLICIES — 2014-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports legislation that would require insurance companies to offer an accelerated cost on their existing policy as opposed to canceling for repeat claims.

PETITIONS

1. INITIATIVE PETITIONS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan Legislature that legislation be enacted that would require that the language of initiative petitions be approved by proper authority prior to the distribution and signing of the petitions, and that this legislation require the language of all initiative petitions on a county or township level be approved by proper authority prior to the distribution and signing of the petitions.

SOCIAL SECURITY

1. SOCIAL SECURITY FUNDS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors a return to the original concept of the Social Security Program, and requests that other worthwhile programs be funded from other sources, so that the benefits of the many items of special legislation be preserved, and that a strict accounting be applied to assist in the elimination of fraud, and strict penalties be assessed to those who attempt to defraud the Social Security System.

2. SOCIAL SECURITY-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange encourages the United States Congress to take positive, conscientious action to reform and ensure the future solvency of the United States Social Security system thereby ensuring that there will be sufficient funds to meet the future retirement needs of the United States citizens. Further, the Michigan State Grange recommends to the U.S. Congress that legislation be enacted that would exclude the placement of the Social Security fund balance as an item in the annual budget of the United States.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. DISTRIBUTING CANDY, ETC. AT PARADES-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports legislation that would require individuals or organizations who are distributing candy or other goods at parades, or other similar activities, be required to hand out their goods rather than throwing them into the crowd and/or onto the roadway.

2. ENGLISH LANGUAGE AS A REQUIREMENT IN THE WORKPLACE-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports the requirement that employees in the workplace understand the English language.

3. TRESPASS LAWS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange support effective enforcement and stronger penalties for violators of the recreational trespass and private land laws.

4. NUMERICAL IDENTIFICATION OF DWELLINGS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports legislation requiring that numerals large enough to be visible from the street, be displayed on every dwelling in village or town and on every mailbox in rural Michigan areas.

5. ELECTRIC POWER RATES-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would require electric companies to place all non-profit organizations on a residential rating.

6. SELLING TOBACCO TO MINORS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange strongly urges enforcement of the laws of Michigan that prohibit the sale of tobacco in any form to minors.

7. MANUFACTURER'S LIABILITY-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would exempt manufacturers of machinery and producers of other

goods from lawsuits, fines and other monetary expenses if they meet State and Federal regulations that were in effect at the time their products were built or produced.

8. FUNDING FOR FAIRS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports legislation that would maintain or increase the amount of funds available for distributions to the fairs of Michigan.

9. CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange support the retention of the Conservation Reserve Program.

10. RIGHT TO FARM -- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange supports the State of Michigan Right to Farm Act.

11. NUCLEAR PLANTS-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange reaffirms the recognition that nuclear energy as a source of electricity is necessary in our efforts to compete in world markets.

12. PREEMPTIVE ZONING-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange proposes clarification and strengthening of the Right to Farm Act to protect farmers from zoning changes, such as “strip” zoning.

13. NEW POLICY-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommend to their members that they assume the responsibility of keeping their elected officials informed of Grange Policy.

14. OUTSOURCING-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange favors immediate legislation to reduce outsourcing of State functions to those outside of the State of Michigan.

15. STATE OF MICHIGAN LAND-- R. 2026

Michigan State Grange recommends legislation be enacted that would retain the ownership of all currently owned property of the State of Michigan that contains a creek, stream, river or lake frontage.for public access.

16. AMERICAN MADE—A. 2010

Michigan State Grange supports legislation that would require products bearing an “American Made” claim, or equivalent language, to have manufacturing costs constituting at least 75% of the total manufacturing costs for the product, and to be last substantially transformed in the United States.

17. BROADBAND WORKS FOR RURAL AMERICA—A. 2011

Michigan State Grange supports legislation that encourages the deployment of high speed broadband Internet access and next-generation technologies to all of rural America, and further Michigan State Grange supports the modernization of the Universal Service Fund (USF) to ensure last mile (wire line or wireless) connectivity for rural Americans to broadband, thereby creating job, enhancing the economy, and boosting local businesses.

18. SCRAPPERS—A. 2013

Michigan State Grange urges legislation to allow the recovery of stolen property from pawn shops and salvage yards at no cost to the victim and further resolved that pawn shows and salvage yards be required to obtain a picture of the sellers at the same time as they obtain identification so law enforcement agents can follow up on the seller of stolen property and further that salvage yards be required to view the scrap metal being brought in for items that may not be considered actual scrap.

19. RECORDED 911 CALLS—A. 2013

Michigan State Grange urges legislation that would prohibit the public release of all 911 calls, except when required by a court order.

20. UNSOLICITED PHONE CALLS --A. 2018

Michigan State Grange urges the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to work to put an end to all unsolicited telephone calls.

21. FOOD PACKAGING – A. 2021

Michigan State Grange supports legislation preventing staples from being used in packaging any type of food.

22. THE US DOLLAR IS THE MAIN CURRENCY --A. 2023

Michigan State Grange urges legislation that prohibits businesses from being card only payments and that CASH be accepted at all institutions as a form of payment.

23. HANDS FREE CELL PHONES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS—A. 2023

Michigan State Grange recommends that the law be enforced for “all drivers”, private citizens and law enforcement officers as well.

NATURAL RESOURCES & CONSERVATION POLICY

ENERGY

1. PREFERENCE CLAUSE

Michigan State Grange favors renewal of existing licenses for public and also private hydro-electric utility companies who are presently operating in a satisfactory manner.

2. NUCLEAR ENERGY

Michigan State Grange recognizes the necessity of nuclear energy as a source of energy in our effort to compete in world markets.

3. WIND TURBINE ZONING

Michigan State Grange favors zoning for wind turbines.

ENVIRONMENTAL

1. ENDANGERED SPECIES

Michigan State Grange recommends rules and regulations, pertaining to the Endangered Species Act, be modified so the economic impact to each individual owner of property be taken into consideration prior to the placement of the property in the endangered species area; and when a species recovers so that it no longer is an endangered species it be taken off the list of endangered plants or animals.

2. STATE OF MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL BUDGET

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Legislative and Executive Branches of the State of Michigan that they do not allow a reduction in funds budgeted for environmental cleanup in future budgets until such time as all cleanup has been accomplished, and further recommends that funds approved through the bond issue for environmental cleanup be expended in a orderly and economical fashion so that the maximum cleanup possible be accomplished with the funds received.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Michigan State Grange supports efforts to develop grain by-products like biodegradable plastic containers made of cornstarch and petroleum products, especially when they produce a product beneficial to our waste management efforts and are not harmful or are less harmful to the environment than former practices/products.

4. ALTERNATE SYSTEMS OF WASTE MANAGEMENT

Michigan State Grange supports development by the State of Michigan of alternative systems of waste management and assist local units in their establishment.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE CAUSED BY CHLORIDE

Michigan State Grange recommends the Michigan State and County Highway Commissions use salt in a more judicious manner on the roadways during the winter.

6. EXCESSIVE PACKAGING

Michigan State Grange supports the development of laws encouraging an economical and resource efficient approach to product packaging.

7. RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL OF TRASH

Michigan State Grange recommends that the following be adopted as policy for the reduction of trash

1. Require that companies utilize reusable and interchangeable containers
2. Containers that cannot be reused be recyclable
3. Containers that do not meet standards for reusing or recycling be compostable
4. Last source of disposal to be in landfills.
5. Ask farmers to spread leaves on crop lands as a mulch.

8. RECYCLING

Michigan State Grange favors the recycling of as much solid waste as practical thereby removing a source of pollution, and utilizing a valuable resource; that we encourage innovative methods be developed that would economically and efficiently retrieve from our landfills and sewage systems all recyclable products.

9. LOW LEVEL NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP

Michigan State Grange opposes the placement of any low-level nuclear waste dump on productive farmland in Michigan, and recommends the state support federal legislation to reduce the number of proposed sites across the nation to dispose of low-level nuclear waste.

10. TOXIC WASTE SAFETY

Michigan State Grange urges all laws pertaining to landfills be more carefully reviewed and enforced for the safety of Michigan residents to prevent toxic waste from contaminating our water supply, and the surrounding environment.

11. WASTE DISPOSAL

Michigan State Grange supports State's rights to govern the disposal of waste within their borders and refuse imported waste, and to oppose state privatization plans.

12. OUR ENVIRONMENT

Michigan State Grange support our leaders who use the rule of law to effectively safeguard and improve our environment through the endangered species act, the clean air act, and the national environmental policy act.

13. ENVIRONMENT

Michigan State Grange strongly supports the production and development of environmentally friendly products produced by agriculture and nature.

14. BALLOON RELEASES AND CHINESE LANTERNS

Michigan State Grange urges congress to establish a law that would make balloon releases and Chinese Lanterns illegal. -- 2024

HUNTING AND FISHING

1. FINES FOR TRESPASSING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Michigan State Grange recommends that the penalty be no less than \$200.00 for trespassing on private property during hunting season without written permission from the owner of said property.

2. CROP DAMAGE FROM DEER IN MICHIGAN

Michigan State Grange urges widespread publicity by DNR of the full particulars of deer permits available to farmers who suffer crop damage.

3. DEER HUNTING GUIDELINES

Michigan State Grange recommends to the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources to not put any restriction on the size of antlered deer hunted in the northern portion of the Lower Peninsula.

JAPANESE BEETLE & GYPSY MOTH

1. JAPANESE BEETLES

Michigan State Grange strongly recommends that State Legislators and Michigan Department of Natural Resources work together to develop a statewide program to control and/or eradicate the Japanese Beetle.

2. GYPSY MOTH

Michigan State Grange requests the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to escalate their program to control and/or eradicate the Gypsy Moth.

LAND AND WATER

1. DUMPING CONTAMINANTS IN THE GREAT LAKES

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would stop dumping of contaminants in the waters of our Great Lakes.

2. PUBLIC LAKE AND RIVER ACCESSES

Michigan State Grange recommends that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources retain and maintain all public river and lake accesses owned by them within the State of Michigan; that local governments retain and maintain all public river and lake accesses owned by them within their own jurisdiction.

3. DIVERSION OF GREAT LAKES WATER – BOTTLED WATER

Michigan State Grange opposes the selling of water, our necessary natural resource, to any enterprise until such time that the limits of our aquifer are known and deemed adequate by an appropriate regulatory agency.

4. WATER USAGE

Michigan State Grange urges the legislature to meet the requirements of the Great lakes Charter by providing water usage information to the Department of Natural Resources from large users to wisely protect, manage and develop the water resources of the state of enacting the Great Lakes Diversion Prevention Act.

5. POLLUTION OF MICHIGAN WATERWAYS

Michigan State Grange opposes all efforts to increase the pollutants in Michigan streams, rivers, and lakes by

industry, even with the Michigan Water resources Commission approval, and asks that the Governor uphold the Water Quality Policy of the State of Michigan, and supports the efforts of the state and local units of government to reduce the number of communities mixing storm drains and sanitary sewer overflows.

6. ACID RAIN

Michigan State Grange urges the United States Government to continue an International Commission to investigate and control industrial emissions that contribute to acid rain.

7. CLEAN WATER (Revised 2018)

Michigan State Grange recommends State and Federal Legislators strive to reduce the allowable pollutants that may enter all bodies of water in the State of Michigan and the United States.

8. GREAT LAKES WATER DIVERSION

Michigan State Grange supports in principle the inventorying of Michigan's water resources but opposes any permits or fees resulting from agricultural water usage.

9. "POTABLE WATER"

Michigan State Grange, as good stewards of the water supply which is so crucial for survival, encourages each individual to share the responsibility for educating the general public as to the seriousness of any potential harmful contaminants from our potable water supply, and further the Grange, will do its utmost to promote safe, healthy, uncontaminated ground water for current and future generations.

10. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CHEARCUTTING FOREST IN MICHIGAN — 2017

Michigan State Grange encourages the Department of Natural Resources to better manage the cutting and replanting of our forest to provide the best establishment of the forest.

WETLANDS

1. WETLANDS LAW

Michigan State Grange recommends that steps be taken to have Congress go over the Wetlands and modify it so that the average farmer can live with it, that the law be less strict, and that the average farmer have more control over the treatment of his wetlands.

2. WETLANDS LEGISLATION

Michigan State Grange supports legislation by the United States Congress that clearly defines a wetland, provides for clear classification of wetlands, and provides compensation to landowners who are denied the use of their property and suffer property devaluation by newly declared wetlands. It would further provide for public comment and notification to affected property owners of the designated wetlands.

3. WETLANDS PERMITS

Michigan State Grange urges that a series of public hearings to gather information and briefs on the wetlands permit process be held throughout the Lower and Upper Peninsulas of Michigan, and the findings of these hearings be included in the report to (MNRC) Michigan Natural Resources Commission.

4. MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE POLICY ON WETLANDS

Michigan State Grange strongly supports and urges enactment of the following Policy on Wetlands:

The Michigan State Grange supports allowing each individually defined wetland of less than one and one-half acres to be drained without penalty.

The Michigan State Grange supports the following guidelines for determining wetland areas and the use thereof:

a. Wetland designation can only apply to those areas that can be shown to be functioning as wetlands and that have environmental value.

b. Wetland designation can only apply to those areas that can be scientifically shown as readily identifiable by their natural characteristics and should be classified and regulated to significantly show environmental value.

c. Wetland designation shall not apply to areas that are artificially created by irrigation, stock water ponds, or have been cropped for 1 of the last 5 years.

d. That the sole authority for determining and administering all wetland areas on agricultural lands be controlled by the USDA's Soil Conservation Service.

Further, if wetlands are designated by USDA, the farmer shall have the opportunity to sign it up in the Wetland Reserve Program.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. DNR POWERS

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan Legislature that legislation be enacted that would establish a three member Board of Appeals to review decisions of the Department of Natural Resources that might be detrimental to the health or economic welfare of a property owner or community; that this legislation would require that the Governor of the State of Michigan appoint the members of the Department of natural Resources Appeals board; that this legislation state that the appointments to the DNR Board of Appeals be individuals who are not employed by, or connected to, the Department of Natural Resources.

2. DEER DAMAGE

Michigan State Grange strongly urges farmers to use the protective legislation of block permits to reduce deer herd population on their farm and cooperate with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and report the deer harvested. Further, the Michigan State Grange urges farmers to report to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources crop damage on their farm caused by deer.

3. FEEDING & BAITING DEER

Michigan State Grange encourages the Department of Natural Resources to reconsider and stop the feeding and baiting of deer.

4. HANDLING OF DEAD ANIMALS ALONG MICHIGAN HIGHWAYS.

Michigan State Grange supports legislation that:

1. Will recognize this very serious and unhealthy problem which occurs in every county in the state of Michigan.
2. Will appoint an agency or fund to remove the highway killed animals whenever reported by the public
3. Will fund the agency or department assigned to this project from the general fund

5. CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD)

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan Legislature that they enact legislation that would require all captive cervid animals being transferred interstate or intrastate must be tested for CWD and other known diseases and quarantined as needed and that inspection fees be implemented and that the current licensing fees in the State of Michigan be increased to meet the cost of the stepped up inspection of facilities and enforcement of the regulations regarding Cervid (deer and elk ranches) operations.

6. ASIAN CARP—2010

Michigan State Grange supports efforts that the State of Michigan is taking to keep the Asian Carp out of our beautiful Great Lakes

7. OIL SPILLS—2010

Michigan State Grange calls for stricter laws and enforcement of current laws on the American Oil industry by Government Agencies, both State and Federal, and further that any company found to be at fault in any petroleum spills assumes 100% of the costs involved in cleanup operations.

8. FERAL HOGS IN MICHIGAN –2021

Michigan State Grange strongly urges the Michigan Department of Agriculture, the Department of Natural Resources and the Federal Government to work with due diligence in eradicating or at least limiting the spread of Feral Hogs.

9. FARMLAND AND FORESTS--2023

Michigan State Grange strongly suggests to the Michigan State Legislature to stop all foreign land acquisitions that are destroying farmland and forests.

TAXATION & TRANSPORTATION POLICY

INCOME TAX

1. HEALTH INSURANCE DEDUCTION ON INCOME TAX

Michigan State Grange favors legislation allowing for 100 % deduction of Health Insurance coverage on city, state, and federal income tax returns, for self employed persons, including farmers and those not covered by employer financed health care coverage.

2. TAXATION OF PENSIONS

Michigan State Grange recommends to U.S. Representatives and Senators that legislation be enacted that would prohibit any state from imposing an income tax on the pension income of any individual who is not a resident of that state.

3. STATE INCOME TAX

Michigan State Grange opposes any legislation that would amend the Michigan Tax Laws to eliminate the personal exemptions and various deductions, including retirement benefits, contributed, energy credits, and the Homestead Tax Credit program known as Circuit Breaker.

5. INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR HISTORIC RESTORATION

Michigan State Grange favors a state income tax credit for qualifying individuals on a amortizing basis who repair or restore a country school, a farmstead, a Grange Hall, or other historic building.

PROPERTY TAX

1. FEE CHARGED TO TRAILERS LOCATED IN MOBILE HOME PARKS

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan Legislature that legislation be enacted that would increase the monthly tax to mobile homes and trailers in trailer parks to \$12.00 per month.

2. GENERAL PROPERTY TAX

Michigan State Grange is opposed to any legislation that would amend the General Property Tax Act to eliminate personal property exemptions. This includes machinery, livestock, feed and farm products, and household goods.

3. PROPERTY TAX

Michigan State Grange supports keeping property tax assessments administration at the local level.

4. SINGLE BUSINESS CREDIT FOR HISTORIC RESTORATION

Michigan State Grange favors a single business credit for qualifying individuals or businesses who repair and restore a historic structure.

5. MINERAL RIGHTS

Michigan State Grange encourages that at all future mineral rights transactions have a seven-year limit before reverting back to the current landowner.

6. FARM PROPERTY TAXES

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would require Michigan farmland to be assessed according to its

value as crop production potential and further that all farmland is active agriculture production be zoned A-1 (agriculture–single family).

7. FARM TAX

Michigan State Grange supports a tax break to any retired farm owner encouraging that farm owner to keep the land in production by leasing or renting his or her land for farming purposes.

8. INHERITANCE TAX

Michigan State Grange recommends to the U. S. Congress, and the Michigan State Legislature, that farm property estates, both real and personal, be exempt from inheritance tax.

9. RETENTION OF COLLECTION OF TAXES BY TOWNSHIP TREASURERS

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan State Representatives and Senators that they oppose any legislation that would, if enacted, transfer the responsibility for the collection of taxes from the township treasurers to the county treasurers.

10. TAX INCREMENT FINANCING OF DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES –2025

Michigan State Grange urges lawmakers to repeal the Tax Increment Financing from Public Act 57 of 2018 or change to force all DDA's to request their own millage for funding, and if lawmakers do not abolish the Public Act 27 of 2018, that they allow Townships to “opt out” every five years as opposed to the current 25 time span.

ROAD TAX

1. FEDERAL TAXES ON MOTOR FUELS

Michigan State Grange recommends to their U.S. Legislators that any increase in federal tax on motor fuels be used on, or for, roads and bridges.

2. REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL ROADS

Michigan State Grange recommends that monies collected from the Michigan weight and gasoline taxes be used only for the repair and maintenance of Michigan roads.

3. MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT OF LOCAL ROADS

Michigan State Grange supports the efforts of the County Road Association of Michigan in their effort to secure an increase over the 39.1% share of the highway share of the gas and weight tax in Michigan, to enable our county road commissions to better maintain and improve our local roads which are vital to the economy and safety of the rural sector of Michigan.

4. TRUCK USER'S FEES FOR ROAD & BRIDGE REPAIR

Michigan State Grange urges the State Legislature to adopt a truck user's fee structure comparable to the adjoining Great Lake States which would bring in additional funds to repair our roads and bridges.

5. ELECTRIC CARS AND ROAD TAX

Michigan State Grange supports the use of separate electric meters for charging electric cars and that this electricity be taxed at a rate consistent with fuel taxes paid by similar vehicles.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION TAX

Michigan State Grange recommends that Workmen's Compensation benefit payments be an amount comparable with benefits paid by those states bordering Michigan.

2. GENERAL SALES TAX

Michigan State Grange opposes any legislation which would amend the general sales tax and use tax laws to eliminate exemptions for agricultural products.

3. VALUE ADDED TAX

Michigan State Grange opposes a Value Added Tax.

4. TAX ON INSURANCE COMPANIES

Michigan State Grange opposes any tax imposed on insurance companies based on their gross premium sales that could be passed on to the policy holders.

5. TEACHERS' RETIREMENT FUNDS

Michigan State Grange opposes legislation that would change the method and rate of payment to the Michigan Teachers' Retirement Fund or legislation that would allow the school districts to circumvent the intent of the Headlee Amendment.

6. OPPOSING CUTS IN MEDICAID

Michigan State Grange opposes any further cuts in the Medicaid Program.

7. BUDGET, DEBT, AND TAX REDUCTION

Michigan State Grange opposes any action to reduce taxes until the budget is balanced and the National Debt reduced to a manageable size.

8. TAX CARE CREDIT

Michigan State Grange supports legislation, both State and National, that would allow a tax credit to individuals who are caring for aged and handicapped relatives or friends in their home.

10. MARRIAGE PENALTY TAX

Michigan State Grange asks that the tax law be changed to allowed 50,000.00 for married couples or 25,000.00 each if they file separately for the exclusion of Social Security benefits.

12. SOCIAL SECURITY

Michigan State Grange favors that Social Security benefits be distributed without being taxed as personal income by the Federal Government.

13. BUY AMERICAN

Michigan State Grange urges all citizens to carefully evaluate all purchases and show preference for goods made

in the United States of America.

14. HEARING IMPAIRED SAFETY

Michigan State Grange supports the institution of a voluntary program for hearing impaired drivers in the United States, so that such drivers can quickly and easily communicate their need for written communication with police officers and other public safety personnel and further recommends that 1) visor cards be made available as an option to alert officers, and 2) a license plate designation be made available for hearing impaired persons at their request, and 3) to protect the hearing impaired person their disability should be reflected on their driver's license. (passed 2011, revised 2016 & 2023)

15. LAND SALES OR TRANSFERS – 2023

Michigan State Grange encourages the Michigan Legislature to pass laws preventing the sale of land (farmland, and U.S. property) to foreign entities.

16. REST AREA CAMPING – 2023

Michigan State Grange recommends all rest areas prohibit overnight camping longer than 24 hours with the exception of a mechanical issue that is actively being repaired.

MOTOR VEHICLES

1. WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS

Michigan State Grange recommends that legislation be enacted to lower the per axle weight limit on Michigan highways to match those of surrounding states, that the penalty be increased to make it unprofitable for the trucking companies or independent truckers to ignore the weight restrictions, and that the penalty be mandatory.

2. MOTOR VEHICLE BUMPERS

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would make it unlawful to alter the manufactured height of a vehicle.

3. MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION

Michigan State Grange favors vehicle inspections to ensure vehicle road worthiness; further, that these inspections be used to ascertain that the driver is properly licensed and insured.

4. MOTORCYCLE HELMETS

Michigan State Grange supports a law requiring motorcycle riders to wear helmets. (Revised 2016)

5. MOPED AND HELMETS

Michigan State Grange requests that the helmet law be changed, that moped drivers of all ages be required to wear crash helmets, with the same rules as for drivers of motorcycles.

6. VEHICLE DECIBEL LEVELS

Michigan State Grange favors legislation requiring police departments to have sound measuring equipment as an aid in enforcing the law governing decibel levels for motorized vehicles, licensed and unlicensed.

7. DRIVING WITH PARKING LIGHTS

Michigan State Grange recommends that law enforcement officers be instructed to enforce the Michigan Vehicle Code #257-684, Section A in regards to driving with parking lights.

8. HANDICAP EMBLEMS

Michigan State Grange urges a universal handicap emblem be recognized and uniform penalties be enforced in Michigan when designated handicap facilities are unlawfully used.

9. HANDICAPPED PARKING PERMITS

Michigan State Grange recommends to the U.S. Congress that legislation be adopted that would require each state to recognize all handicapped parking permits that have been issued to a handicapped person by any state in the United States.

10. TRUCK SAFETY

Michigan State Grange favors legislation calling for restricting trucks to the right lane of freeways except when entering, passing, or encountering a hazard; and strongly urges annual safety inspections for all heavy trucks, and increased enforcement of existing traffic laws.

11. MORE COMFORTABLE CAR SAFETY BELTS

Michigan State Grange recommends that the National Safety Council urge car manufacturers to continue to improve the design and construction of safety restraints safe enough, and comfortable enough to encourage the rider and driver to use them.

12. REFLECTIVE MATERIALS ON LARGE TRUCKS

Michigan State Grange strongly supports the development of state and national laws that would require reflective tape and the installation of well engineered rear and side guards, on all existing and new trucks that are of such a height that under-ride by passengers vehicles is possible.

13. MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE FEE

Michigan State Grange urges the passage of legislation that would place Michigan's Motor Vehicle License Plate Fees on a sliding scale so the fee would decrease as the age of the vehicle becomes greater (older).

14. DRIVING WITH CAR LIGHTS ON AT ALL TIMES

Michigan State Grange urge legislation that would mandate use of headlights whenever the vehicle is being driven.

15. IMPROPER USE OF SLOW-MOVING SIGNS

Michigan State Grange urges all farmers to properly use slow moving vehicle signs and other warning devices, such as flashing lights and individuals be alert for improper uses along the highway right of ways and report these improper uses to local law enforcement personnel.

16. SIDE MIRRORS

Michigan State Grange recommends that legislation be introduced requiring the car manufacturers to use regular mirrors on the passenger side of cars and place on curvature type mirrors to pick up blind spots.

17. EXCESSIVE NOISE

Michigan State Grange encourages the enforcement of county ordinances and state law that prohibits excessive noise emanating from automobile radios, sound systems and other appliances.

18. SOY DIESEL FOR SCHOOL BUSES

Michigan State Grange supports legislation that would encourage Michigan School Districts to utilize soy diesel in their school buses.

19. CELL PHONE AND TEXT MESSAGING

Michigan State Grange supports legislation banning the use of cell phones and text messaging devices by a vehicle's operator, at any time when the vehicle is in motion.

20. VEHICLE LIGHTS — 2014

Michigan State Grange supports legislation that would require all new models of vehicles produced to limit the activation of the rear white lights to only turn on when that vehicle is in reverse.

21. SEATBELTS ON ALL BUSES

Michigan State Grange recommends that Michigan Department of Education and Michigan Department of Transportation require the use of seatbelts on all school buses.

RAILROADS

1. RAILROAD CROSSING OBSTRUCTIONS

Michigan State Grange recommends that the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) require all railroad companies to cut the weeds and brush at railroad/highway intersections to give a clear view for oncoming traffic.

2. HIGH SPEED RAILROADS - STATE OF MICHIGAN

Michigan State Grange recommends that the Michigan Legislature and Executive Department oppose a high-speed rail system between Detroit, Michigan and Chicago, Illinois.

3. UNLIGHTED RAILROAD CROSSINGS

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would require reflectors on all railroad cars of trains traveling in the United States.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

1. METRIC ROAD SIGNS

Michigan State Grange recommend to the Federal Highway Administration there be no changeover in road signs to the metric system.

2. FEDERAL HIGHWAY TRUST FUND

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would prohibit the use of the highway trust fund to help balance the budget or any other general revenue purpose, and opposes the use of any other specially designated fund collected by a special tax to be used for general revenue purposes.

3. RECYCLING USED CONCRETE

Michigan State Grange urges the State Highway Department to open up for bids to the County Road Commissions the purchase of used concrete from the destruction of roads and bridges.

4. LOCAL BRIDGES

Michigan State Grange recommends to Congress that legislation be enacted that would allow local units of government to receive grants from the federal government for local bridges that are built to the needs of the community as determined by the county or local road commissions.

5. OVERHEAD DIRECTIONS AT TRAFFIC INTERSECTIONS

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that overhead directions be erected over traffic intersections having two or more lanes each way.

6. FOUR CORNER INTERSECTIONS

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would require that all four corner intersections have either a two-way or a four-way stop sign, thus eliminating all three-way stop signs, and be so marked as either two-way or four-way stop at these intersections.

7. ROADSIDE OBSTRUCTIONS

Michigan State Grange encourages both the Department of Transportation and local county road commissions to remove any obstructions natural and man-made in the road right-of-way at intersections, so as to give a clear view of approaching traffic.

8. PROTECTIVE SCREENING ON HIGHWAY OVERPASSES

Michigan State Grange favors legislation calling for protective screening to be placed on all major highway overpasses on Michigan freeways, and asks that this legislation include metropolitan areas.

9. SELECTION OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

Michigan State Grange favors supporting the election of County Road Commissioners by a vote of the people at regular county elections.

10. COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONS

Michigan State Grange acknowledges that county road commissions provide a valuable service in an efficient and cost-effective manner, that county road commissions continue as three member boards, and that they have access to federal funds on the same basis as in the past, and that they continue to be responsible for all county and local roads.

11. ROAD CLEAN-UP

Michigan State Grange recommends removal of dangerous debris on roads should be done through some form of safety patrolling by county or city municipalities.

12. METRIC MEASUREMENTS FOR HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

Michigan State Grange commends the Transportation Commission for their action in eliminating the metric measurement requirement for highway construction.

13. KEEPING ROADSIDES TRIMMED

Michigan State Grange recommends to those departments in charge of cutting these weeds and overgrowth at roadsides and at intersections that they keep them cut on a more frequent basis.

14. WHITE STRIPE ON PRIMARY & MAJOR HIGHWAYS IN MICHIGAN

Michigan State Grange encourages the Michigan Department of Transportation and the county road commissions establish a policy to keep the white stripes on the edge of their major and primary roads in good repair during all seasons.

15. PROHIBIT THE PLANTING OF CROPS CLOSE TO ROADS — 2014

Michigan State Grange support legislation that would prohibit the planting of crops on any road right of way to prevent blind corners and curves for drivers.

16. SIGNAL TRAFFIC LIGHTS VS. ROUNDABOUTS — 2014

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) look into using signal traffic lights over roundabouts for safety and cost purposes.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. FOOD SANITATION

Michigan State Grange favors legislation that would prohibit hauling garbage, refuse, and toxic materials in trucks that transport food.

2. HIGHWAY REST AREAS

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan Department of Transportation that the rest areas on state roads be plowed in the winter whether or not the facilities are open, so that when needed, motorists will have a safe place to rest.

3. UNISEX HANDICAPPED RESTROOMS

Michigan State Grange recommends that the National Grange urge the Department of Transportation to become aware of the need of Unisex Handicapped Restrooms and make provisions for them at all new or remodeled rest stops.

4. DUMP STATIONS AT REST STOPS

Michigan State Grange urges the Michigan Department of Transportation to consider dump stations at rest stops when building new facilities or remodeling older units for dumping wastewater by recreational vehicle users.

5. DRUNK DRIVERS

Michigan State Grange supports the Michigan Law that requires all drunk and impaired driving offenders to attend sessions on alcohol abuse, and be subject to mandatory steep fines, and suspension of driver's licenses.

6. LAWSUITS BY THOSE WHO ARE OVER 50% AT FAULT

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan Legislature and the U. S. Congress that laws be enacted that would prohibit anyone, who is found to be over 50% at fault in any accident, to sue the other party involved in the accident.

7. MICHIGAN AUTO INSURANCE LAWS (#1)

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan Legislature that legislation be adopted, as a single item, to reduce the amount of medical coverage required under the auto insurance laws from an unlimited amount to \$1,000,000 in coverage; further that if the insured desires additional medical coverage, such coverage could be purchased.

8. MICHIGAN AUTO INSURANCE LAWS (#2)

Michigan State Grange recommends to the Michigan Legislature that legislation be adopted, as a single item, to allow auto insurance companies to bargain with the medical field on the fees charged for their service.

9. EXIT NUMBERS ON MICHIGAN ROAD MAPS

Michigan State Grange urges the Michigan Department of Transportation to include all exit numbers on Interstate and Intrastate highways on any future state maps printed.

10. SIRENS ON THE AIR

Michigan State Grange urges legislation on outlawing the use of sirens as attention getters on the radio stations.

11. BICYCLE HELMETS

Michigan State Grange recommends that the State of Michigan enact legislation that would require bicycle helmets to be worn on public property, and further that said helmets be required to meet or exceed the standards of the American National Standards Institute or the Snell Memorial Foundation, or the American Society of Testing and Measurements for protective headgear for use in bicycling.

12. TIRE RELATED LEGISLATION

Michigan State Grange goes on record favoring the concept of the bill introduced by Rep. Fred Upton of St. Joseph, called Transportation Reporting Enhancement, Accountability and Documentation Act.

13. COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION & SOIL EROSION

Michigan State Grange recommends that county road commission work in conjunction with local conservation districts, Extension groups, and other environmental groups to increase their awareness of the damages caused by construction and maintenance practices in the areas of soil erosion.

14. STATE FURNISHED VEHICLES

Michigan State Grange recommends the State of Michigan consider the use of vehicles that run on alternative fuels i.e. fuel cells, hydrogen, ethanol when applicable.

15. ELECTRIC CARS AND THE POWER GRID

Michigan State Grange opposes any government requirements for electrical vehicle production unless it is matched by approval for construction of electrical generating facilities and upgrades to the power grid to cover increased usage, and further support charging electric vehicles only during off peak hours and further oppose government incentives for purchasing electric vehicles.

16. SPEED LIMITS

Michigan State Grange strongly suggests that the speed limit be lowered back to the previous 65-70 mph.

2025-2026 MICHIGAN STATE GRANGE OFFICERS

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