



State Representative
KIMBERLY L. EDWARDS
House District 12



SIGN UP FOR MY E-NEWSLETTER

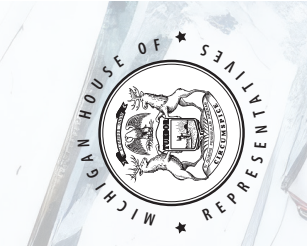
2024

Breaking Glass Ceilings

Putting People First

State Representative
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PREPARED BY THE MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

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RESOURCES FOR ESCAPING DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Michigan law defines domestic violence as a pattern of learned behavior in which a person uses sexual, physical and emotional abuse to control another person. This applies to relationships between current or former spouses, current or former romantic partners, relationships with a child in common, or relationships involving residents currently or formerly living in the same household.

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE – 24/7

Translators for more than 170 languages are available. Your call can be routed to a domestic violence service provider in your area.
Hotline (800) 799-SAFE (7233)
TTY (800) 787-3224

MICHIGAN CRIME VICTIM NETWORK
Free and confidential service for victims to access information and receive notifications regarding their offender's custody status and court proceedings.
Toll-Free (800) 770-7657
TTY (866) 847-1298
michigan.gov/corrections/services and click on "Victim Services."



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Dear Neighbor,

Your rights matter, and as your legislator, I am dedicated to dissolving barriers that women face. This newsletter is a mark of celebration of the success we've made to improve the lives of Michigan women. We have taken strides to diminish restrictions that weighed heavily on women's access to reproductive health care. We will continue to shatter long-standing barriers faced by Michiganders. The needs of my communities are my priority. Rest assured that the challenges faced in our community and state are at the top of my legislative priorities. Do not hesitate to reach out to my office by phone at **(517) 373-0852** or email at KimberlyEdwards@house.mi.gov if we can help.

In service,

Kimberly Edwards

Kimberly L. Edwards
State Representative
House District 12

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DOMESTIC ABUSE PROTECTIONS

The uneasy reality is that 1 in 4 women are survivors of domestic violence. Most domestic violence crimes are classified as misdemeanors, allowing those convicted of domestic violence the opportunity to access a deadly weapon. We passed bills to change that in 2023. The new laws limit convicted abusers from accessing firearms for a number of years after their sentence. These bills will help keep women and survivors better protected in our communities.



YOUR CHOICE, YOUR HEALTH, YOUR FAMILY, YOUR SUCCESS

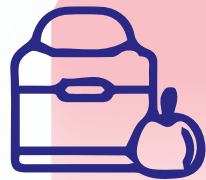
The choice is yours — we've guaranteed that. House Dems have worked hard to introduce legislation that encompasses all people and considered all family types. We've introduced legislation to help support the health, wellness and aspirations of Michigan women and mothers, including bills to support maternal and infant health; provide family protection for surrogacy; and make sure women are receiving the support they need.



OUR BODIES, OUR LIVES — 1931 REPEAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACT

We have made a mark on history and will continue working to uplift all people and protect the rights they need and deserve by ensuring everyone has full bodily autonomy.

- We repealed the archaic 1931 criminal abortion ban in line with Proposal 3. This means doctors and nurses won't be at risk of criminal charges for providing the health care Michiganders need.
- We passed the Reproductive Health Act to ensure that all people in Michigan actually have the ability to access their reproductive rights and make the decision that's right for them about if, when and how to start or grow a family. The act repealed medically unnecessary restrictions on abortion providers aimed at limiting access to reproductive health care.



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Michigan students now receive free breakfast and lunch at our public schools! Because we made breakfast and lunch universal, we're also erasing the painful stigma that so often comes with receiving food assistance, ensuring that every student — especially those in the greatest need — takes advantage of free meals. Providing free breakfast and lunch will ensure that, throughout the week, hundreds of thousands more children in our state have the nutrition they need to learn. This means fewer behavioral problems and higher educational attainment, putting more kids on the path to happy, healthy and prosperous lives, while diminishing the stress and worry on Michigan parents.



MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH PACKAGE

The United States has the highest rate of maternal deaths compared with other high-income countries and is the only one in that group where maternal mortality rates are rising. Not only that, maternal deaths are the highest amongst people of color. We are working to combat this disparity with the introduction of this legislation to protect Michigan mothers and children.



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