

JANUARY 29, 2021

KJL WEEKLY UPDATE

Official newsletter of Khoury Johnson Leavitt



Khoury
Johnson
Leavitt

KJL SPECIAL ALERT

The Khoury Johnson and Leavitt team remain informed and engaged during these times of uncertainty. We are in communication with leadership in the executive, legislative and judiciary branches of state government, in addition to locals on a regular basis. Updates will continue every Friday as a mechanism to recap relevant activity from the past week.

Republicans, Whitmer clash on COVID spending, vaccine distribution

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Republicans who control the Michigan House of Representatives have a \$2 billion difference of opinion on what to do next, spending wise, to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

House Republicans released their COVID spending proposal this week in the wake of Gov. Whitmer's own plans to use federal and state funds for a spending surge to accelerate the state's health and economic responses to the coronavirus.

New House Speaker Jason Wentworth (R-Clare) said the House plan for COVID-19 funding is a start and his hope is the governor is willing to listen and work with lawmakers to move the state forward and provide targeted relief, the Gongwer News Service reported.

The biggest difference in the spending proposals involves about \$2 billion in federal aid for education. The [House GOP plan](#) includes \$3.5 billion in total federal and state spending, while [Gov. Whitmer's](#) includes \$5.6 billion.

In other COVID and health policy news this week:

- The governor plans to use federal funding to bring Michigan closer to its stated goal of administering 50,000 vaccines per day. Funding will help provide financial support to local health departments for administrative vaccine costs, like staffing, as well as equipment and supplies. The state has distributed about 1.5 million vaccine doses, according to its [COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#). The state encourages all citizens to make use of its [Vaccine Locator](#) system and follow all the latest news on vaccines at its [COVID-19 Vaccine webpage](#).
- Sen. Rick Outman (R-Montcalm) was named this week as the new chair of the Senate Appropriations Community Health/Human Services Subcommittee, replacing Peter MacGregor, who was elected as Kent County treasurer last fall. For a full list of Senate Appropriations subcommittee assignments, [click here](#).

MI House Republicans COVID Relief Plan:

COVID-19 response: Help and hope for struggling Michiganders Michigan needs action, not politics. Federal COVID-19 relief dollars must be used to get real help in the hands of our families, schools and small businesses that are struggling, not pay for politicians' pet projects. House Republicans' budget plan commits to helping families, students and businesses stay afloat while increasing investments in key public health priorities – including vaccine distribution and virus testing. Help afflicted job providers and their families.

- \$150 million deposit into the unemployment trust fund ensures benefits for unemployed workers continue and helps offset the cost of fraudulent claims paid due to a lack of oversight from the Whitmer administration.
- \$55 million to ensure relief for local Michigan job providers currently facing higher unemployment system contribution costs.
- \$415 million to help restaurants and other small businesses who lost revenue because of the governor's severe and arbitrary COVID restrictions.
- \$38.5 million to reimburse fees for liquor licenses and health department inspections as local businesses struggle to reopen.
- \$22 million to assist job providers facing penalties and interest on 2020 summer or winter property taxes.
 - \$165 million to help families with rent and utility relief.
- \$510 million for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for families facing hunger. More funding is expected to follow. Get kids back in school
- \$363 million for districts committing to reopen in-person instruction by Feb. 15. All \$1.65 billion in federal Title I funds would be allocated, and \$12 million would cover benchmark assessments. The state could not shut down in-person instruction or sports activities, but local districts and local health departments could do so when appropriate based on COVID metrics.
- \$135 million for a voluntary, in-person summer semester for K-8 to help kids recover from learning loss during the pandemic, plus a credit recovery option for high school students. An additional \$15 million helps districts launch before-and-after school programs.
- \$21 million for teachers and support staff helping students catch up on learning over the summer.
- \$5.8 million to help families participating in summer school offset transportation, tutoring and other costs. Fix the governor's broken vaccine rollout
- \$22 million quarterly for closer monitoring and accountability in the governor's troubled distribution plan. The state could not impose vaccination mandates.
- \$144 million for virus testing would be allocated quarterly, to improve oversight and efficiency

KJL COVID RESOURCE TAB

A COVID 19 resource tab has been added to our website www.kjlteam.com. We will continue to update that tab with information relevant to our clients. Also, if you haven't already, please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for daily information.



Khoury
Johnson
Leavitt

kjlteam.com
124 W. Allegan, Suite 1700
Lansing, MI 48933

KJL Virtual Event Management

A convenient, cost and time effective way to bring your virtual event to life.

Looking to move your in-person event to a VIRTUAL platform? Not sure where to start? **KJL IS NOW OFFERING PROFESSIONAL VIRTUAL EVENT PRODUCTION.** We are well versed in virtual event planning, production, and presentation. Our services are currently being used by groups of up to 400. No matter the size, we are here to help!

Services Provided Include:

- Detailed meeting agendas and content development
- Facilitate practice sessions prior to event
- Deliver technical assistance during event
- Manage post event wrap up
- Encourage attendee engagement with polls, surveys, and more
- Assist with sponsorship highlights
- Detailed guides for effective and professional virtual presentations
- Techniques to perfect presentation

Virtual Event Production Service Includes:



Event Management:

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Event Reminders
Post Event Communication
Social Media Promotion

Event Data Collection:

Attendee List
Question/Answer Data
Polling/Survey Data
Attendee Engagement Report

Seminars Conventions Educational Events Town Halls

Contact us today for a consultation & quote for your event. **517.485.4044** | marcy@kjlteam.com
Pricing will be based on complexity of meeting. Initial meeting plan and proposal will be provided upon request.

KJL SOCIAL MEDIA



LINKEDIN: KHOURY JOHNSON LEAVITT

INSTAGRAM: @KJLFIRM

FACEBOOK: @KJLPAGE

TWITTER: @FIRMKJL

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.com

www.michigan.gov/ag

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.com

www.congress.gov.com

www.michiganbusiness.org

KJL TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION



Ron Khoury - ron@kjlteam.com, (517) 881-6356

Stephanie Johnson - stephanie@kjlteam.com, (517) 648-1602

Andy Leavitt - andy@kjlteam.com, (810) 625-0861

Marcy Lay - marcy@kjlteam.com, (517) 282-3295

Ryan Burtka - ryan@kjlteam.com, (313) 605-3878

Karen Currie - karen@kjlteam.com, (616) 706-2282

Mike Zimmer - mike@kjlteam.com, (517) 285-4126

Brian Clark - brian@kjlteam.com, (517) 410-3430

Lauren Bunn - lauren@kjlteam.com, (616) 826-1262

KJL Communications Director, Karen Currie

Karen@KJLteam.com