

WEEKLY **UPDATE**

March 19, 2021



BATTLE FOR MSU SWIM AND DIVE CONTINUES TO PUSH FORWARD

The Michigan Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Universities and Community Colleges heard from the Battle for MSU Swim and Dive coalition last week, asking for a “seat at the negotiating table” with the ultimate goal of reinstatement of both the mens and womens programs. This week, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Universities and Community Colleges also discussed the prompt elimination of the programs. The coalition is hopeful for the opportunity to further discuss reinstatement of their programs at the university in the coming weeks.

EPIC-MRA statewide poll results on legislation to change nurse anesthesia laws

A new poll indicates that Michigan voters oppose efforts to remove a provision in state law that requires physicians to supervise the use of anesthesia in surgical procedures.

That’s according to an EPIC- MRA poll that used 400 samples to gauge the participants’ opinion on anesthesia care.

The study conducted March 11-16 comes amid lawmakers’ debate over a bill that would eliminate the state’s longstanding requirement that physicians supervise the administration of anesthesia in Michigan.

Among the majority of Michigan residents, or their family members who had undergone a surgical procedure over the past few years, 64% said that anesthesia was administered by a physician anesthesiologist.

Only 10% had their anesthesia administered by a nurse anesthetist, 4% by a physician/nurse team with 23% uncertain.

By a 66-14 percent solid majority, voters oppose legislation to remove Michigan’s current requirement of physician supervision in anesthesia care, with 49 percent strongly opposed to the legislation.

• Republicans oppose the legislation by 74 to 13 percent, Republican women oppose it by 79 to 10 percent, as do self-identified conservatives by 76 to 10 percent.



- Opposition to the legislation weakens only slightly after voters hear messages used by both sides, but showing 60 percent would still be opposed, with 47 percent strongly opposed.
- Republicans still oppose the bill after arguments by 70 percent, with Republican women still opposed by 75 percent.
- If their state legislator voted for the bill, 33 percent of all respondents would be less likely to support their legislator; including 40 percent of all Republicans, and 53 percent of Republican women.

EXTENDED BAR HOURS BILL PASSES THE HOUSE

A bill that would open the door for bars to keep serving alcohol past 2:00 A.M. cleared the State House on Thursday.

The bipartisan bill was introduced last month and has now cleared the House with a vote of 61 to 47. It will go to the State Senate for consideration.

If the bill becomes law, local governments would be allowed to set closing times between 2:00 and 4:00 in the morning. The Michigan Liquor Control Commission would sell “late-night permits” to bars that wanted to keep serving alcohol past 2:00.

The House Committee on Regulatory Reform says this could help bars and restaurants recoup the profits they missed out on during the COVID-19 pandemic, which would help increase tax revenues as well. The Michigan Licensed Beverage Association supports the bill.

Biden Administration to invest \$10 Billion for school screenings to help to reopen

As part of President Biden’s National Strategy for the COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will invest \$10 billion from the American Rescue Plan to ramp up screening testing to help schools reopen.

\$2.25 billion will also be used to scale up testing in underserved populations and provide new guidance on asymptomatic screening testing in schools, workplaces, and congregate settings.



These measures are part of President Biden's strategy to increase COVID-19 testing nationwide as vaccinations increase.

The federal government is scheduled to send out the funds to state and local health departments by early April.

New MDHHS Orders

[March 19 - Gatherings and Face Mask Order](#)

[Capacity Limits Fact Sheet](#)

[Enhanced Outdoor Stadium and Arena Guidance](#)

[Dining Guide](#)





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Social Media

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Additional Resources

- www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.com
- www.michigan.gov/ag
- www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.com
- www.michiganbusiness.org

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