

**INFORMATION TO CALL IN SUPPORT OF MAHB
“STAND UP FOR HOUSING” RALLY**

May 20, 2008

To find the name and telephone number of your elected officials, utilize the following web sites:

www.senate.michigan.gov/SenatorInfo/find-your-senator.htm

www.house.michigan.gov/find_a_rep.asp

CALL SCRIPT

Hello Senator/Representative (*insert last name*). My name is _____. I am a constituent and my company is involved in the home building industry.

Today, the Michigan Association of Home Builders is holding a rally at the Capitol in support of the housing industry. I am unable to attend in person, but wanted to call you to ask for your support of six key policy changes which MAHB is proposing.

The six items are:

- 1) Deferment of Assessments – Exempt new residential construction from property tax until the home is occupied.
- 2) MBT Materials Fix – Establishing that “purchases from other firms” by construction contractors, which are excluded from the base used in calculating taxable gross receipts under the Michigan Business Tax, include direct material purchases made for a project.
- 3) Pro-Rated Primary Residence Exemption – Grant a pro-rated homestead property tax exemption after May 1 to a person who acquires and occupies a homestead for which an exemption was not already on the tax roll on May 1.
- 4) Pop-up Tax Reform – Authorize a temporary moratorium on the Proposal A taxable value “pop-up” for property that is sold as a homestead (aka principle residence).
- 5) Green Building Tax Credits – Provide income tax credits for homeowners who make energy efficiency improvements in existing homes, for homebuyers who purchase new homes built 50% above the 2003 International Energy Code, and for homebuyers who purchase a certified “Green Home” or have a “Green” addition or renovation.
- 6) Real Estate Transfer Tax Reform – Exempt the first-time transfer of a newly constructed home from the State Real Estate Transfer Tax.

A written report on the housing industry will be delivered to your office today. I urge you to act quickly on these bi-partisan legislative proposals, which are highlighted in the report. These are measures that will help to get Michigan’s economy going again.

I would appreciate a return call from you as these items are acted upon in your chamber. Thank you.