

Dear MAHU Members -

Please find a recap of Governor Whitmer's State of the State Address.

MAHU representatives were present for the address and a recap of the event is provided below. Your association strives to look out for our members.

Sincerely,

Keith Wright, President  
Cathy Cooper, Legislative Chair

## Michigan State of State



After being delayed a week, Governor Gretchen Whitmer delivered her first State of the State Address to the legislature and residents of Michigan.

Governor Whitmer paid homage to the late Congressman John Dingell as well as the new contingency of women elected in Michigan's Congressional delegation and state office. From there she touched on bi-partisan notes to fix Michigan's most prominent problems related to infrastructure, education, water quality, and workforce development. Her address identified many of the state's shortcomings in these areas but was lacking in detail specifically regarding funding solutions.

The Governor announced new pathways to skills and employment including retraining existing workers for in-demand industries, debt free community college for graduating high school students, and scholarship assistance for high school students seeking four-year degrees.

She announced the new Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy as a way to combat the PFAS water contamination and climate change. The Governor also touched on the need to close the wage gap for women and expand Elliot-Larsen civil rights protections to the LGBT community.

Governor Whitmer continued her message of working with the legislature on increasing government transparency through the Freedom of Information Act and the continuation of the enacting the work requirements in the Healthy Michigan Program.

More detail on these issues will likely be revealed as the Governor presents her budget recommendation to the legislature next month while she promised to end

budgeting gimmicks of previous administrations.

## **Michigan Association of Health Underwriters**

We are an association of health insurance professionals who specialize in the delivery of individual and group insurance products. Our focus is to improve our health care system here in our state.

We represent our local chapters, clients, the insureds, and work to make health insurance more affordable and accessible for our state's residents. By educating our elected officials, we strive to avoid unnecessary legislation and the unintended consequences that often follows increased governmental involvement.