



Public policy
in the best interest
of children.

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Press Statement

February 15, 2017. The move today by the House Tax Policy Committee to report House Bill 4001, a bill that would phase out the state's personal income tax over the next several decades, is a bad deal for children, youth and families in Michigan.

Significantly cutting this major revenue source for the state is an extremely dangerous proposal that would result in a dramatic reduction of available state funds every year – funds that are needed to support our schools; health and mental health services; early childhood education, child care, before and after-school and summer programs; services that protect the most vulnerable children and youth through the child welfare and foster care system; and many other evidenced practices that make our state's families and communities stronger.

Governor Snyder strongly rebuked this idea in his budget presentation last week, but Legislators have made it clear that the House will work in the appropriations process to come up with cuts to address the lost revenue – losses beginning at \$680 million in the current fiscal year, rising to fully \$1.1 billion in the following year. Passage of this tax cut proposal would end the Governor's promising start to the budget season.

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Michigan's Children is the only statewide independent voice working to ensure that public policies are made in the best interest of children from cradle to career and their families. Our emphasis is on influencing public policies that close equity gaps and ensure that the children and youth who face the most challenges have the supports they need to succeed in school and life. By working to reform public policy, we improve the odds for all children, and support the work of those who provide services that help individual children overcome the odds. For more information about Michigan's Children, email Matt Gillard, matt@michiganschildren.org or visit michiganschildren.org.