

Weathering the Storm:

A Look Back of the Snyder Era: Legislative Battles & Victories 2011 -2018

Political Makeup

2011-2012	<i>Snyder's' First Term Begins</i> 63 Republicans – 47 Democrats House 26 Republicans – 12 Democrats Senate
2013-2014	59 Republicans – 51 Democrats House 26 Republicans – 12 Democrats Senate
2015-2016	<i>Snyder is Re-Elected</i> 63 Republicans – 47 Democrats House 26 Republicans – 11 Democrats Senate
2017-2018	63 Republicans – 46 Democrats House 26 Republicans – 10 Democrats Senate

How We Win

<i>Rallies:</i>	February 2011	PA312
	December 2013	RTW
	March 2015	Cancer Presumption
	December 2016	Pension Fight #1
	November 2017	Pension Fight #2

Committee Hearings: We have testified countless times on many issues. We have not only had President Docherty Testify but members of the union interested in various bills.

Lobbying: Lobbying takes many forms which don't specifically include your lobbyist. We have lobbied the legislature through attending coffee hours in the legislators' districts, inviting them to the fire station, meeting them in their legislative offices in Lansing, lobbying them while they are in session, Fire Ops 101, hosting legislative days at the Capitol and MPFFU committee members using their time in Lansing to attend session and speak to their legislators.

Legislation We Defeated, We Protected, We Wrote

2011-2012

Legislation We Defeated:

- HB 4052 – Prohibit the use of public property, facilities, services, emails for labor activities.
- HB 4054 – Creates Right to Work Zones
- HB 4059 – Prohibit paid release time for union officers to conduct union business.
- HB 4060 – Limits the Average Final Compensation to 55% of employees base wage.
- HB 4205 – Repeal of PA 312
- HB 4588 – Prohibit a public employer from collecting union dues from public employees.
- HB 5023 – Expands classes of public employees subject to penalties for engaging in a strike.
- HB 5025- Requires Annual Written Consent of the employee for deduction of union dues from wages.
- SB 704 - Modifies remedies for mass picketing.
- SB 879 - Authorizes a residency requirement for certain public employees.

Legislation We Protected:

- HB 4309-4312 - Introduced on February 23, 2011 Governor signed on December 15, 2011
 - Bills revise contracts under the Intergovernmental and Urban Cooperation Act and the Municipal Emergency Services Act.
 - MPFFU ensured that collective bargaining agreements were protected until new CBA's were negotiated.

- HB 4522 – Introduced on April 13, 2011 Governor signed July 27, 2011
 - Reformed PA 312
 - MPFFU saved PA 312 from elimination
 - MPFFU ensured Fire Authorities and District would have the protection of PA 312.

- HB 5002 – Introduced on September 22, 2011 Governor signed on December 28, 2011
 - Reformed the Workers Compensation Act
 - MPFFU protected compensation for mental disabilities (PTSD)
 - MPFFU restored the Heart/Lung Presumption
 - MPFFU preserved pension payments from being reduced arbitrarily
 - MPFFU lowered the number of days you must wait to see your doctor.

- SB 7 – Introduced on January 19, 2011 Governor signed on September 28, 2011
 - Bills would require public employees from paying no more than 80% of an employee's medical benefits.
 - MPFFU amended bills to ensure that employees/communities had option which included an Opt Out clause/or a hard cap.

Legislation We Protected: 2011-2012 cont.

SB 8 – Introduced on January 19, 2011 Signed by the Governor on December 28, 2011

- Bill would allow for two or more entities to enter a joint endeavor.
 - MPFFU protected a locals' ability to bargain the impact of a consolidation.
 - MPFFU protected against the automatic privatization of EMS in a consolidation.

SB 493 – Introduced on June 16, 2011 Governor signed on December 28, 2011

- Bill would make it a prohibitive subject of collective bargaining the decision to consolidate.
 - MPFFU removed provisions that would allow for a consolidated unit to renegotiate contracts that had not expired.

SB 1056-1072 & HB 6022-6026 – Introduced on April 19, 2011 Governor signed on December 27, 2012

- Bills would eliminate the personal property tax paid by businesses on their commercial or industrial property.
 - MPFFU secured the Essential Services Assessment on businesses which guarantees 100% replacement revenue for police and fire services.

Legislation We Wrote:

SB 194 & HB 4293 – Signed by the Governor on December 28, 2011 PA 256 & 257

- This legislation created the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act.
- It provides a stable funding source of training dollars for fire fighters.
- Training dollars increased from \$200,000 to over \$2,000,000 per year.
- Since 2012, the FFTC has received over \$16M from the fireworks fee.

SB 409 – Signed by the Governor on December 31, 2011 PA 597

- This legislation created an exemption for fire fighters and police officers that did not receive social security from paying a portion of the pension tax.

2013-2014

Legislation We Defeated:

HB 4201 – Prohibits taxpayer funded equipment, supplies and facilities to be used for union political activities.

HB 4537 – Prohibits capturing millage for police and fire pensions and other purposes.

HB 4508 – Prohibit defined benefit retirement plan from collective bargaining in certain situations.

HB 4980 – Requires a response time protocol for cities that serve more than 500,000 people.

HB 4983 – Requires that there is a written agreement between medical control authority and private Agencies

HB 4984 – Modify the procedure to determine closest public safety vehicle to request of services.

HB 5065 – Provides part-time licensure for advance life support ambulance service.

Legislation We Defeated: 2013-2014 cont.

HB 5454 – Provide for licensure of part-time advanced life support.

HB 5571 - Prohibit the renewal of existing voter approved 10-year millage.

HB 5642 – Modify the building code to exclude certain uses of buildings. Allows for barns to be used for Events.

HB 5706 – Prohibit the collection of fees for emergency police or fire services at motor vehicle accidents.

HB 5723 – Repeal the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act.

SB 885 - Authorize development of enhanced protocols and provide for other general amendments of Medical control.

SB 944 - Residency requirement for public employees.

Legislation We Wrote:

HB 5097 – Signed by the Governor on October 22, 2014 PA 322

- Allows for an exemption for fire fighters and police officers to continue receiving step wage increases when contracts are expired.

SB 211 – Signed by the Governor on December 31, 2014 PA 515

- Creates a cancer presumption for fire fighters

SB 235 – Signed by the Governor on November 7, 2013 PA 150

- Allows nationally certified fire inspectors to be registered as electrical and mechanical inspectors for the purpose of inspecting fire safety systems and plan reviews.

2015-2016

Legislation We Defeated:

HB 4199 – Prohibit severance pay for public employees.

HB 4311 – Clarifies authority of public sector unions.

HB 4312 – Extends RTW to police and fire.

HB 4630 – Repeals notice requirements in advertising for replacements of striking workers.

HB 4643 – Modifies remedies for mass picketing.

HB 5000 – Modify definition of building in building code to exclude barns.

HB 5438 – Requires only base pay as part of calculation for pension.

HB 5578 – Dark stores.

HB 5829 – Prohibit exclusive clause in labor agreements for public sector unions.

SB 215 - Provides exception for cities with population greater than 500,000 for prohibition of residency Requirement for public employment.

SB 280 - Prohibits public employer contracts that pay union officials for conducting union business.

Legislation We Defeated: Pension

HB 6074 – Create new Local Government Retirement Act.

HB 6075 – Expand reporting requirements of a local unit of government retirement system.

HB 6076 – Exclude retirement plans and HSAs from 312 awards.

HB 6077 – Make certain retirement plan and health care retirement plans prohibited subjects of collective

Bargaining.

HB 6078 – Provide for retirement health benefits for township employees subject to the Local Unit of Government Retirement Act.

HB 6079 - Provide for paying retiree health benefits from interest earned on a local unit of government retirement system subject to the Local Unit of Government Retirement Act.

HB 6080 – Provide for retirement health benefits subject to the Local Unit of Government Retirement Act.

HB 6081 – Make the retirement health benefits under a retirement system established by a county board of commissioners subject to the Local Unit of Government Retirement Act.

HB 6082 - Make the retirement system established by a library board subject to the Local Unit of Government Retirement Act.

HB 6083 - Make the retirement health benefits under a retirement system established by a city subject to the Local Unit of Government Retirement Act.

HB 6084 – Provide for retirement health benefits for charter county employees subject to the Local Unit Of Government Retirement Act.

HB 6085 - Make the retirement health benefits offered under the municipal employees retirement system subject to the Local Unit of Government Retirement Act.

HB 6086 - Make the retirement health benefits for optional unified form of county government subject to the Local Unit of Government Retirement Act.

Legislation We Protected:

SB 372 - Signed by the Governor on December 1, 2015 PA 203

- Bill provides for fire fighter reciprocity
 - MPFFU ensured that fire fighters from other state were required to prove they have Fire Fighter I and II Certification.

Legislation We Wrote:

HB 4209 – Signed by the Governor on September 22, 2016 PA 281

- Requires licensing of medical marijuana dispensaries. A fee required to be licensed will provide a stable funding source the First Responders Presumed Coverage Fund. Estimates are \$5-6M per year.

HB 5006 – Signed by the Governor on April 12, 2016 PA 74

- Designated a portion of I-496 the “Lansing Firefighter Dennis E. Rodeman Memorial Freeway”

Legislation We Wrote: 2015-2016 cont.

HB 5294 – Signed by the Governor on June 29, 2016 PA 268

- Appropriates \$3M to the First Responders Presumed Coverage Fund

SB 218 – Signed by the Governor on October 18, 2016 PA 284

- Provides for survivor benefits for public safety officers killed in the line of duty for their surviving spouse and dependents.

SB 427 – Signed by the Governor on November 30, 2015 PA 209

- Expanded the “Good Samaritan” law to include licensed emergency services provider.

SB 444 – Signed by the Governor on March 16, 2016 PA 40

- Provides for Critical Incident Stress Management services, prohibits disclosure of confidential communications and provides immunity from liability.

SB 833 – Signed by the Governor on January 3, 2017 PA 405

- Ensures fireworks funds are used for fire fighter training.

2017-2018

Legislation We Defeated: Pension/OPEB

HB 5298 – Creates the Protecting Local Government Retirement & Benefits Act.

HB 5299 – Provides for the creation of the financial management team.

HB 5305 – Subject county employee retirement health benefits to the Protecting Local Government Retirement & Benefits Act.

HB 5307 – Provide for paying retiree health benefits from interest earned on a local unit of government Retirement system.

HB 5309 – Subject retirement health benefits for optional unified form of county government to the Protecting Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act.

HB 5311 – Prohibit the issuance of certain bonds after a certain date.

HB 5312 – Exempt the financial management teams and retirement stability board from the Open Meetings Act.

SB 685 - Provides for the creation of a financial management team.

SB 695 - Subject police and fire retirement health benefits to the Protecting Local Government and Retirement Benefits Act.

Legislation We Protected: Pension/OPEB

Introduced on November 30, 2017 and Signed by the Governor on December 28, 2017

SB 686 – Created the Local Government and Benefits Act.

SB 688 – Revises the reporting requirements for local government retirement systems.

Legislation We Protected: Pension/OPEB 2017-2018 cont.

- SB 691 – Subjects retirement health benefits established by a county board of commissioners to the Local Government and Benefits Act.
- SB 692 - Subjects retirement health benefits for optional unified form of county government to the Local Government and Benefits Act.
- SB 694 – Provide for paying retiree health benefits from interest earned on a local government retirement system.
- SB 696 – Subjects township employees to the Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act.
- SB 699 – Exempts the financial management teams and retirement stability board from the incompatible offices act.
- HB 5301 – Subjects reciprocal unit to the Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act.
- HB 5304 - Subjects charter county employees to the Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act.
- HB 5306 - Subjects police and fire retirement health benefits to the Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act.
- HB 5308 - Subjects the library retirement systems to the Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act.
- HB 5310 – Allows revocation of a municipality’s election to participate in MERS and make subject to the Protecting Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act.
- HB 5313 – Subject city employee retirement benefits to the Protecting Local Retirement and Benefits Act.

27 bills were introduced on November 30, 2017 and 13 were signed by the Governor

MPFFU amended these bills to reflect only the recommendations of the Governors Task Force on Responsible Retirement Reform.

MPFFU ensured the following issues were part of the legislation:

- A “one size fits all” solution to retiree benefit funding problems is inappropriate and that the state needs to collect reliable and consistent data from each municipality to identify specific problems and design appropriate solutions.
- It is critical to meet the current needs of local government to provide essential public services while honoring commitments made to those that have provide those services in the past.
- Collaboration with stakeholders including labor, is essential. Collective bargaining should not be impaired in fashioning solutions to funding problems.
- Communities with the most serious retirement funding problems should be addressed first. Significant funding problems built up over decades take time to repair.

Legislation we Protected:

HB 5217 – Introduced on November 2, 2017

- Bill would require use of a ground ambulance for patient unless medically necessary.
 - MPFFU amended the legislation to ensure that the EMS provider in the field was protected to make appropriated decisions for the patients.

HB 5456 – Introduced on January 30, 2018 and signed by the Governor on April 2, 2018

- Creates the Asbestos Transparency Act
 - MPFFU protected the timeframe to file a claim.
 - MPFFU protected the process against attorneys delaying action.

Legislation We Wrote:

HB 4160 – Signed by the Governor on August 16, 2017 PA 112

- Allows for roadway solicitation on behalf of charitable or civic organization.

HB 4396 – Signed by the Governor on November 2, 2017 PA 149

- Amends the Income Tax Act to provide an increased tax deduction for retirement income to a specific group of retirees who were not covered by the federal Social Security system.

SB 264 – Signed by the Governor on November 7, 2017 PA 144

- Reformed PA 291 and updated the administration of the Fire Fighters Training Council Act.

SB 265 – Signed by the Governor on November 7, 2017 PA 145

- Modified the administration of the Michigan Fireworks Safety Fund.

Lobbying the Departments and Administration

Treasury:

- Fought and overturned directive to use CGAP grants to fund PSOs.
- Met routinely with the State Treasurer and locals regarding the communities that were under state control.

Department of Natural Resources:

- Worked with the DNR to allow for retired state fire fighters to come back to work without losing their pensions.

Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs:

- Stopped the LARA leadership from taking fireworks dollars which are supposed to for training directed by the FFTC from being used to fund other divisions of the Department.

- Stopped an attempt to eliminate MIOSHA Part 74 and was able to expand to require more training.
- Work with the Workers Compensation Director to ensure members have the best opportunity to have claims accepted and paid by the First Responders Presumed Coverage Fund.

Department of Health & Human Services:

- State passed a law which would assess a Quality Assurance Assessment Program (QAAP) on all transporting agencies. Worked with the Department leadership to make sure that it did not put fire-based EMS out of business and helped to bring \$1.5M to the fire services through increased Medicaid funding.
- Stopped the push to reduce the number of dispatch centers to only 12 statewide.
- Work with the MPFFU EMSCC committee members to ensure compliance with existing rules.

Governors' Administration:

- Worked with the Governor to stop the pension discussion in December 2016 and developed the Task Force for Responsible Retirement Reform.
- Stopped CGAP funding from being used to fund the conversion to PSO departments.
- Coordinated efforts to help consolidation between community fire departments.
- Worked closely with the Governors' legal counsel on many legislative issues.