



1. Michigan government is rated in the bottom 5 states for openness. There has been legislation introduced in Lansing that would subject elected members of the House and Senate and the Governor's office to expanded openness under the Freedom of Information Act and the Legislative Open Records Act. Will you support legislation that subjects elected leaders to more openness?

Yes, our government works for the people. As such, the people should have the right to use FOIA to not only see what their government is doing, but to hold their elected leaders accountable.

2. Do you believe newspapers serve an important role in your community regarding keeping citizens informed of important local government actions and other community events (i.e. obituaries, school news, engagements etc.)?

Yes, local news sources serve a vital role in keeping their communities informed, whether through print, online, or other forms of media.

3. Have you had experience dealing with the Freedom of Information and Open Meetings laws in Michigan? If yes, please explain.

Yes, as a former public defender and as an assistant prosecutor for Muskegon County I have submitted FOIA requests on many occasions. As a member of the White Lake Community Library Board, I've dealt with

Currently, Michigan law requires many official activities and statements such as notices of upcoming elections, zoning changes and possible millage increases to be published in local newspapers. The purpose behind this law is to provide as much notice to the public as possible of government actions that will take place or are planned to take place. Newspaper publication also serves as a permanent record of governmental actions, serves an important due process function and helps assure that information received by the public is unfiltered, reliable and independent of governmental influences. Legislation being considered in Lansing would remove the requirement for publication of government actions in local newspapers and instead, require these public notices to be placed on the state, city or township government web sites. Please answer the following questions with the above statements in mind:

4. Do you feel that providing public notices of governmental actions in a printed newspaper is important to Michigan citizens? **Yes** or No
5. Would you oppose or support legislation to end newspaper publication of public notices? **Oppose** or Support

Name: Brian Hosticka District 91 Party Democrat