Michigan Council of Chapters (MOAA)
Legislative Affairs Committee — HB 5280 Advocacy

Objective Advance a revised version of Michigan House Bill 5280 (2025) to exempt USPHS and NOAA Corps active duty and retirement pay from Michigan income tax, creating parity with other uniformed services.

The revision to the current version of the bill would amend section 30(1)(e)(iv) to read: "(iv) Beginning January 1, 2026, **compensation, including** retirement or pension benefits, received for services as a commissioned officer in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps or the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps."

Committee of Jurisdiction: Michigan House Committee on Government Operations
Status: Referred to committee (Nov 2025); no hearings or votes to date

Priority Targets

- **Chair (Decision Maker):** Rep. Brian BeGole (Republican) District-71
- 👉 *ASK:* Schedule a hearing
  👉 *MESSAGE:* "Simple, low-cost parity fix for the uniformed services"
- **Majority Vice Chair (Influencer):** Rep. Mike Harris (Republican) District-52
  👉 *ASK:* Support movement in committee
  👉 *MESSAGE:* "Extends existing military tax fairness to all uniformed services"
- **Minority Vice Chair (Bipartisan Support):** Rep. John Fitzgerald (Democrat) District-83
  👉 *ASK:* Support bipartisan advancement
  👉 *MESSAGE:* "Fairness issue, not partisan"
- **Key Members (Target with Constituent Outreach)**
  - Rep. Curtis VanderWall (Republican) District-102
  - Rep. Mike McFall (Democrat) District-14

Key Facts (Use Consistently)

- Affects ~350–600 Michigan residents (USPHS + NOAA, est.)
- Minimal fiscal impact (~<$1M annually, likely less after deductions)
- Parity issue — all are federally recognized uniformed services
- Aligns with Michigan's 2026 retirement tax reforms

30-Second Talking Points

- "HB 5280 is a **narrow parity fix**"
- "Small population, **minimal cost**"
- "Ensures **equal treatment of all uniformed services**"
- "Consistent with Michigan's move toward **retirement tax relief**"

Recommended Actions (Next 30–60 Days)

1. **Chair Outreach:** Request hearing (top priority)
2. **Targeted Emails/Calls:** Committee members (constituent-based)
3. **Council Coordination:** Align messaging across all 4 chapters
4. **Prepare 1-page brief:** Leave-behind for legislative offices

Strategic Note: This bill is not facing opposition—it lacks visibility.