

The question being on the passage of the bill, the objections of the Governor to the contrary notwithstanding, Rep. Frederick moved that the bill be re-referred to the Committee on Education.
The motion prevailed.

The following veto message from the Governor was received and read:

Executive Office, Lansing, July 20, 2021

Michigan House of Representatives
State Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Representatives,

As you know, federal pandemic unemployment compensation will end of its own accord on September 4, 2021. **Enrolled House Bill 4434** would violate federal law by ending payment of these enhanced UI benefits without the required thirty days' notice. In addition, the bill lacks immediate effect and would therefore not even take effect until 2022, by which time it will be moot. For those reasons, I am vetoing it. Moreover, ending these enhanced UI benefits on July 31, as proposed by HB 4434, would drain \$1.5 billion from our economy – money that will instead flow into our local economies and support small businesses.

I am laser-focused on jumpstarting Michigan's economic recovery. Michigan's economy grew 7.6% in the first quarter of 2021, the best in the Midwest, higher than the national average, and among the top 10 states nationwide. An independent analysis from the financial publication Credible found that our economic recovery is the second strongest nationwide. Strong fiscal management combined with our economic rebound has helped our state turn a projected \$3 billion deficit into a \$3.5 billion surplus, leading the top credit rating agencies to upgrade Michigan's credit outlook, saving taxpayers millions.

Across the entire country, employers are struggling to find workers to meet their needs. With our economy growing quickly, many workers are leaving for higher-paying jobs, leaving staffing challenges in their wake. And many workers who could have filled those open positions have understandable reservations – about leaving their kids without adequate care during a nationwide childcare shortage, and about the risk of working in-person during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To help address the childcare shortage, I have proposed spending more than \$1.4 billion to support working families and help employers meet their workforce needs. In addition, we should take this opportunity to make Michigan's maximum weekly UI benefits comparable to that of our neighbors. When federal pandemic unemployment compensation ends, weekly UI benefits will revert to a maximum of \$362 a week – less than \$19,000 a year, well below the federal poverty level for a family of four. That's just not enough money for a family to keep food on the table and a roof over their heads.

In summary, I am open to discontinuing the enhanced UI benefit early if this Legislature swiftly allocates federal funding for childcare and raises the UI benefit commensurate with that of neighboring states.

Sincerely,
Gretchen Whitmer
Governor

The question being on the passage of the bill, the objections of the Governor to the contrary notwithstanding, Rep. Frederick moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Government Operations.
The motion prevailed.

By unanimous consent the House returned to the order of

Second Reading of Bills

Pending the Second Reading of

House Bill No. 4912, entitled

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending sections 16215, 16283, 16286, 16287, 16288, 18802, 18805, 18811, 18812, and 18814 (MCL 333.16215, 333.16283, 333.16286, 333.16287, 333.16288, 333.18802, 333.18805, 333.18811, 333.18812, and 333.18814), section 16215 as amended by 2019 PA 140, sections 16283, 16286, and 16288 as added by 2016 PA 359, section 16287 as amended by 2017 PA 22, section 18802 as amended by 2000 PA 22, section 18805 as amended by 1982 PA 353, section 18811 as amended by 2006 PA 406, and section 18812 as amended by 1982 PA 337, and by adding sections 18811a, 18818, 18819, and 18829; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

Rep. Frederick moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Rules and Competitiveness.

The motion prevailed.