



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY  
LT. GOVERNOR

December 27, 2018

Michigan Senate  
Michigan House of Representatives  
State Capitol Building  
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Today I am returning House Bills 5325 and 5720 to you without my approval. The bills would have amended the statute dealing with principal shopping districts, business improvement districts, and business improvement zones, to allow for those local economic development entities to levy special assessments against certain residential real property.

PSDs, BIDs, and BIZs perform a critical function in revitalizing our core commercial and downtown areas. One of the tools they use is levying special assessments on certain real property in order to undertake projects that benefit the relevant area.

While I appreciate the goal of expanding the properties against which special assessments can be levied, I believe this issue merits further discussion and consideration, including whether it is appropriate for residential taxpayers to be assessed in this manner. With that in mind, I am vetoing House Bills 5235 and 5720 so that the legislature and next administration can have a more thorough discussion about this issue.

Sincerely,

Rick Snyder  
Governor