

(MI-07) Message #1 Backup

Tom Barrett said he is “100 percent” against legal abortion with “no exceptions,” even to save the life of the woman. Barrett wrote a bill to make abortion a crime in Michigan and put women and doctors in prison, and now he wants to pass a national ban on abortion, even in cases of rape and incest, overruling Michigan’s constitution.

Tom Barrett Said He Is “100 Percent” Against Legal Abortion With “No Exceptions,” Even To Save The Life Of The Woman. Barrett Wrote A Bill To Make Abortion A Crime In Michigan And Put Women And Doctors In Prison, And Now He Wants To Pass A National Ban On Abortion, Even In Cases Of Rape And Incest, Overruling Michigan’s Constitution.

Tom Barrett Said He Is “100 Percent” Against Legal Abortion With “No Exceptions,” Even To Save The Life Of The Woman.

Barrett Said He Was “100% PRO-LIFE — NO EXCEPTIONS.” “State Sen. Tom Barrett, R-Charlotte, who is in a tough race to try to knock off U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin, D-Holly, in a toss-up district that includes Lansing, has been sending out fundraising flyers calling himself ‘100% PRO-LIFE — NO EXCEPTIONS.’” [Detroit Free Press, [5/4/22](#)]

Barrett Wrote A Bill To Make Abortion A Crime In Michigan And Put Women And Doctors In Prison,

Barrett’s Resolution Called For Enforcement Of “All Laws Regulating Or Limiting The Practice Of Abortion Until Such Time That Complete Legal Protection Is Restored To Unborn Children In Michigan,” Including An 1846 State Law. “Whereas, The state of Michigan has a long and unbroken history of protecting unborn children. Michigan has continuously had a law prohibiting abortions in effect since 1846, as currently found in section 14 of the Michigan Penal Code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.14. While the United States Supreme Court case Roe v. Wade limits the enforcement of Michigan’s abortion prohibition, it continues to be the policy of the state of Michigan to proscribe abortions; and Whereas, The people of Michigan have expressed their objection to abortions when presented with opportunities to change it. [...] Resolved by the Senate, That we affirm the right to life of every unborn child in this state and our support for the legal protection for each unborn child codified in section 14 of the Michigan Penal Code; and be it further Resolved, That we exhort the Attorney General, all law enforcement officials, and state regulatory personnel to enforce all laws regulating or limiting the practice of abortion until such time that complete legal protection is restored to unborn children in Michigan.” [Michigan State Legislature, SR 0008, adopted [1/28/21](#)]

Under 1846 State Law, Physicians Who Performed Abortions Would Face Up To One Year In Jail And Fines. “Michigan’s ban on abortion except when the mother’s life is at risk was written into the state’s original set of laws in 1846. Its language and punishment were modernized in 1931. Both versions are below. 1846: ‘Every person who shall willfully administer to any pregnant woman any medicine, drug, substance or thing whatever, or shall employ any instrument or other means whatever, with intent hereby to procure the miscarriage of any such woman, unless the same shall have been necessary to preserve the life of such woman, or shall have been advised by two physicians to be necessary for that purpose, shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment in a county jail not more than one year, or by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by both such fine and imprisonment.’” [WILX, [8/15/18](#)]

Michigan’s 1846 State Law Was Updated By A 1931 Law, Which Was “One Of The Most Extreme Laws In The Country.” “Michigan’s pre-Roe law, which followed a similar 1846 law, makes it a four-year felony to use an instrument or administer any substance with the intent to abort a fetus unless necessary to preserve the woman's life. It has no exceptions in cases of rape and incest, and Whitmer has said Michigan would have ‘one of the most extreme laws in the country.’” [ABC News, [5/3/22](#)]

- **1931 Legislation Also Made It A Misdemeanor To Sell Abortion Drugs In Michigan.** “Michigan has had laws on the books since 1846 criminalizing abortion. The Michigan law, as revised in 1931, would make it a felony for a medical provider to perform an abortion unless it is necessary to preserve the life of the mother. The law also makes it a misdemeanor to sell abortion drugs in Michigan.” [Bridge MI, [5/3/22](#)]

Under Michigan’s 1931 Abortion Ban, Doctors Who Assist In Abortions And Pregnant People Who Used Medication For Self-Abortions Could Face Felony Charges And Up To Four Years In Prison. “A law passed in Michigan in 1931 that bans abortions has been unenforceable since 1973 when the Supreme Court ruled on Roe v. Wade. [...] Under this law, almost all abortions would be considered a felony with a possible penalty of up to four years in prison. Both doctors who assist in abortions and pregnant people who use medication for self-abortions could be charged.” [Michigan Radio, [6/24/22](#)]

Michigan’s 1931 Abortion Ban Did Not Grant Exceptions In Cases Of Rape Or Incest. “A law passed in Michigan in 1931 that bans abortions has been unenforceable since 1973 when the Supreme Court ruled on Roe v. Wade. [...] The law — one of the strictest in the country — does not grant exceptions in cases of rape or incest. It does grant exceptions to ‘preserve the life’ of the mother, however, experts aren’t sure exactly what that means.” [Michigan Radio, [6/24/22](#)]

And Now He Wants To Pass A National Ban On Abortion, Even In Cases Of Rape And Incest, Overruling Michigan’s Constitution.

And Now He Wants To Pass A National Ban On Abortion, ...

Barrett Said He Would Review Federal Legislation To Restrict Abortion. “Barrett said it's long been his position that Roe was decided incorrectly. If it's struck down, he favors returning the issue to the states over federal legislation to restrict abortion, though he'd review such a bill, he said.” [Detroit News, [5/25/22](#)]

Barrett Did Not Support Exceptions For Abortion In Cases Of Rape Or Incest. “Barrett confirmed he doesn't favor exceptions in cases of rape or incest but said in an interview that preserving the life of the mother is important: ‘I consider pro-life to be pro-life for the mother, as well.’ ‘Rape is a terrible, terrible offense. No one is defending that,’ Barrett said. ‘This is simply a fundamental recognition that human life is worth protecting, especially the most vulnerable.’” [Detroit News, [5/25/22](#)]

Barrett: “Ashley And I Have Been Involved In The Pro-Life Movement Our Entire Lives And As An Elected Leader, I Will Always Work To Protect Life From Conception.” “I am a Christian and I believe our elected leaders have a responsibility to represent the values our faith teaches. Protecting individual rights includes protecting the unborn. Ashley and I have been involved in the pro-life movement our entire lives and as an elected leader, I will always work to protect life from conception.” [Tom Barrett for Congress, archived [5/5/22](#)]

... Even In Cases Of Rape And Incest, ...

Barrett Said He Was “100% PRO-LIFE — NO EXCEPTIONS.” “State Sen. Tom Barrett, R-Charlotte, who is in a tough race to try to knock off U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin, D-Holly, in a toss-up district that includes Lansing, has been sending out fundraising flyers calling himself ‘100% PRO-LIFE — NO EXCEPTIONS.’” [Detroit Free Press, [5/4/22](#)]

When Asked If A Girl Who Was Raped By Her Uncle Should Be Forced To Carry The Pregnancy To Term, Barrett Said He Was “Pro-Life.” HOST: “If someone is raped by say, an uncle, so you’ve got a case of rape and incest, you believe that girl should take that child to term?” BARRETT: “Devin, as I’ve said consistently from the beginning, I am pro-life.” [YouTube, WDIV, [9/25/22](#)] (VIDEO) 9:52

Barrett Introduced Legislation To Ban Second-Trimester Abortions “As A Felony Carrying A Two-Year Prison Term For Providers In Michigan, With No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest.” “She called Barrett an ‘extremist’ because he doesn’t support exceptions for rape or incest, and for legislation he introduced to ban second-trimester abortions (dilation and evacuation procedures) as a felony carrying a two-year prison term for providers in Michigan, also with no exceptions for rape or incest.” [Detroit News, [5/25/22](#)]

- **Barrett Said Including Exceptions To Obtain A Dilation And Evacuation Abortion Apart From Protecting The Life Of The Mother – Such As Rape Or Incest – Were Not “Medically Necessary.”** BARRETT: “Right, that is the alternative point of view. However, we did provide an exception in the bill that would allow a doctor to intervene to protect the life of a mother, so if the life of the mother is at risk and a doctor has to intervene, they are able to intervene in whatever way they feel is necessary to protect the life of the mother and the standard we applied was a reasonable medical judgment by the physician and we actually had an abortion doctor come to our committee in the Senate and testify that she was opposed to that language and I asked this doctor at what point in her practice did she not use reasonable medical judgment and she could not answer that question, and again I made this point that if we can’t protect women with a reasonable medical judgment then absolutely we are not giving them the quality of health care that they would need. This bill has within it protections to allow for that intervention to protect the life of the mother, but short of that – for other reasons that a woman may decide to try and obtain this procedure, we did not feel that was medically necessary.” [YouTube, Sen. Tom Barrett, [5/5/19](#)] (AUDIO) 3:23

2019: Barrett Co-Sponsored Legislation That Banned Abortions After A Fetal Heartbeat Could Be Detected. In June 2019, Barrett co-sponsored SB 357, which was “A bill to require testing for a fetal heartbeat before the performance of an abortion; to place certain requirements and restrictions on the performance of an abortion if a fetal heartbeat is detected; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state and local governmental officers and entities; and to prescribe penalties and provide remedies. [...] Sec. 3. (1) Subject to subsection (2), before performing an abortion on a pregnant woman, a person shall determine whether a fetal heartbeat is detectable in the unborn living human being the pregnant woman is carrying. The person shall record in the pregnant woman’s medical record the estimated gestational age of the unborn living human being, the method used to test for a fetal heartbeat, the date and time of the test, and the result of the test. [...] Sec. 6. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person shall not knowingly perform an abortion on a pregnant woman who is carrying an unborn living human being whose fetal heartbeat has been detected under section 3.” [Michigan State Legislature, SB 357, introduced [6/5/19](#)]

- **Barrett’s Bill Did Not Provide Exceptions For Rape Or Incest.** “It is not a violation of subsection (1) if any of the following apply: (a) The person performing the abortion is a physician who performs a medical procedure that, in the physician’s reasonable medical judgment, is designed or intended to prevent the death of the pregnant woman or to prevent a serious risk of the substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function of the pregnant woman. A physician who performs a medical procedure described in this subdivision shall declare in writing that the medical procedure is necessary, to the best of the physician’s reasonable medical judgment, to prevent the death of the pregnant woman or to prevent a serious risk of the substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function of the pregnant woman. In the document, the physician shall specify the pregnant woman’s medical condition that the medical procedure is asserted to address and the medical rationale for the physician’s conclusion that the medical procedure is necessary to prevent the death of the pregnant woman or to prevent a serious risk of the substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function of the pregnant woman. The physician shall place the document in the pregnant woman’s medical record and shall maintain a copy of the document in the physician’s own records for at least 7 years after the date the document is created.” [Michigan State Legislature, SB 357, introduced [6/5/19](#)]
- **Barrett’s Bill Would Put Doctors Who Performed Abortions In Prison For Up To Four Years.** “Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4), a person who violates this section is guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than 2 years or more than 4 years.” [Michigan State Legislature, SB 357, introduced [6/5/19](#)]

Politico: Barrett “Supports A Ban On Abortion With No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest.” “Another prominent example of website-scrubbing was uncovered recently in Michigan by The Detroit News. State Sen. Tom Barrett, the GOP nominee challenging Democratic Rep. Elissa Slotkin in a top swing district, removed a section of his campaign site that touted his opposition to abortion. Barrett told the Detroit News that he didn’t know why the website was updated but that his position had not changed: he still supports a ban on abortion with no exceptions for rape or incest.” [Politico, [8/30/22](#)]

... Overruling Michigan’s Constitution.

Vox: A National Abortion Ban Would Supersede State Laws Meant To Protect Abortion Access. “The repeal of Roe v. Wade left the United States with a patchwork of state laws governing abortion. In parts of the South, someone seeking an abortion would need to travel hundreds of miles to get one. But a national ban would supersede even permissive state laws in states that have been working to expand access to abortion.” [Vox, [6/25/22](#)]

HEADLINE: “Proposal 3: Michigan Voters Approve Abortion Rights Initiative.” [Detroit News, [11/9/22](#)]

HEADLINE: “Michigan Voters Approve Amendment Adding Reproductive Rights To State Constitution.” [NPR, [11/9/22](#)]

HEADLINE: “Michigan Votes To Put Abortion Rights Into State Constitution.” [Politico, [11/9/22](#)]

(MI-07) Message #2 Backup

Tom Barrett took thousands from Big Pharma lobbyists and his campaign was bankrolled by half a million dollars from Big Pharma's allies, and he voted to let drug companies have near absolute immunity when they sell defective and dangerous drugs. His vote means patients hurt and killed by defective medicine causing heart problems and other NON opioid drugs can not hold drugmakers responsible.

Tom Barrett Took Thousands From Big Pharma Lobbyists And His Campaign Was Bankrolled By Half A Million Dollars From Big Pharma's Allies, And He Voted To Let Drug Companies Have Near Absolute Immunity When They Sell Defective And Dangerous Drugs. His Vote Means Patients Hurt And Killed By Defective Medicine Causing Heart Problems And Other NON Opioid Drugs Can Not Hold Drugmakers Responsible.

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Tom Barrett Took Thousands From Big Pharma Lobbyists ...

William Saraille Contributed \$5,800 To Tom Barrett For Congress And Barrett Brigade Victory Fund. [FEC, accessed [6/5/24](#)]

- **William Saraille Was Listed As A Lobbyist For Eli Lilly And Company Through Sidley Austin LLP.** [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure, Sidley Austin LLP Lobbying Report 2012 Q1, [4/20/12](#)]
- **William Saraille Was Listed As A Lobbyist For Purdue Pharma L.P. Through Sidley Austin LLP.** [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure, Sidley Austin LLP Lobbying Report 2010 Q1, [4/20/10](#)]
- **William Saraille Was Listed As A Lobbyist For Johnson & Johnson Through Sidley Austin LLP.** [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure, Sidley Austin LLP Lobbying Report 2009 Q2, [7/16/09](#)]

Andrew Keiser Who Worked At Navigator Global Contributed \$2,000 To Tom Barrett For Congress. [FEC, accessed [6/5/24](#)]

- **Andy Keiser Was Listed As Lobbyist For Emergent BioSolutions Inc. Through Navigator Global LLC.** [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure, Navigators Global LLC Lobbying Report 2023 Q1, [4/20/23](#)]
- **Andy Keiser Was Listed As A Lobbyist For Johnson & Johnson Services, Inc Through Navigators Global LLC.** [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure, Navigators Global LLC Lobbying Report 2023 Q3, [10/20/23](#)]

... And His Campaign Was Bankrolled By Half A Million Dollars From Big Pharma's Allies,

2022: Congressional Leadership Fund Spent \$619,500 In Support Of Barrett's Campaign. [FEC, Congressional Leadership Fund, Spending, accessed [6/26/24](#)]

Congressional Leadership Fund Was The Sister Super PAC Of American Action Network. “Conston serves as President of American Action Network, as well as their sister super PAC, Congressional Leadership Fund, the super PAC endorsed by House GOP Leadership.” [American Action Network, Accessed [8/20/22](#)]

In The 2022 Cycle, American Action Network Has Given \$28,130,742.26 To Congressional Leadership Fund. [FEC, Congressional Leadership Fund, Accessed [8/20/22](#)]

American Action Network Was Bankrolled By The Pharmaceutical Research And Manufacturers Of America, The Largest U.S. Pharmaceutical Trade Association. “The American Action Network is pouring millions of dollars into a TV, digital advertising and phone campaign attacking House Democrats’ proposal to lower prescription drug costs. H.R. 3, the legislation championed by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), would let Medicare negotiate lower prices for prescription drugs and set a \$2,000 maximum for out-of-pocket spending. Only two Republicans voted in favor of the bill when it passed the House in 2019. The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, the largest U.S. pharmaceutical trade association, gives millions of dollars to AAN annually and donated \$4.5 million in 2019 — PhRMA’s top political donation that year. The association, as well as the pharmaceutical industry at large, vehemently opposes H.R. 3.” [Center For Responsive Politics, [5/13/21](#)]

- **The Pharmaceutical Research And Manufacturers Of America Gave \$4.5 Million To American Action Network In 2019 And Donated Millions Of Dollars Annually.** “The American Action Network is pouring millions of dollars into a TV, digital advertising and phone campaign attacking House Democrats’ proposal to lower prescription drug costs. H.R. 3, the legislation championed by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), would let Medicare negotiate lower prices for prescription drugs and set a \$2,000 maximum for out-of-pocket spending. Only two Republicans voted in favor of the bill when it passed the House in 2019. The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, the largest U.S. pharmaceutical trade association, gives millions of dollars to AAN annually and donated \$4.5 million in 2019 — PhRMA’s top political donation that year. The association, as well as the pharmaceutical industry at large, vehemently opposes H.R. 3.” [Center For Responsive Politics, [5/13/21](#)]
- **The Pharmaceutical Research And Manufacturers Of America Was The Largest U.S. Pharmaceutical Trade Association.** “The American Action Network is pouring millions of dollars into a TV, digital advertising and phone campaign attacking House Democrats’ proposal to lower prescription drug costs. H.R. 3, the legislation championed by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), would let Medicare negotiate lower prices for prescription drugs and set a \$2,000 maximum for out-of-pocket spending. Only two Republicans voted in favor of the bill when it passed the House in 2019. The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, the largest U.S. pharmaceutical trade association, gives millions of dollars to AAN annually and donated \$4.5 million in 2019 — PhRMA’s top political donation that year. The association, as well as the pharmaceutical industry at large, vehemently opposes H.R. 3.” [Center For Responsive Politics, [5/13/21](#)]
- **PhRMA Represented The Largest U.S. Drug Makers.** “In anticipation of a legislative push, the

Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), the trade association representing the country's largest drug makers, increased dues for member companies by 50% in 2016 in order to raise an additional \$100 million that could be used in a drug pricing battle." [Citizens For Responsibility & Ethics In Washington, [6/18/18](#)]

PhRMA's \$4.5 Million Contribution to AAN Was Their Top Political Donation In 2019. "The American Action Network is pouring millions of dollars into a TV, digital advertising and phone campaign attacking House Democrats' proposal to lower prescription drug costs. H.R. 3, the legislation championed by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), would let Medicare negotiate lower prices for prescription drugs and set a \$2,000 maximum for out-of-pocket spending. Only two Republicans voted in favor of the bill when it passed the House in 2019. The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, the largest U.S. pharmaceutical trade association, gives millions of dollars to AAN annually and donated \$4.5 million in 2019 — PhRMA's top political donation that year. The association, as well as the pharmaceutical industry at large, vehemently opposes H.R. 3." [Center For Responsive Politics, [5/13/21](#)]

And He Voted To Let Drug Companies Have Near Absolute Immunity When They Sell Defective And Dangerous Drugs. His Vote Means Patients Hurt And Killed By Defective Medicine Causing Heart Problems And Other NON Opioid Drugs Can Not Hold Drugmakers Responsible.

Detroit News: Michigan's "One-Of-A-Kind" Product Liability Act Granted Pharmaceutical Companies "Nearly Absolute Immunity From Lawsuits Filed By Consumers And Has Kept The State Of Michigan From Suing Over Dangerous Or Deadly Drugs." "A one-of-a-kind law is likely to prevent Michigan communities and the state from winning lawsuits to reclaim the millions of dollars they've spent fighting the opioid epidemic, legal experts say. The 1995 Michigan Product Liability Act grants pharmaceutical companies nearly absolute immunity from lawsuits filed by consumers and has kept the state of Michigan from suing over dangerous or deadly drugs. Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette was then a state senator who co-sponsored the bill, but now says he is open to reconsidering the law." [Detroit News, [6/15/18](#)]

Michigan's Senate Bill 961 Would Repeal A Provision Of The Product Liability Act That Provided Near Absolute Immunity From Lawsuits For Defective Or Dangerous Products. "Senate Bill 961 will repeal a provision of the Product Liability Act, a law Michigan adopted in 1995, that provides immunity for drug manufacturers. By increasing accountability, Sen. Irwin's bill will also improve the safety of drugs. [...] Under Michigan's current Product Liability Act, a drug is not considered defective or unreasonably dangerous, and the manufacturer and seller cannot be liable in a product liability suit if that drug was approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). It is the nation's strictest product liability law and grants pharmaceutical companies near absolute immunity from lawsuits." [Office Of State Sen. Jeff Irwin, Press Release, [3/18/22](#)]

Mar. 15, 2022: Michigan Senate Democrats Offered A Series Of Amendments To HB 5570, A Gas Tax Suspension Bill, That Included Changes To Drug Company Laws. "Michigan senators on Tuesday approved a six-month suspension to the state's 27-cent-per-gallon gas tax. The proposal, HB 5570, would eliminate the motor fuel tax beginning April 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022. The suspension would be applicable to gasoline, diesel, and alternative fuels. [...] Democrats offered a series of amendments to the bill that were all voted down by Republicans. The changes ranged from everything from \$250 gas tax relief checks, to changes to auto insurance and drug company laws." [MLive, [3/15/22](#)]

- **Detroit Free Press: Democrats Said The Amendments Were "Valid Ideas That Republicans Refuse To Bring Up In Any Other Forum."** "The bill approved Tuesday would roll back the state gas tax through September, the end of the financial year. Earlier in the day, an analyst from the nonpartisan Senate Fiscal Agency told lawmakers the measure would cost the state roughly \$750 million in tax revenue and save the average driver in the state about \$75. [...] Democrats tried to add in several potentially massive changes, including sweeping protections against price gouging and efforts to tie the fate of this measure to future reforms to the state's no-fault auto insurance laws — a no-go for Republicans. Democrats fired back, saying those are valid ideas that Republicans refuse to bring up in any other forum." [Detroit Free Press, [3/15/22](#)]

March 15, 2022: Barrett Voted Against An Amendment To HB 5570 That Would Have Prevented The Bill From Taking Effect Unless SB 961 Was Enacted Into Law. In March 2022, Barrett voted against: “Senator Irwin offered the following amendment: 1. Amend page 6, following line 7, by inserting: ‘Enacting section 1. This act does not take effect unless the Senate Bill No. 961 of the 101st Legislature is enacted into law.’.” [Michigan Senate, Roll Call No. 82, [3/15/22](#)]

(MI-07) Message #3 Backup

Tom Barrett voted for massive tax hikes on working people. He voted for a nearly sixty percent gas tax hike, voting to tie the gas tax to inflation so taxes go up even more while inflation is soaring.

Tom Barrett Voted For Massive Tax Hikes On Working People. He Voted For A Nearly Sixty Percent Gas Tax Hike, Voting To Tie The Gas Tax To Inflation So Taxes Go Up Even More While Inflation Is Soaring.

2015: Barrett Voted For Michigan House Bill 4738 To Increase The Michigan State Gas Tax From 19 Cents Per Gallon To 26.3 Cents Per Gallon And To Increase The State Diesel Tax From 15 Centers Per Gallon To 26.3 Centers Per Gallon. In November 2015, Barrett voted for: “To concur with the Senate-passed version of this bill, which would increase the state gasoline tax from 19 cents per gallon to 26.3 cents per gallon starting in 2017, and after that index the amount to inflation. Also, to increase the state diesel tax from 15 cents to the same 26.3 cents per gallon level, and increase this with inflation too.” The bill passed the Michigan State House by a vote of 55-52. The bill was signed into law on November 10, 2015. [[H.B. 4738](#), Roll Call #405, Michigan Legislature, Journal of the House, [11/3/15](#); Mackinac Center for Public Policy, H.B. 4738, House Roll Call 405, accessed [4/1/24](#)]

2015: Barrett Voted To Increase The Gas Tax From 19 Cents To 26.3 Cents. “How legislators voted on the two main roads bills [...] Raising the gas tax from 19 cents to 26.3 cents In the House: 55-52 Voting YES Chris Afendoulis, R-Grand Rapids Twp. Tom Barrett, R-Potterville [...] On the 20% hike in vehicle registration fees In the House: 54-53 Voting YES Chris Afendoulis, R-Grand Rapids Twp. Tom Barrett, R-Potterville....” [Detroit Free Press, [11/5/15](#)]

- **2015: Barrett Voted For A Bill That Tied The State’s Gas Tax To Inflation Beginning In 2022.** “No-new-tax Republicans banded together to narrowly pass Michigan’s first fuel tax and vehicle registration fee increases in decades, a move Democrats eagerly hope voters will remember in 2016 and after. [...] Republicans counter that inaction on the state’s most pressing issue, crummy and deteriorating roads, was not an option. Gasoline and diesel taxes also will go up in 2017, by 7.3 cents and 11.3 cents respectively, with automatic yearly inflationary increases beginning in 2022. Freshman Rep. Tom Barrett, R-Potterville, who represents a Lansing-area swing district, said the net \$400 million increase in taxes and fees is far less than a proposed \$1.8 billion hike in taxes and fees included in a ballot measure proposed by the previous Legislature, which voters handily rejected in May. ‘To walk away from the table and do nothing and vote no - take an easy vote and say, ‘No, I’m not going to tolerate something that’s not my perfect idea’ - would be to have our infrastructure continue to deteriorate,’ said Barrett, who contended that waiting would have meant even higher taxes and fees later on. ‘I came here to make tough decisions. People are either going to trust me that I worked to get the best deal that I could out of this, or they’re not.’ [CBS News, [11/8/15](#)]
- **Michigan Capitol Confidential – Headline: “Just In Time For 2021 Inflation Spike, Michigan Gas Tax Getting Cost-Of-Living Increase.”** [Michigan Capitol Confidential, [8/14/21](#)]

January 1, 2024: The Michigan Gas Tax Rose To 30 Cents A Gallon From 28.6 Cents Due To A 5% Increase Tied To Inflation. “The Michigan Department of Transportation is launching a survey to gather resident feedback on potential replacements for the state gas tax. Residents can offer comment on ways to sustainably fund roads, bridges and other transportation in the state through March 1 on MDOT’s new online survey. The state gas tax

generated \$1.19 billion in revenue in fiscal year 2023, which is 4% more than the \$1.14 billion in revenue the tax generated seven years ago. On Jan. 1, the state motor fuel tax rose to 30 cents a gallon from 28.6 cents, a 5% increase tied to the rate of inflation that the tax is required to be increased by annually. Michigan's gas tax increased 7 cents per gallon in 2017 to 26 cents per gallon under a 2015 road funding law, and the tax has risen annually through an inflationary increase built into the 2015 road plan." [Detroit News, [1/31/24](#)]