

Detroit Regional Chamber Discourages Proposed Trash Fee



Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce logo. (PRNewsFoto)

DETROIT, MI USA 08/03/2004

Website

Company Archive

DETROIT, May 16 /PRNewswire/ -- Democrats from the Michigan House of Representatives will draw attention to imported trash today with a series of press conferences featuring the "Trash-o-Meter." The meetings are intended to gain momentum for proposals to increase tipping fees for all landfills in Michigan. The Detroit Regional Chamber opposes these proposals. Our analysis has shown that the collection and distribution of the fees will provide a negative return to Southeast Michigan. Additionally, the fees in the legislation are not directly tied to trash reduction.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20000703/DRCLOGO>)

"The current House and Senate proposals to increase tipping fees do not demonstrate any decrease in current trash disposal by residents or non-residents," said Sarah Hubbard, Detroit Regional Chamber vice president of Public Affairs. "Meaningful trash reduction should analyze trash streams, not revenue streams."

Both the Senate and House proposals (SB 256 and HB 4758) would increase tipping fees to \$7.50 per ton of trash. Distribution of the collected fees include: 40 percent to non-specified environmental projects, 50 percent to participating local governments and 10 percent to recycling programs. Many out-of-state contracts include pre-emptive clauses against fee increases.

Both proposals to impose a tipping fee are saddled with flawed distribution systems and neither will actually increase our recycling rate or deter out-of-state trash. The Chamber would like to work with the Legislature and other interested groups to find a solution that will increase our recycling and boost our economy.

The Detroit Regional Chamber is the leading business organization in the region and the largest metro chamber of commerce in the country with more than 21,000 members. The Chamber's mission -- to power the economy for Southeast Michigan -- is carried out through business attraction efforts, public policy advocacy, strategic partnerships and quality products and services for members.

For more information, contact Melissa Roy at (313) 596-0409 or e-mail: mroy@detroitchamber.com

SOURCE Detroit Regional Chamber

Web Site: <http://www.detroitchamber.com>

Photo Notes: NewsCom:

<http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20000703/DRCLOGO> PRN Photo

Desk; photodesk@prnewswire.com

Company News On Call: Company News On-Call:

<http://www.prnewswire.com/comp/373550.html>

