## K-16 Coalition Dwindles to K-14; Who Drops Out Next? Asks Coalition to Stop the K-16 Spending Mandate

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The Coalition to Stop the K-16 Spending Mandate, a growing alliance of over 35 taxpayer, local government, law enforcement, and healthcare organizations, today applauded the Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan for withdrawing from the K-16 Coalition for Michigan's Future.

"We commend the Presidents Council for withdrawing their support of the K-16 guaranteed spending mandate," said Chief Ervin Portis, Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police. "We agree with Presidents Council Executive Director Mike Boulus that ballot proposals that threaten the general fund are a bad idea."

Earlier this week, the Presidents Council told Gongwer News Service that they were pulling out of the K-16 Coalition for Michigan's Future.

"This sends a clear message that the state universities agree accountability is important," said Tricia Kinley, Director of Tax Policy and Economic Development for the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Coalition to Stop the K-16 Spending Mandate. "What isn't clear is where the Michigan Community College Association stands on the proposal," Kinley noted. "Their representatives have indicated they are a member of the spending coalition ... but remain neutral on the proposal.

"Proponents might want to consider renaming their coalition the K-12 and Community College Coalition for Michigan's Future," remarked Kinley.

"Now that the Presidents Council has withdrawn from the K-16 spending coalition, they are eligible to join our Coalition to Stop the K-16 Spending Mandate, a growing body of individuals and organizations who also believe in accountability and the legislative process," said Portis.

For more information on the K-16 spending proposal, visit the Web site of the Coalition to Stop the K-16 Spending Mandate at <a href="http://www.stopthespendingmandate.com/">http://www.stopthespendingmandate.com/</a>.

MEMBERS OF THE COALITION TO STOP THE K-16 SPENDING MANDATE (AS OF 4/19/06)

Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce Brandt Coultas, (734) 214-0101

Conference of Western Wayne Helen Foster, (734) 953-8834

Concerned Taxpayers Group of Livingston County Bill Johnston, (517) 546-4642

Detroit Regional Chamber Sarah Hubbard, (517) 372-2278

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce Jared Rodriguez, (616) 771-0359

Health Care Association of Michigan Kim Ringlever, (517) 627-1561

Kalamazoo Regional Chamber of Commerce Marty Dodge, (269) 381-4000

Life Insurance Association of Michigan Larry Kish, (517) 482-7058

Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police

Chief Ervin Portis (517) 788-4127

MI Assoc of Community Mental Health Boards Scott Dzurka, (517) 374-6848

Michigan Association of Counties Tom Hickson, (517) 372-5374

Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs Dan Hagen, (989) 213-6641

Michigan Association of Health Plans Christine Shearer, (517) 371-3181

Michigan Association of Home Builders Dawn Crandall, (517) 322-0224

Michigan Association for Local Public Health Mark Bertler, 485-0660

Michigan Association of REALTORS ® Bill Martin, (517) 372-8890

Michigan Business & Professional Association Bonnie Bochniak, (517) 374-9128

Michigan Chamber of Commerce Tricia Kinley, (517) 371-7669

The Michigan Food & Beverage Association Bonnie Bochniak, (517) 374-9128

Michigan Grocers Association Linda Gobler, (517) 372-6800

Michigan Health & Hospital Association David Finkbeiner, (517) 703-8601

Michigan Licensed Beverage Association Lance Binoniemi, (517) 374-9611

Michigan Catholic Conference Paul Long, (517) 372-9310

Michigan Distributors And Vendors Association Polly Reber, (517) 372-2323

Michigan Municipal League Arnold Weinfeld, (517) 485-1314

Michigan Oil And Gas Association Frank Mortl, (517) 487-1092

Michigan Osteopathic Association Doug Borruso, (517) 347-1555

Michigan Railroads Association Robert Chaprnka, 482-9413

Michigan Restaurant Association Andy Deloney, (517) 377-3931

Michigan Retailers Association Eric Rule, (517) 372-5656

Michigan Soft Drink Association Bill Lobenherz, (517) 371-4499

Michigan Townships Association David Bertram, (517) 321-6467

Midland Area Chamber of Commerce

Sid Allen, (989) 839-9522

Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Fran Toney, (734) 453-1540

Police Officers Association of Michigan Ken Grabowksi, (313) 937-9000

Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan KC Steckelberg, 334-6060

Small Business Association of Michigan Paul Bukowski, (517) 482-8788

Wayne County Taxpayers Association Rose Bogaert, (313) 278-8383

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CONTACT: Betty McNerney of Michigan Chamber of Commerce,

+1-517-371-7663

Web site: <a href="http://www.michamber.com/">http://www.stopthespendingmandate.com/</a>

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