

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Rev. James L. Demus III

773-619-9248

Ministers Encourage Michigan House Members to Reject Phone Tax

CHICAGO, IL - The following statement can be attributed to Reverend James L Demus III, founder and co-director of the Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide (MAADD):

“The Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide is dismayed at the recent actions by the Michigan House Appropriations Committee to impose a new tax on phone bills for programs not related to 911 services. If approved, this action will result in a regressive tax that hurts low income minorities and seniors on fixed incomes the most.”

“Instead of imposing more financial hardship on the most vulnerable Michigan consumers, Michigan House members should support the Senate’s bipartisan plan that will reduce phone bills for millions of consumers while protecting the integrity of 911 services. Unlike the House plan, the Senate version will actually provide financial relief to many families that struggle to make ends meet.”

“Therefore, MAADD respectfully urges Michigan House members to oppose Senate Bill 410 and Senate Bill 411 as passed by the House Appropriations Committee.”

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The Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide (MAADD) is a 15,000+ member civil rights organization led by ministers that is devoted to bridging the digital divide between those who have ready access to technology and those who do not.