

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Ministerial Alliance Praises Michigan House of Representatives for Voting to Promote Real Competition Against the Cable Monopoly

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

“The Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide commends the Michigan House of Representatives for their overwhelming bipartisan support of House Bill 6456 which will help deliver true competition and lower prices to Michigan consumers. By passing this measure, we are now one step closer to freeing local consumers from the shackles of the cable’s industry’s monopoly control, which is denying Michigan consumers nearly \$2 million per day in potential savings on their cable bills.

The House approval of this measure is a big win for Michigan consumers, but we must remain vigilant against future special interest efforts to weaken this legislation when it is debated in the State Senate. We respectfully urge members of the State Senate to build upon this momentum and swiftly pass House Bill 6456 in its current form to ensure consumers can soon enjoy the tremendous benefits that come with competition: lower prices, more choices and better service.

We are grateful to House Speaker DeRoche, current House Democratic Leader Byrum, Speaker-elect Dillon and House Committee Chairman Nofs for their diligent, bipartisan efforts to craft a fair compromise that will provide real benefits to Michigan consumers. These outstanding legislators set aside their ideological differences to do what is right for the people of Michigan – protecting consumers by prohibiting “redlining” practices, for keeping municipal revenues whole and for preserving access to PEG programming.”

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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.