

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 6, 2006

**Contact: Rev. James L. Demus III**

773-619-9248

## **Michigan State Senate Government Operations Committee Gets “Kudos” from Ministerial Alliance 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 State Senate Government Operations Committee for the prompt passage of House Bill 6456. By passing this measure, we are now closer to delivering true competition to Michigan consumers and freeing them from the shackles of the cable industry’s monopoly control.

“With the opportunity for lower rates, better service and more choice within the grasp of Michigan consumers, it is clear that the Senate Committee approval of this measure is a big win for the people of the state of Michigan. We are grateful to Senate Majority Leader and Committee Chairman Sikkema, and the members of the Senate Government Operations Committee for their hard work in quickly passing this important pro-consumer legislation. However, it is important that we remain vigilant against future special interest efforts to thwart this legislation in the final days of this Lame Duck Session.

“Therefore, we respectfully urge members of the full State Senate and Governor Granholm to swiftly pass and sign House Bill 6456 into law. Michigan needs to put an end to the monopoly that the large cable providers enjoy at the expense of consumers, and this legislation will do just that.”

###

*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.*