

STATE SENATOR • TUPAC A. HUNTER • 5TH DISTRICT

Hunter Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug 30, 2007

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Hunter Neighborhood Improvement Authority Bill Headed to Governor

Act will promote "quality homes, stable neighborhood, and jobs"

LANSING - Senator Tupac Hunter (D-Detroit) praised the Senate's final passage today of his Senate Bill 69, which will establish the "Neighborhood Improvement Authority Act." The bill allows municipalities to create neighborhood improvement authorities within certain geographical locations to stimulate housing and other economic development. The bill has passed the House and is expected to be signed by the Governor.

"In the midst of our current budget crisis, it is imperative that we continue to find ways to promote policies like this that encourage economic security for families and businesses," said Senator Hunter. "This bill allows cities like Detroit to continue our ongoing efforts to improve the face of urbanized areas."

The Neighborhood Improvement Authority Act authorizes a city to create a neighborhood improvement authority under certain circumstances. It will create an authority board comprised of a city's chief executive officer and other individuals of the CEO's choosing. The board will have the power to plan and propose the construction or rehabilitation of a wide variety of improvement projects, including houses, plazas and parks, recreational facilities, sidewalk repair and buildings. Funding for the authority will be provided through tax-increment financing as well as any other public or private charitable donations.

"As the challenging times continue for Detroit and for our state, we must continue to invest in Michigan to change the momentum," Hunter said. "Quality homes and stable neighborhoods along with good jobs will attract people to come and to stay in Michigan."

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Sen. Hunter represents the 5th district, which is comprised of northwest Detroit, Dearborn and Inkster. He serves as Minority Vice Chair of the Banking & Financial Institutions and the Homeland Security & Emerging Technologies Committees. He is also a member of the Commerce & Tourism and the Economic Development & Regulatory Reform Committees.