UPDATES ON PREVIOUSLY REPORTED BILLS - As of 08/06/2025

State Property Sales & Land Use

Bill: MI HB4090

Introduced By: Representative Alabas Farhat (D-3)

Committee: Government Operations

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 02/19/2025, Referred To Second Reading (on 05/08/2025), Crossed Over, Transmitted (on 05/14/2025), Referred To Committee On Local Government (on 05/20/2025), Referred To Committee Of The Whole (on 06/11/2025), NEW ACTION - Referred To Committee On Economic And Community Development (on 07/29/2025)

Relevancy: The bill is relevant to the auction industry as it allows the sale of state-owned property through various methods, including competitive bidding and public auction. If the City of Detroit does not purchase the property, the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget can auction or sell the land, aiming to secure the best value for the state.

Bill: MI HB4135

Introduced By: Representative Sarah Lightner (R-45)

Committee: Appropriations

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 02/26/2025, House Appropriations (09:00:00 5/14/2025 Room 352, State Capitol Building) (on 05/14/2025), Referred To Second Reading (on 05/21/2025), Referred To Committee On Local Government (on 06/10/2025), **NO NEW ACTION**

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it outlines the potential sale of state-owned land in Jackson County through methods like competitive bidding or public auction. If Jackson County doesn't purchase the property, auctioneers could be involved in managing the auction process to ensure the land is sold at the best possible price. The auction would need to comply with specific restrictions, such as the property being used for public purposes, and auction professionals would play a key role in ensuring these terms are met while maximizing revenue for the state.

Bill: MI HB4233

Introduced By: Representative Gina Johnsen (R-78)

Committee: Government Operations

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 03/12/2025, Crossed Over, Transmitted (on 05/06/2025), Referred To Committee On Government Operations (on 05/13/2025), NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry, particularly for auctions involving agricultural land. It prohibits foreign entities from purchasing farmland in Michigan, with some exceptions, and requires existing foreign landowners to register their property. Auction houses dealing with agricultural land sales may need to adjust their processes to ensure compliance with the new regulations, particularly when foreign buyers are involved. Auctions for agricultural land may be impacted if foreign entities seek to acquire property in violation of the law, potentially leading to legal action or the land being seized and resold.

Bill: MI HB4234

Introduced By: Representative Luke Meerman (R-89)

Committee: Government Operations

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 03/13/2025, Crossed Over, Transmitted (on 05/06/2025), Referred To Committee On Government Operations (on 05/13/2025), Passed By House With Immediate Effect (on 05/22/2025), NO NEW ACTION Relevancy: This bill is highly relevant to the auction industry, particularly for auctions involving agricultural land or real property near military installations or key facilities in Michigan. It restricts foreign entities from purchasing or owning such land, particularly from countries deemed to be national security risks. Auction houses involved in the sale of agricultural or real property in these areas will need to ensure compliance with these new restrictions, including verifying the ownership of potential buyers. Failure to adhere to the registration requirements or violations of the divestment provisions could lead to significant legal consequences, including fines and the forfeiture of property.

Bill: MI SB0010

Introduced By: Representative Joe Bellino (D-14)

Committee: Government Operations

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 03/18/2025, NO

NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry, particularly for auctions involving farmland. It prohibits foreign governments, state-sponsored enterprises, and individuals acting on their behalf from purchasing farmland in Michigan, with some exceptions. Auction houses dealing in agricultural land sales will need to ensure compliance with these new restrictions, especially when foreign buyers are involved. Existing foreign landowners can retain their property but cannot acquire more, which could impact future land sales and auctions. Auctions for agricultural land may need to verify buyer eligibility and be prepared for potential legal challenges if foreign entities attempt to purchase farmland in violation of the new law.

Business & Corporate Taxation

Introduced By: Representative Greg VanWoerkom (R-88)

Committee: Finance

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 02/25/2025, NO

NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it outlines the possibility of selling state-owned property through various methods, including competitive bidding and public auction. Specifically, the bill authorizes the sale of about 96 acres of land in Detroit, with the potential for the property to be auctioned off if the City of Detroit doesn't exercise its option to purchase it.

Bill: MI HB4144

Introduced By: Representative Steve Carra (R-36) **Committee:** Transportation and Infrastructure

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 02/26/2025, NO

NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry as it increases Michigan's corporate income tax rate from 6.0% to 8.5% starting January 1, 2025. Auction businesses that are structured as corporations will face a higher tax burden. Additionally, the bill changes how tax revenue is allocated, directing funds to housing and education initiatives, which could indirectly affect the business environment. The revised rules for calculating taxable income may also impact the way auction houses determine their tax liability.

Bill: MI HB4186

Introduced By: Representative Steve Carra (R-36) **Committee:** Transportation and Infrastructure

Current Status & Last Action: Transmitted 03/19/2025, Crossed Over, Senate Appropriations (13:00:00 4/16/2025 Harry T. Gast Appropriations Room, 3rd Floor, Capitol Building 1) (on 04/16/2025), **NO NEW ACTION**

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry as it significantly alters the business income tax rate in Michigan, raising it from 4.95% to 30% for all business activity starting January 1, 2025. Auction businesses, particularly those with certificated credits, may be affected by the shift in tax structure, as it offers the option to switch from the Michigan Business Tax Act to the Corporate Income Tax Act. This could impact tax planning and compliance for auction houses, especially those with existing tax credits.

Bill: MI HB4387

Introduced By: Representative John Roth (R-104)

Committee: Economic Competitiveness

Current Status & Last Action: House Finance (10:30:00 5/13/2025 Room 521, House Office Building) (on 05/13/2025), Referred To Second Reading (on 05/13/2025), NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because auction businesses operating in areas affected by the March 2025 winter storm may be eligible for tax relief to offset costs related to storm damage and recovery. Auction companies that experienced property damage, equipment loss, or business interruption due to the declared state of emergency could claim the credit for cleanup and restoration expenses. This includes costs for items such as generators and building materials, which are commonly used to maintain or resume auction operations following severe weather disruptions.

Bill: MI SB0301

Introduced By: Senator Joseph Bellino (R-16)

Committee: Finance, Insurance, and Consumer Protection

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee On Finance, Insurance, And Consumer

Protection (on 05/13/2025), NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it would allow auction businesses to claim a tax credit for providing paid leave to employees who become organ donors. It would incentivize auction companies—many of which are small businesses—to adopt leave policies that support employees through the organ donation process without bearing the full financial burden. It would cover up to 12 weeks of paid leave per employee at their full wage, helping auction firms retain valuable staff while demonstrating a commitment to employee well-being. It would also apply to both corporations and flow-through entities, making it accessible to a wide range of auction business structures.

Employee & Small Business Support/Labor

Bill: MI HR0029

Introduced By: Representative Gina Johnsen (R-78) **Committee:** Agriculture and Natural Resources

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee On Agriculture (on 03/04/2025), NO

NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because livestock auctioneers are part of the broader agricultural workforce that can be impacted by changes to wage policies under the H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers Program. By urging Congress to temporarily freeze the Adverse Effect Wage Rate, this resolution reflects concerns about rising labor costs in the agricultural sector—costs that can indirectly affect livestock markets, auction operations, and the overall economic environment in which agricultural auctioneers operate. A stabilized wage rate could help maintain affordability and labor availability for farms and ranches that supply animals to livestock auctions across Michigan.

Introduced By: Representative Denise Mentzer (D-61)

Committee: Select Committee on Protecting Michigan Employees and Small Businesses

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 02/20/2025, NO

NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry as it provides financial assistance to small businesses, including auction houses, impacted by a recent Supreme Court decision. Small businesses with 25 or fewer employees can receive up to \$20,000 to help with costs related to minimum wage increases and paid sick leave. This support can assist auction businesses in managing operational expenses and complying with new labor laws.

Bill: MI HB4322

Introduced By: Representative Regina Weiss (D-5)

Committee: Economic Competitiveness

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 04/16/2025 (on 04/17/2025),

NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because auction businesses often work with a mix of employees and independent contractors, such as part-time auctioneers, clerks, or setup crews. The bill's stricter definition of "independent contractor" and enhanced enforcement mechanisms would require auction companies to reassess how they classify their workers to avoid significant penalties. Misclassification could lead to costly fines, back wages, and damages, so businesses in the auction sector would need to carefully evaluate contracts, job roles, and supervisory practices to ensure compliance with the revised labor standards.

Bill: MI HB4409

Introduced By: Representative Erin Byrnes (D-15)

Committee: Economic Competitiveness

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 04/29/2025 (on 04/30/2025),

NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because auction businesses would be required to develop and maintain detailed written job descriptions for all roles, including auctioneers, clerks, ring personnel, office staff, and equipment handlers. These descriptions would need to be shared during hiring, promotions, and upon employee request, ensuring transparency in responsibilities, qualifications, and compensation. Auction companies would also need to implement procedures for documenting and communicating any changes to job descriptions, which could involve updates to HR practices and staff training to comply with the bill's disclosure and recordkeeping requirements.

Bill: MI HB4433

Introduced By: Representative Jaime Greene (R-65)

Committee: Economic Competitiveness

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 05/06/2025 (on 05/07/2025), NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because auction companies that employ individuals who also serve as emergency responders—such as volunteer firefighters or on-call medical personnel—would be required to accommodate their occasional absences due to emergency response duties. Auction businesses, particularly those operating in rural or small communities where dual roles are common, would need to adjust scheduling policies and ensure compliance with notice, documentation, and anti-discrimination provisions outlined in the bill.

Bill: MI HB4453

Introduced By: Representative Carrie Rheingans (D-47)

Committee: Business and Industry

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 05/06/2025 (on 05/07/2025),

NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because auction companies, like other employers, would be required to ensure that employment decisions are not based on employees' lawful off-duty conduct. Since auction staff often work irregular hours or seasonally, this legislation clarifies the boundaries of employer oversight regarding employees' personal time. Auction businesses would need to review hiring, disciplinary, and conduct policies to ensure compliance, especially in cases where off-duty behavior does not directly impact job performance or the company's operations.

Bill: MI HB4456

Introduced By: Representative Erin Byrnes (D-15)

Committee: Business and Industry

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 05/06/2025 (on 05/07/2025),

NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because many auction businesses operate with staff who use company-owned devices and communicate electronically during auctions and day-to-day operations. As employers, auction companies would be subject to the bill's requirements if they choose to monitor work-related communications. This includes establishing a formal monitoring policy, notifying employees, and ensuring that monitoring only occurs on company-owned devices. Auction businesses would need to review and potentially update their workplace policies to comply with the new law, especially those involving internal communication, mobile bidding systems, or remote staff coordination.

Bill: MI HB4490

Introduced By: Representative Joseph Fox (D-101)

Committee: Government Operations

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 05/13/2025 (on 05/14/2025), NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because auction businesses that contract with state agencies—particularly for services such as asset liquidation, surplus property sales, or event management—may be impacted by the new merit-based hiring requirements. Under MI HB4490, companies must attest that they use only objective, merit-based criteria like experience, education, and training when making hiring decisions in order to be eligible for state contracts. Auction firms that rely on state business opportunities will need to formalize and document their hiring practices to comply with the bill's provisions. Failure to do so could result in ineligibility for future contracts, affecting revenue streams and growth opportunities tied to government work. By aligning with these standards, auction businesses not only maintain access to public-sector contracts but also demonstrate a commitment to fair and equitable employment practices.

Bill: MI HB4491

Introduced By: Representative Angela Rigas (R-79)

Committee: Government Operations

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 05/13/2025 (on 05/14/2025),

NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because auction businesses that seek state economic development assistance may now be required to demonstrate merit-based hiring and promotional practices. By mandating that applicants for programs like the Critical Industry Program and the Michigan Strategic Site Readiness Program use objective criteria—such as experience, education, and training—when making employment decisions, the bill introduces new compliance requirements for auction companies pursuing state funding. Auction businesses expanding operations, opening new facilities, or investing in strategic growth projects in Michigan may benefit from these programs, but must now ensure their HR policies align with the bill's standards. This could encourage more formalized hiring procedures within the industry, while also introducing potential legal and financial risks for non-compliance.

Bill: MI HB4516

Introduced By: Representative Rep. Jason Woolford (R-50)

Committee: Economic Competitiveness

Current Status & Last Action: House Economic Competitiveness (10:30:00 6/12/2025 Room 521, House Office Building) (on 06/12/2025), House Economic Competitiveness (10:30:00 6/12/2025 Room 521, House Office Building), NEW ACTION - Referred To Second Reading (on 06/26/2025)

Relevancy: This bill would establish a legal framework in Michigan that prevents state and local governments from banning digital assets, requiring licenses for holding them, or imposing additional taxes solely on their use as payment. This would directly impact the auction industry

by permitting the use of digital assets, such as cryptocurrencies, as a method of payment in auction transactions without additional state or local government restrictions or specific taxes. The bill also protects the underlying blockchain technology, which could be relevant if auction houses explore or implement blockchain-based systems for provenance tracking, secure title transfers, or tokenized assets.

Bill: MI SB0015

Introduced By: Senator Sam Singh (D-28)

Committee: Regulatory Affairs

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 02/20/2025, Senate Regulatory Affairs (10:15:00 2/12/2025 North State Room, Heritage Hall, Capitol

Building 323 W Ottawa S) (on 02/12/2025), NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill impacts the auction industry by modifying Michigan's Earned Sick Time Act, affecting how small and larger businesses, including auction houses, manage sick leave. The changes expand the definition of family members eligible for care and adjust accrual rates for sick time. Small businesses (fewer than 25 employees) can now offer up to 40 paid hours, while larger employers can offer up to 72 paid hours. The bill also increases penalties for non-compliance, which could impact auction businesses' operations if they fail to meet the new sick leave requirements.

Bill: MI SB0326

Introduced By: Representative Rep. Thomas Albert (R-18)

Committee: Government Operations

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee On Government Operations (on 05/21/2025), NEW ACTION - Senate Natural Resources and Agriculture (14:00:00 6/11/2025 Room 1300, Binsfeld Office Building 201 Townsend St, Lansing, M)

Relevancy: This bill would repeal the Community and Worker Economic Transition Act (2023 PA 232), thereby eliminating the state's legal framework and office established to assist workers and communities during economic transitions. The auction industry is involved in the liquidation of assets during business closures and economic restructuring, which are components of economic transitions.

Public Safety & Firearms

Bill: MI HB4025

Introduced By: Representative Natalie Price (D-6)

Committee: Budget and Finance, Justice

Current Status & Last Action: Crossed Over, Referred To Committee On Civil Rights, Judiciary, And Public Safety (on 03/18/2025), NEW ACTION - Senate Civil Rights,

Judiciary, and Public Safety (12:00:00 6/12/2025 Room 1200, Binsfeld Office Building 201 Townsend St, Lansing, M) (on 06/12/2025)

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it affects the taxation of firearm safety devices, which are often sold alongside and with firearms at auctions. Auction houses that handle firearm sales would need to comply with the requirement to inform buyers—both in written form and through signage—that these safety devices are exempt from sales tax.

Bill: MI HB4026

Introduced By: Representative Brad Paquette (R-37)

Committee: Budget and Finance, Justice

Current Status & Last Action: Crossed Over, Referred To Committee On Civil Rights, Judiciary, And Public Safety (on 03/18/2025), NEW ACTION - Referred To Committee On Appropriations (on 06/17/2025)

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it permanently exempts firearm safety devices from Michigan's sales and use tax, impacting how auction houses price and report these items when included in firearm sales. Auctions that involve firearms must now ensure compliance with this law if passed by providing written notices to buyers and prominently displaying signage about the tax exemption. This change would simplify tax procedures for auctioneers by removing the expiration date on the exemption, creating long-term clarity and consistency for sales involving qualifying safety devices.

Bill: MI HB4139

Introduced By: Representative Jim DeSana (R-29)

Committee: Judiciary

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 02/26/2025, NO

NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry, particularly for auctioneers who handle the sale of firearms. It amends Michigan's firearms licensing law by removing references to the now-repealed Extreme Risk Protection Order Act and updating language related to licensing and concealed pistol permits. Auction houses dealing with firearms will need to ensure compliance with these updated regulations, particularly regarding the eligibility criteria for buyers and the disqualifying factors for obtaining a firearm license. Any changes to licensing requirements could impact how firearms are sold at auction.

Bill: MI HB4213

Introduced By: Representative Mike Hoadley (R-99)

Committee: Government Operations

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 03/12/2025, NO

NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry, particularly for auction houses that host events or auctions in venues where firearms may be present. It expands the locations where individuals with concealed pistol licenses can legally carry firearms, removing previous prohibitions in places like sports arenas, bars, hospitals, and college campuses. Auction houses, especially those dealing with firearms or operating in larger venues, may need to reassess their security protocols, as private property owners will be required to have metal detectors and security personnel if they wish to prohibit concealed carry on their premises. This could affect how firearm-related auctions or events are managed.

Bill: MI SB0121

Introduced By: Senator Jonathan Lindsey (R-17)

Committee: Justice

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee On Civil Rights, Judiciary, And Public Safety (on 03/05/2025), NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it could significantly impact how firearms are sold at auction in Michigan by limiting the enforcement of federal firearms regulations at the state and local levels. Auction houses that deal in firearms may face fewer compliance obligations related to federal registration, tracking, or transfer restrictions if this bill becomes law. However, the bill also introduces legal and operational uncertainties, as auctioneers would need to navigate potential conflicts between state and federal law. Additionally, auction companies employing staff involved in firearm transactions must be cautious, as the bill imposes strict penalties on those who attempt to enforce prohibited federal regulations.

Bill: MI SB0224

Introduced By: Senator Dayna Polehanki (D-5)

Committee: Justice

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee On Civil Rights, Judiciary, And Public Safety (on 04/17/2025), NEW ACTION - Referred To Committee On Government Operations (on 06/25/2025)

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it prohibits the sale, offer for sale, or possession of bump stocks in Michigan, directly affecting what auction houses can legally include in their firearm-related inventory. Auctioneers will need to ensure compliance by screening consignments for prohibited devices and excluding bump stocks from auctions to avoid legal liability. Since violations carry felony penalties, including potential imprisonment and fines, this bill raises the stakes for due diligence in firearms auctions and may necessitate updated policies, staff training, and item vetting procedures.

Data Privacy & Consumer Protection

Introduced By: Representative Mike McFall (D-14)

Committee: Judiciary

Current Status & Last Action: In Committee, Bill Electronically Reproduced 03/18/2025, House Judiciary (10:30:00 5/21/2025 Room 521, House Office Building) (on 05/21/2025), NEW ACTION - House Judiciary (10:30:00 6/4/2025 Room 521, House Office Building) (on 06/04/2025), NEW ACTION - Referred To Committee On Finance, Insurance, And Consumer Protection (on 06/26/2025)

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry, particularly for auction houses that deal with the sale of tickets to events, such as sporting events, concerts, or shows. The "Event Online Ticket Sales Act" aims to prevent unfair practices like the use of bots to acquire tickets beyond purchase limits, ensuring fairer access to tickets. Auction houses involved in reselling tickets or managing events may need to adjust their processes to comply with these new regulations, especially regarding the sale and authenticity of tickets.

Bill: MI HB4266

Introduced By: Representative Nancy Jenkins-Arno (R-34)

Committee: Government Affairs

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 03/18/2025 (on 03/19/2025),

NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because while it does not have direct implications except in cases where auctions involve event ticket packages, it signals a broader legislative trend toward regulating "junk fees" and increasing transparency in third-party transactions. The bill's requirements for fee disclosure and clear identification of third-party status parallel concerns that could extend to auctioneers in Michigan—especially as other states have introduced similar consumer protection laws starting with ticketing and expanding to industries like auctions. Auctioneers should be aware that this type of legislation may lay the groundwork for future regulations targeting fee disclosures and business practices within the auction industry.

Bill: MI HB4400

Introduced By: Representative Luke Meerman (R-89)

Committee: Government Operations

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 04/29/2025 (on 04/30/2025),

NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because auction companies that handle the sale or resale of vehicles—particularly equipment auctions, repossession auctions, or auto auctions—would need to ensure compliance with restrictions on vehicles associated with foreign entities of concern. Auctioneers and consignment managers would be responsible for verifying the origin and manufacturing affiliations of vehicles before listing them for sale, as violations could result in substantial fines and vehicle forfeiture. This may require changes to intake

procedures, vendor vetting, and documentation practices to align with the bill's national security-oriented provisions.

Bill: MI HB4511

Introduced By: Representative Rep. Bryan Posthumus (R-90)

Committee: Communications and Technology

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 05/21/2025 (on 05/22/2025),

NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill would establish a legal framework in Michigan that prevents state and local governments from banning digital assets, requiring licenses for holding them, or imposing additional taxes solely on their use as payment. This would directly impact the auction industry by permitting the use of digital assets, such as cryptocurrencies, as a method of payment in auction transactions without additional state or local government restrictions or specific taxes. The bill also protects the underlying blockchain technology, which could be relevant if auction houses explore or implement blockchain-based systems for provenance tracking, secure title transfers, or tokenized assets.

Bill: MI SB0134

Introduced By: Senator Sam Singh (D-28)

Committee: Finance, Insurance, and Consumer Protection

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee On Finance, Insurance, And Consumer Protection 03/06/2025, Senate Finance, Insurance, and Consumer Protection (12:30:00 5/7/2025 Room 1200, Binsfeld Office Building 201 Townsend St, Lansing, M) (on 05/07/2025), Senate Finance, Insurance, and Consumer Protection (09:45:00 5/20/2025 Room 403, 4th Floor, Capitol Building 100 N. Capitol Avenue, La) (on 05/20/2025), Referred To Committee Of The Whole (on 05/21/2025), Referred To Committee On Judiciary (on 6/10/2025), NO NEW ACTION Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it enhances consumer protections against unfair and deceptive business practices, with particular emphasis on protecting vulnerable groups such as elders and vulnerable adults. Auction houses, especially those in the small business category, must ensure that their practices comply with stricter consumer protection regulations. With increased penalties for violations (up to \$50,000 per violation) and expanded powers for the attorney general to investigate and enforce these laws, auctioneers will need to be extra careful in how they advertise, sell, and manage consumer transactions to avoid legal and financial risks.

Bill: MI SB0198

Introduced By: Representative Denise Mentzer (D-61)

Committee: Regulatory Affairs

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee 03/20/2025, NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: While this bill primarily focuses on automobile dealers, it could be relevant to the auction industry if auction houses handle or process similar sensitive data, such as consumer personal information or business operational data. The Motor Vehicle Dealer Data Collection Act establishes strict regulations around how third parties and manufacturers can access, use, and share dealer data. Auction businesses dealing in vehicle sales or related services would need to comply with these protections, ensuring they obtain proper consent for data sharing and are aware of the potential penalties for violations.

Real Estate & Energy Infrastructure

Bill: MI HB4363

Introduced By: Representative Pauline Wendzel (R-39)

Committee: Energy

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 04/22/2025 (on 04/23/2025),

NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because the repeal of the Homeowners' Energy Policy Act could affect property features or energy-related installations—such as solar panels or energy-efficient systems—that are commonly included in real estate auctions. If the original act contained protections or standards related to energy upgrades on residential properties, its removal may impact how these features are valued, disclosed, or marketed at auction. Auctioneers involved in the sale of residential or mixed-use properties may need to stay informed about the regulatory landscape to accurately represent properties and advise clients.

Bill: MI HB4486

Introduced By: Representative Steve Frisbie (R-44)

Committee: Energy

Current Status & Last Action: Bill Electronically Reproduced 05/08/2025 (on 05/13/2025), House Energy (09:00:00 6/3/2025 Room 519, House Office Building) (on 06/03/2025), NEW

ACTION - Referred To Committee On Government Operations (on 07/24/2025)

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because auctioneers who sell real estate may be impacted by local regulations concerning utility access and energy infrastructure. MI HB4486 prohibits municipalities from banning the use or installation of natural gas infrastructure, which helps ensure that properties being auctioned—especially residential, commercial, or industrial real estate—retain access to natural gas regardless of local policy changes. This stability can make properties more marketable to potential buyers who prioritize or require natural gas for heating, cooking, or operations. By preventing local bans, the bill preserves the value and appeal of real estate sold at auction, particularly in areas where natural gas remains a preferred or cost-effective energy source.

Introduced By: Representative Rep. Douglas Wozniak (R-59)

Committee: Judiciary

Current Status & Last Action: House Judiciary (10:30:00 6/11/2025 Room 521, House Office Building) (on 06/11/2025), NEW ACTION - Referred To Second Reading (on 06/25/2025) Relevancy: This bill would amend Michigan's Marketable Record Title Act, impacting land title transactions and the recording of property interests. The bill's provisions, including updated definitions, clarified timeframes for preserving interests (20 years for mineral, 40 years for other), and standardized notice of claims, would establish new parameters for title marketability. For the auction industry, this would mean real estate offered for sale would be subject to these new legal standards for title verification and the extinguishment of certain prior claims.

Bill: MI SB0279

Introduced By: Senator Roger Victory (R-31)

Committee: Economic and Community Development

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee On Economic And Community

Development (on 05/01/2025), NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because auction businesses often navigate complex state and local permitting processes. The creation of the Office of Business Permitting Support would streamline these processes, helping auction companies more efficiently obtain the necessary permits for events, property sales, or business operations. Auctioneers and businesses involved in large-scale auctions could benefit from the office's resources and guidance on compliance, potentially reducing administrative burdens and accelerating the permitting process.

Bill: MI SB0305

Introduced By: Senator Stephanie Chang (D-3)

Committee: Energy and Environment

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee On Energy And Environment (on

05/15/2025), NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it would direct resources toward improving air quality in disadvantaged communities, which could impact real estate values and the marketability of properties sold at auction. MI SB0305 would establish the Air Quality Enforcement and Mitigation (AQEM) fund, which could lead to air pollution mitigation projects—such as filtration systems or vegetative buffers—in areas where industrial or commercial properties are commonly auctioned. It would help improve environmental conditions in these communities, potentially increasing buyer interest and property values over time. It would also incentivize businesses, including those involved in auctions of industrial assets or facilities, to pursue supplemental environmental projects as part of compliance strategies, possibly reducing penalties and enhancing public trust.

Introduced By: Senator Rosemary Bayer (D-13)

Committee: Energy and Environment

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee On Energy And Environment (on

05/15/2025), NO NEW ACTION

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it would affect auctioneers who sell real estate that includes plumbing fixtures or who auction surplus building materials, including plumbing products. It would require clear labeling of any non–lead-free plumbing items, making auction companies responsible for ensuring that listed products comply with disclosure rules if they are reselling or facilitating the sale of such items. This would help protect buyers by providing transparent information about potential health risks and could reduce liability for auctioneers by promoting compliance with consumer protection standards. It would also impact how auctioneers describe and market plumbing-related inventory, especially in auctions involving estate sales, construction surplus, or property liquidations.

Agriculture

Bill: MI SB0302

Introduced By: Senator Sue Shink (D-14) **Committee:** Energy and Environment

Current Status & Last Action: Referred To Committee On Natural Resources And Agriculture

(on 05/13/2025), **NO NEW ACTION**

Relevancy: This bill is relevant to the auction industry because it would expand access to repair tools and information for agricultural equipment, which is frequently bought and sold at farm and equipment auctions. MI SB0305 would make it easier for auction buyers—including farmers, independent mechanics, and resellers—to diagnose and repair used machinery like tractors and combines without relying solely on manufacturer-authorized service providers. This would increase the appeal and value of agricultural equipment sold at auction by reducing long-term maintenance costs and improving post-sale usability. It would also give auctioneers greater confidence when marketing used equipment, knowing buyers will have the means to maintain and repair it independently.