

Rep. LeBlanc offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 259.

A resolution to urge local units of government experiencing financial stress or a financial emergency to use the MiDEAL program for all purchases and with an emphasis on purchasing from Michigan-based businesses.

Whereas, Cities, villages, townships, counties, and school districts are struggling to pay their bills. Following years of declining revenue during one of our state's longest recessions, many of these local units of government are now experiencing, or are precariously close to experiencing, severe financial stress or even a financial emergency; and

Whereas, Local units of government must use every method at their disposal to reduce costs while maintaining vital services. The basic demands on local units of government and essential needs of residents have not changed, but local units cannot rely on an uncertain and potentially unstable revenue stream to meet these needs. In contrast, the cost of providing services is one thing that local units can control with some certainty; and

Whereas, The MiDEAL Extended Purchasing Program offers local units of government an opportunity to take advantage of the state of Michigan's purchasing power to contract for goods and services at a lower cost. MiDEAL allows these local units to obtain the competitive pricing negotiated by the state for goods and services common to all levels of government; and

Whereas, Local units of government may also help rebuild value in the state and local economies by purchasing from Michigan-based businesses through MiDEAL. The state of Michigan gives a preference in purchasing to products manufactured or services offered by Michigan-based firms; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge local units of government experiencing financial stress or a financial emergency to use the MiDEAL program for all purchases and with an emphasis on purchasing from Michigan-based businesses; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan Municipal League, the Michigan Townships Associations, the Michigan Association of Counties, the Michigan Association of School Boards, and the Michigan Association of School Administrators.