

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 14, 2011

Governor Rick Snyder  
P.O. Box 30013  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Snyder,

We are writing to express our concern regarding the state's Emergency Financial Manager law. We are deeply concerned about how this law is igniting tensions in our local communities and dividing our state.

Michigan's strength is its diversity. Throughout our state's history we have thrived when we work together to solve problems. This law runs counter to this cooperative spirit and is sending the wrong message to the rest of the country about what our state stands for.

The impact of Michigan's economic crisis has spared no one. Our families have suffered, our businesses have fought to survive some of the toughest economic times and our urban communities are struggling to deal with historical shifts in population, and the loss of local, state and federal funding. As we work to transform our economy, we cannot leave our urban communities behind.

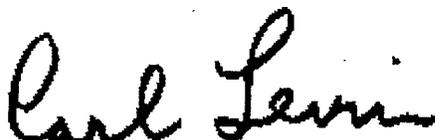
We fully appreciate the seriousness of the fiscal problems facing the City of Detroit and other local governments, and know how challenging it is to find solutions to these problems. However, given what is at stake, we urge you to address the parts of this law that raise serious constitutional questions, and to look for ways that the state can support our cities, rather than intervening in such a troubling manner. We also hope that you oppose any effort by the State Legislature to pass new legislation that would nullify the efforts of an ongoing ballot initiative.

We continue to be ready to work in partnership with you to address the problems facing our state.

Sincerely,



Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



Carl Levin  
United States Senator