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LIVE NOW : Speaker Hall Presser - March 17, 2026

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**DATE**

March 18, 2026

**DURATION**

1h 19m 45s

**2 SPEAKERS**

House Speaker Matt Hall

Reporter

**START OF TRANSCRIPT****[00:27:11] House Speaker Matt Hall**

We probably should have made these bigger. Don't you think? Ethics, accountability, transparency probably should have made it bigger, but bigger letters. Hopefully you can see that on the channel six news. So you think it's big enough, Tim, where they can see that on the channel six news, or will they have to really squint? I don't know. All right. I hope it'll be on there. Um, well, I wanted to, uh, welcome everybody. Got a lot of respected people. Billy's here. He's been doing a great job. Uh, the dean is here. Welcome. Um, David Eggert, and I don't know where you get these scoops, man, but you've been crushing it lately and highly respected. And we know that I'm the newsmaker of the year. It's a consensus position. That's why we don't put it on the podium anymore, because once we got it from Crain's and the Midwesterner, it was over. We knew. We knew it was a consensus position. Um, but I was very excited to learn. Uh, so it is, you know, uh, they call it, uh, what do they call it? Craig sunshine week. It's your favorite week of the year.

**[00:28:25] Reporter**

Got to be one of them, I guess.

**[00:28:26] House Speaker Matt Hall**

See, some people celebrate Saint Patrick's Day, but not Craig. He celebrates Sunshine Week. Is it always fall on Saint Patrick's Day?

**[00:28:36] Reporter**

I. Got involved with it, I don't know.

**[00:28:40] House Speaker Matt Hall**

He doesn't even know when Saint Patrick's Day is because he's so focused on, uh, Sunshine Week. You know, I've never there's no week where Craig's happier. And, uh, and so I was very pleased I received this letter. And you know me. I mean, I am the number one ethics, accountability and transparency legislator probably that you guys have ever covered. And, um, I've done more for ethics, accountability and transparency in the state capital than any leader probably ever. And, uh, we all know the crowning achievement of ethics, accountability, and transparency up here at the Capitol. Something that a lot of people are celebrating during Sunshine Week is heat the Hall ethics, accountability, and transparency plan. Uh, we remember this is forcing the politicians to disclose their pork spending, something that they never did, and they would sneak these things in the budget in the middle of the night. We'd spend hundreds of millions of dollars this way, and then months later we'd find out what was in there. And often it was not a good use of taxpayer money. Uh, so I was very pleased to receive this letter earlier this week, uh, from, I guess what most people consider to be one of the premier, uh, transparency and accountability organizations out there, uh, mi state, the Michigan sunshine. Excuse me. Mi. State. The. Michigan. Sunshine. Transparency. Accountability for. Taxpayer. Expenditures. Organization. Um, is a group of transparency and accountability advocates who have come together to review state legislative activity and conduct and conduct with regard to Michigan government.

**[00:30:32] House Speaker Matt Hall**

And they wrote me earlier this week to tell me, we are pleased to inform you that you have been selected as the sole recipient of our Sunshine Advocate Award. Well, while we reviewed many pieces of legislation and overall legislative activity, we note your advocacy for and passage of the Heat plan. The Hall ethics, accountability and Transparency plan. We view the heat legislation as one of the single most transparent actions of the Michigan Legislature over the last decade. One that will provide sunshine for the Michigan budget for years to come. It is our belief that the heat process will save hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars in the years ahead, and has already caused a fundamental shift in the way state legislators appropriate funds. Congratulations on your tremendous work on behalf of Michigan taxpayers. Wow. You are receiving this Sunshine Advocate Award, but Michigan taxpayers are the real winners. That's from the board of directors of the Michigan Sunshine Transparency, accountability for Taxpayer Expenditures organization. So I understand they're going to present me with an award very soon. We don't have it today for Sunshine Week, but that's big. And I appreciate that the organizations like MI State or you think it's called my state? I don't know, but they apparently they give out an award for sunshine advocates like myself. And I'm very honored that I'm the only one that received this award from them. Um, but it makes sense. I mean, what we did to bring transparency to state government through heat, the Hall ethics, accountability and transparency plan, uh, certainly, certainly the most significant transparency legislation to pass in many years, probably decades and get signed into law.

**[00:32:41] House Speaker Matt Hall**

And that never would have happened without me. I mean, the Democrats were never going to do it. The governor was never going to do it. I made that happen because what we did was we, um, and I'm going to tell them this when I receive their award, what we did is we forced them that they couldn't get the pork unless they did the transparency. And they hated that. And it dragged the budget out. I mean to all the way to September 30th and a little later than that. And then finally, they wanted the pork so bad they agreed to the transparency and the permanent law change. And now everyone will have to have 45 days before they can get a pork project. They've got a list. Who's who's asking for the money? Who's the beneficiary? No corporate, no corporations receiving the money. The organization must exist. And, you know, often the organization would not exist. And they would ask for the money, mostly Democrats. And then once they got your taxpayer money, they would create the organization and then have the taxpayers pay their startup costs. That can't happen anymore. Now the organization must exist. And it's funny, we have to do stuff like that, but we do now.

**[00:33:55] House Speaker Matt Hall**

There must be a public benefit. They have to explain other sources of funding. There has to be Completion date. We have to know when it's going to be complete and we learned much later why that's important. Um, when you put things in the budget without anyone knowing the completion date, uh, and it can get blocked. And we did that in December, we blocked a lot of that wasteful spending and we're saving the taxpayers about \$369 million in the, in the waste, fraud and abuse that we blocked the Witmer administration from spending that's now under preliminary injunction. We're going to get a deal that makes much better use of that money than waste, fraud and abuse, which is where it's going now. That's where the Whitmer administration is proposing to spend it. Most of it at least. Um, we're going to spend that on a lot smarter things to get better value for your tax dollars. Um, and, uh, I think, I mean, heat was remarkable. So we're still working on some other very critical sunshine legislation. We all know about the the Sam Singh Retention Act, which, uh, you know, unfortunately, um, Winnie didn't get it done fast enough. And, uh, we're losing Sam. Something I didn't want to do when I endorsed Darren Camilleri. Uh, but we're losing Sam. And I tried to keep him in by passing this. The Sam Singh retention Act, but, uh, maybe if we still get it done. Um, and I saw your interview, Mr.

**[00:35:31] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Skubick. I think he left the door open. I think he might still be a multi-client lobbyist. That was kind of a, it was a, you know, he left a little wiggle room there. He's like, well, I don't know if I thought about that. You know, I don't know if I've considered that. So we'll see. I think he's still going to try to be a lobbyist. So if we block the if we get the the Sam Singh retention bill passed, we don't ever have to worry about him becoming a lobbyist. But we need to stop this revolving door where the, um, the politicians, they become lobbyists. And we know that some of them become lobbyists while they're politicians. And part of, uh, sunshine week is, uh, shining a light on this. You know, a lot of these guys likely make deals before they leave the legislature. We know the ones that are lobbying while they're in the legislature are certainly making those deals. But I remember in Lame Duck I had to look and say, hey, are any. I hope none of these guys are lobbyists or have deals with lobbyists because I want them voting, you know, after the election, in those critical weeks, I want them voting for their constituents, not for the lobbyists. And fortunately, I think all of our guys were on the up and up. And so we were able to do the walk off, and we were able to do the things that we did in order to stop hundreds of horrible bills that would set Michigan backwards.

**[00:37:01] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Um, but you know, that's something you legitimately have to worry about. And that's why we have to stop the politicians from becoming lobbyists and entering deals to become lobbyists while they're politicians. And then we need a period of at least I believe it's at least two years where they can't be politicians after they leave the legislature. Public service should not be about enriching oneself. So we're working on that. And you saw what Michelle Lange did. She was the Whitmer administration official who recently left as a cabinet official to become a lobbyist. And I suspect many more will become lobbyists or already have deals to become lobbyists and will become lobbyists shortly. And we need to end this revolving door in order to get rid of any fear or concern that these people are entering into deals, to become lobbyists. We're also working on, and I think we'll get that done before the end of the term. I do think we'll get a deal on ending the revolving door. Um, you know, we're working on, uh, stopping the NDAs, the nondisclosure agreements. That's an important part of sunshine. It's probably, uh, probably another reason that I received the award from my state, but, um, you know, we're going to end the NDAs, you know, uh, all these Whitmer administration officials and Democrats entering into NDAs, and then we don't know what they're talking about, and they're bringing in these data centers, and they're bringing in the battery plants and all these things.

**[00:38:39] House Speaker Matt Hall**

We're going to end that. And, um, you know, you look at it, I think the data centers would do much better if they just, uh, if they just, um, worked collaboratively on the front end with their local communities, rather than coming in all secretive and, uh, with NDAs and not telling anybody anything. That's that strategy has not been working. And you see the results of all the uproar in all these local communities. So we're going to end the NDAs. Uh, we're looking forward to that. And then we're working on, uh, requiring a two thirds vote for votes during lame duck. That's an important part of sunshine and transparency. Um, people should be able to vote for politicians based on their record. And the most of that record should occur before the election, not what we see now, which is, I think under the Democrat trifecta, most of the bills, at least it was about half the bills. They tried to move after the election. So they do nothing before the election. And then after the election, they try to move all these bills. And because of brave Democrats like Karen Whitsett, we stopped them from doing that. Um, that doesn't make sense. If you're going to do something, do it before the election, don't wait until after the election and try to ram through more than 50% of the bills. Um, they're there for two years and they try to cram more than probably more than half the bills into the time frame, three weeks, you know, between the election and Christmas or whatever it is, it's ridiculous.

**[00:40:24] House Speaker Matt Hall**

So we're going to end that too. That's going to do a lot for Sun.shine. So I think, um, it's very likely I'll be considered for the My state award next year too, if we get some of these things done. But I'm very grateful to them for giving me their award. Um, just going on to a couple other issues you have, and I try to take this moment to educate the media. So I saw some very fake information coming out from someone that I know. Now I know Ed Noyola and Ed Noyola. He says very good things about me. He's one of the leaders of the County Road Association, I believe. And he, you know, he said very positive things about me and the work that we're doing. You know, we never would have got a roads deal if it weren't for the House Republican majority and myself. Um, we saw nothing happen on roads during Governor Whitmer's first six years until I put a plan on the table and we got it done. And Ed Noyola knows that. But there is someone else who probably is related to Ed Noyola. I don't know this person. Um, never heard of her, but she was trying to say that the clean energy is less expensive, more affordable than the, uh, than the regular energy, the natural gas.

**[00:41:48] House Speaker Matt Hall**

And that's just not true. That's a ridiculous statement. It is now the consensus position that and everyone agrees with this other than this one person Noyola everyone else agrees. It's a consensus position that, uh, that that these clean energy programs are making energy bills go up. It's not right. This is much more expensive than the regular natural gas. If you use natural gas, it's reliable, it's affordable. But if you switch to the wind and solar, it's not affordable, it's not reliable. It raises the cost. And I would point out, by the way, that, um, and whoever I don't know this person, noyola, but I like Ed Noyola. But I don't know this one. Um, she, uh, she says she's one of these groups that are receiving the money and they're receiving the money. And I would just say we want to get rid of these lobbyist groups and these political groups from getting the money from the ratepayers. So your bill is paying for for this group of people to advocate for more wind and more solar. And that's raising your bill. And the argument they make is that it lowers that it lowers your bill. And I know the Michigan Public Service Commission claimed they're not raising your bill. But once I mean, Craig, I think you debunked that. And then I found a second source and I said, okay, all right. This is believable.

**[00:43:23] House Speaker Matt Hall**

The rates did go up much faster than what the Michigan Public Service Commission says. And what we found is, um, the, the rates are going up a lot and they went up \$1 billion in the last three years and they went up much more before that. So if these groups were actually doing their job. You wouldn't see the rates go up. So you're paying them. They're they're advocating for wind and solar. Um, and the rates are going up. So it's not working. So I say that we stop paying these lobbyists and these, uh, other groups to advocate for these, these ideas that are raising your rates. And by the way, we're going to wipe out that rate increase when we force the utilities to lower their rates by \$1 billion and freeze the rates for at least two years. We're going to wipe out the three year of rate increases. We're going to roll that back, but I'll show you this. So, um, you know, the highly reputable Mackinac Center points out that the Democrat energy bill would raise your rates of average cost of \$2,746 per customer or an additional \$228.83 On your bill. So the Democrat Wind and Solar plan is actually raising your rates by about \$2,746 a year. That's, you know, that's a highly reputable Mackinac Center points that out. That's why we need to get rid of the wind and solar mandates, and we need affordable and reliable energy. And we're going to force them to use affordable and reliable.

**[00:45:10] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Those are going to be the only two factors used in determining what to do on our energy. And it's going to lower your rates dramatically. Um, it's going to lower your rates by \$500 instead of raising your rates by 2746. If we actually allow the natural gas and we focus on what's affordable and reliable, your rates will go down \$500 a year instead of going up under the Democrat, what they call clean energy plan, which will raise them 2746. Um, and I know a lot of you are more comfortable with Berkeley. Uh, some of these things than the Mackinac Center. Um, but what's interesting about their study and, you know, we have time to look at all these studies. People ask, how can you do it? But I do, um, this points out that these renewable portfolio standard growth requirements are likely to increase prices if the if the RPS requires more renewable energy than would otherwise be delivered by the market alone. That's what they're saying is we're going to force wind and solar beyond what the market will do alone. And even according to the Berkeley lab, this is going to lead to higher rates. So that's a consensus position. Um, and hopefully, uh, This person will, uh, will admit the truth. So we're going to get rid of the these political groups from, uh, you're paying them to raise your rates and force things on you that are going to lower, lower reliability and increase your bill by \$2,700.

**[00:47:00] House Speaker Matt Hall**

It's not right. Um, just, uh, you know, I think we've got, we probably got two weeks here to get this deal done. Um, I appreciate what John James has done. John James, uh, moved forward putting, uh, a request in to fund a lot of the federal parts of the, uh, the Selfridge Air National Guard modernization that we need to do to get the 21 F-15 exes, um, that the Trump administration is working to get us for a new fighter mission for Selfridge Air National Guard base. Um, I know David Eggert did a great job of tracking down information which shows this plan, something that we've been working on for many months behind the scenes as a team. Uh, we need \$152 million for the runway. Um, we sent over a bill about two weeks ago, I think, from Ron Robinson, uh, to get that done so that we can, we can start building the runway so we can get these fighter missions before President Trump leaves office, thus guaranteeing that we will actually get these missions. We don't want to risk that a later presidential administration will reverse this decision. It really took President Trump and Secretary of War Hegseth going above the Army bureaucracy and the Air Force bureaucracy and bringing this fighter mission to Michigan. Um, based on my My conversations with the, um, with the Trump administration and the Air Force secretary. I'm very concerned that if we don't get this supplemental done before we go on spring break, uh, that we're putting this mission in jeopardy.

**[00:48:52] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Uh, the blame for jeopardizing this mission would land squarely at the feet of Kevin Hertel and the Senate Democrats. Um, we shouldn't jeopardize this. Uh, we need to get this runway built. We need to do it as quickly as possible, because we're asking for a very aggressive timeline to keep this, uh, to keep this air national base open and to build this runway so we can get the fighter mission earlier than what was initially planned so we can get it before President Trump leaves office. Um, they say this has an \$850 million impact on, uh, on economic impact, uh, this, this base. So it's really critical. It's important for our national security. The proximity to Russia and some of our newer threats. Maybe we're not threats 20, 30 years ago, but our threats now Selfridge is the right place to put this. And so we need Kevin Hertel and the Democrats to pass this before they go on a spring break. If we wait, it really probably isn't going to happen based on the timelines, and I think that would be a shame. Likewise, we're working to try to get a deal on the Interstate Medical Licensure compact. Um, I'll note that the Democrats failed to address this during their trifecta. Uh, the House passed this bill with 105 votes under Democrat Speaker Joe Tate. And Winnie Brinks sat on the bills along with the Senate Democrats.

**[00:50:31] House Speaker Matt Hall**

They did nothing with these bills. Um, we saw that again last year in 2025 when the House sent this bill over again with, I think 102 votes. We sent this over last year in March. The Democrats did nothing with it this February. We sent it over again. Uh, and, uh, and we're seeing the same result. So this has occurred under Democrat speakers. It's occurred under now a Republican speaker. Uh, the Senate Democrats will not pass this vote. This bill, uh, because of that, 8000 doctors are at risk of losing their medical licenses. Uh, and we're told this could impact over 100,000 patients daily throughout the state. If these doctors lose their license because they're no longer licensed to practice in the state of Michigan, because Senate Democrats won't move this bill. Um, I'm hopeful that Darren Camilleri will do the right thing. Um, you know, and I think that, uh, if Darren Camilleri is blocking these bills because he does not want other downriver legislators to get the credit, it's a shame. I don't see how that does any service to his district and downriver. If the senator from downriver is blocking all the legislators from downriver bills and some kind of attempt for him to get the credit. I would encourage him that things go much better when you work as a collaborative team. Something I've been doing with Governor Whitmer and our U.S. senators, Slotkin and Peters and John James and Lisa McClain and Bill Huizenga, working with our congressional delegation, working with our U.S.

**[00:52:20] House Speaker Matt Hall**

senators and the governor to deliver on things like FEMA funding for Northern Michigan to deliver on Asian carp and protecting our Great Lakes and and to deliver on a new fighter mission for Michigan. Um, you can do a lot more by working together, uh, than what Darren Camilleri could be doing, which is blocking the bill that Riley Linting has because he wants all the credit for downriver. That's doing a great disservice to downriver. I would encourage him to go to when Brinks, show his leadership potential and say, let's get this done for the doctors. Um, it's ridiculous what's going on over there? And, uh. And I give Mike Duggan credit. He pointed this out. Uh, he pointed out that, uh, you know, the Democrats, they didn't pass this when they had majority in the Senate. Um, Mayor Duggan has said that the Democrat trifecta did nothing. He's right about that, by the way. Um, and what we see her now is the dysfunction likely occurring because Darren Camilleri does not want other legislators in his district to get credit. It's a shame there's enough credit to go around for everybody if we drop all this nonsense and get these bills done, and I would just argue that what Darren Camilleri is likely doing here is just making the case for why so many Democrats are leaving the Democrat Party and supporting Mike Duggan and not them.

**[00:53:56] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Um, now, uh, you know, you all know that I'm working on property tax reform, the biggest property tax reform in Michigan's history, \$5 billion property tax cut. We're going to eliminate the state property tax. We're going to eliminate the pop up tax. We're going to eliminate the real estate transfer tax. Um and the personal property tax. And this is going to save the average Michigander well over \$1,000 a year. It's going to be a big deal. And the great news about this is we're making. And we talked about how we're making the lobbyists pay for it. They're going to pay for this. Your property tax cut. The telemarketers are going to pay for it. I know the the rope, the people behind the robocalls are going to pay for it. We talked about the limousines and the country club memberships and the private jets. Um, also the, uh, we're going to make the, uh, collection agencies pay for it. They're going to pay for it and all these groups, we're going to tax them and they're going to pay to lower your property taxes. And it's going to be the biggest property tax reform in Michigan's history. \$5 billion property tax cut. You're going to save \$900 on average. When we get rid of the state property tax and you're going to save at least at least \$150 or \$250 a year, when we force the utilities to lower their rates by over \$1 billion, wiping out the last three years of rate increases.

**[00:55:47] House Speaker Matt Hall**

So that's going to be big. Um, and this pop up tax, so many people are going to be able to move into homes that they want to move in without their property taxes doubling or tripling. That's going to be huge. And it's going to put more homes on the market and that's going to bring housing prices down. So these are very big, very big moves that are coming. Uh, we're doing a lot on health care affordability. Uh, we're working to force the hospitals to open their books. Um, and we're going to look at their books and we're going to see their profits and we're going to make sure that they're not overcharging ratepayers. Uh, we're also looking at the vertical integration of the, these PBMs, these middlemen that are, um, you know, they're in there and they're just, uh, forcing you basically through a monopoly to use the, uh, the pharmacies that they own. And this is also forcing you to pay more for your drug costs. So we're looking at PBMs and the insurers. We're looking at the hospitals. We're doing a lot of things here, and we're going to dramatically lower your property or we're going to dramatically lower your health care costs when we do that. So that's going to be a big thing. So I'll stop there. Um, take any questions if there are any. That was a lot wasn't it. We've had we've got a lot going on Ben. Yeah. Go ahead.

**[00:57:15] Reporter**

I don't believe we've met.

**[00:57:18] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Oh, wow. Okay. Yeah. This is an upgrade, by the way. Much better than having Kyle here.

**[00:57:24] Reporter**

Um, I wanted to ask, you talked about the importance of getting this deal done. Yes. Obviously, you need the Senate. Have you talked to Senate leadership about them?

**[00:57:33] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Well, I've talked with the governor. Um, and I've talked with our US senators. Uh, and I've talked with our congressional members. Um, and ultimately we'll see what the Democrats want. Do they want to get a new fighter mission for Michigan, or do people like Kevin Hertel want to jeopardize it by, uh, um, by delaying it to the point where, uh, it'll, it won't happen. So that's, uh, that's what they're doing.

**[00:58:04] Reporter**

Is there a reason you haven't spoken yet?

**[00:58:07] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Well, Kevin Hertel is the kind of guy who just takes credit and doesn't do the work, so, uh, I don't know. I think he, uh, he may want to jeopardize the mission. I don't know why. Maybe he hates Donald Trump so much. He has Trump Derangement syndrome. He wants to jeopardize the mission. I have no idea what Kevin Hertel was smart. He would listen to the the coalition that's actually working on this across party lines. And he would get this done. Go ahead.

**[00:58:35] Reporter**

You mentioned Kevin Hertel.

**[00:58:36] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Yeah, yeah. Very weak, very weak people. Camilleri and Hertel.

**[00:58:42] Reporter**

You guys are on spring break next week. The Senate will still be in. Have you talked to Senate Majority Leader Brinks about what you would like to see done before spring break?

**[00:58:52] House Speaker Matt Hall**

So we've made it known to them that we want to make a deal, and we're waiting for a response. Go ahead.

**[00:59:03] Reporter**

Talk about a supermajority.

**[00:59:06] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Right.

**[00:59:07] Reporter**

Is that something you want to get done this year?

**[00:59:12] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Yeah, we'd like to do it. Um, I think we need a you know, I think that you'd want to see a supermajority to get something done in lame duck. That's what we want to do. Um, and I think that this would really, um, help as part of my sunshine initiatives under heat. Um, even though this wasn't part of heat, it's still all under the same theme of sunshine. Um, you know what they do, especially the Democrats are the masters of this, but they wait until after the election and then they move all the bills. That's what they try to do. And then they hope the voters are going to forget it two years later. That's why only by making it a two thirds vote after the election, then largely it'll be consensus issues. I mean, you need the flexibility to do it after the election for emergencies and consensus issues that arise. Um, but what's been happening in Lansing for a while now and really accelerated under the Democrats is they try to wait until after the election and then after the election, they try to move the bulk of legislation when they're furthest away from the voters having a say, because it's occurring two years before the next election. That's what they do. We're trying to prohibit that, but we need a very high vote threshold, I believe, in order to get that done.

**[01:00:42] Reporter**

Um, an amendment.

**[01:00:44] House Speaker Matt Hall**

I believe. Yeah, I think so. Do you guys remember uh, Wiggins. I think it's it was a very high threshold. I think it's a constitutional amendment that we had to do because, uh, right now we, it's kind of, uh, it's been stalled because of Democrats opposing it is my understanding we might put it up for a vote and see what they do. Let's see. Maybe they'll, uh, maybe they'll vote for it if we put it up for a vote. Um, but they're trying to block it right now. Behind the scenes through, uh, uh. You know, what they do is they tell us they're going to vote against it. But my guess is if we put it up, they'd vote for it. Um, but I think they're trying to work against it behind the scenes, so we'll see. Maybe we'll put it up for a vote, but it'd be much better if we could just work it out before we put it up for a vote. But I believe it was a two thirds. Um, and I believe it was a constitutional amendment, but we need to do it. Yeah. Go ahead Craig.

**[01:01:47] Reporter**

I'm looking at a letter here that was sent to J. Deboyer today, and they're asking I don't know if you've heard about this. They're asking House oversight to investigate the relationship between Jeffrey Epstein and Interlochen Center for the Arts. Um, the school that he has been found to provide money for. And whose data is that something that you would like to see the House Oversight Committee look into right now?

**[01:02:14] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Yeah, I'm not familiar with that. So I'll have to take a look at the letter. Yeah.

**[01:02:19] Reporter**

Do you think that they should?

**[01:02:20] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Yeah, I'm not familiar with it, so we'll have to look at it. So thanks for telling me that, Craig. We'll look at it and talk to Jay. But, um, you know, a lot of what they do up here, the Democrats as they communicate by letter. So they won't talk to me or talk to Jay, but we'll look at that. We'll try to understand what the connection is.

**[01:02:41] Reporter**

And talking to you today about.

**[01:02:43] House Speaker Matt Hall**

It. Were they.

**[01:02:44] Reporter**

In the meeting this morning.

**[01:02:46] House Speaker Matt Hall**

And the oversight meeting? I got it. Well, we'll look at exactly what their argument is and what the connection is and how the jurisdiction would work. So we'll look at it, but I'm not familiar with it. I haven't seen it. But thank you for telling me. Yeah. Go ahead Remington.

**[01:03:02] Reporter**

Let's put it on the baseline. Do you think it would be concerning for a pedophile to have such a relationship with the school like this?

**[01:03:10] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Yeah, I'm not familiar with what the subject is, so I'd have to look at it. Yeah. Go ahead.

**[01:03:16] Reporter**

Um, on the work projects lawsuit. House Republicans. Try to call a settlement. Why do you think we can get a settlement? But.

**[01:03:35] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Uh. The deal? Yeah. So you saw that the judge granted us our. I guess it was a joint motion, um, to, uh, to give us about. I think it was like eight weeks to delay, uh, his decision. Uh, so that we could have some time to negotiate a deal on the, uh, work projects. Um, you know, we had originally asked for two weeks. I mean, I think it's well known that I'm probably the best dealmaker up here at the Capitol, but two weeks was a was a pretty narrow period of time to get a deal. Um, and you know that the Democrats, they're going on a vacation here for a few weeks on spring break. And I mean, I'll be up here at the Capitol, but the Democrats, you know, they won't be here. So we needed about two months because you have the legislative spring break in there. Um, and what we're doing is we're trying to get a deal. We want to protect the, uh, the authority of the legislature to continue to weigh in when the administration is mispending money. Um, and we also want to ensure that we make a better use of these tax dollars than waste, fraud and abuse.

**[01:04:51] House Speaker Matt Hall**

So as we're entering into those conversations, we're looking at how do we, how do we get a better use of this money than waste, fraud and abuse? And, and how do we protect the legislature's authority to continue to reject wasteful spending? Um, so we're working through that. And, uh, you know, it's encouraging that the administration wants to continue the negotiations over the next two months. And I'm hopeful we'll get a great deal that'll spend this money better and protect the authority of the legislature to stop future wasteful spending. And I'll just point out, this \$369 million would go a long way to addressing some of our budget shortfalls. Um, and if this continues under preliminary injunction, uh, past the budget, um, then they're going to have to make bigger cuts because they're not going to have the \$369 million. It's going to be under preliminary injunction potentially, or we win the case. And, um, and then it, uh, you know, and then they're not in a good position. So, um, I think it's important for everyone to try to resolve this with a deal. And I hope we get a deal because they're going to need this money. Yeah. Tim. Go ahead.

**[01:06:17] Reporter**

My apologies if this question has been asked yet on your property tax stuff. You know.

**[01:06:25] House Speaker Matt Hall**

We haven't we haven't talked about the property tax yet. Um I know she was in DC last week. Um so I think she was in DC last week and we, uh, we didn't get a chance to talk about it yet.

**[01:06:40] Reporter**

Have you finalized your list of contacts?

**[01:06:44] House Speaker Matt Hall**

We're still working on it, but I did point out earlier, as we're finalizing this list, we've added the, uh, the collection agencies. We're going to tax them and the, uh, the people behind the robocalls and the telemarketers. So we're adding that to the list as we're going through this of who we're going to tax and we're going to tax the collection agencies and that's going to lower your property taxes, and we're going to tax the telemarketers, and that's going to lower your property tax. And the and the robocalls, all those annoying robocalls that people hate. We're going to start taxing them and that's going to lower your property taxes. And that goes along with the ones we've previously mentioned, like the lobbyists, they're going to pay the tax. Um, and a lot of the, you know, the other luxury services. So that's going to be, I think that's a pretty good trade is we tax the telemarketers, we tax the robocalls. And then your property taxes get cut. So we're as we're adding to the list, we added those things in. So, uh, we're finalizing the list. And, uh, I think once it's final once, then we'll go and brief the governor. I get her feedback. Um, but you know, we're going through this very carefully. I wanted to make sure that we exempted a lot of the the, what I would describe as the essential services like personal care, landscaping, healthcare services, car repairs, child care, veterinary services, household repairs. We wanted to make sure that we exempted those things. Um, and really it's these luxury services and, uh, and some of these, uh, things like lobbying and, uh, collection agencies and telemarketing and robocalls and political ads that are in the political consultants that are paying this tax. Go ahead. Craig.

**[01:08:44] Reporter**

Some of those services other states.

**[01:08:45] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Have, uh.

**[01:08:46] Reporter**

Car washes.

**[01:08:48] House Speaker Matt Hall**

You know, we're going to exempt those.

**[01:08:52] Reporter**

Yeah.

**[01:08:54] House Speaker Matt Hall**

I'd have to get back to you on that one. I don't.

**[01:08:57] Reporter**

Know.

**[01:08:58] House Speaker Matt Hall**

I don't think it is possible, but I'd have to look at it again. We're looking at the, uh, the way we try to, um, the way we try to structure this is for the most part, those essential services were not taxing. And the more luxury services we would tax. Um, and then as you get to the business to business transactions, it's not the easiest, uh, to do it. And that's why we're, we're taking our time with this to get it right. But, um, on a product, I'll just hold on. So on a product, like when you, when you manufacture an engine, the things in the supply chain are exempt from the taxation. Uh, we try to mimic that as much as we can through the service tax. Um, in a similar way, but if you bought office supplies, uh, that would be taxed even if you're a business. And so we try to, we try to, we try to apply the same principles of taxation to the plan.

**[01:09:59] Reporter**

So are you thinking this would be a value added tax.

**[01:10:02] House Speaker Matt Hall**

No, it's not because it's not going in the supply chain. That's what I just said. So, uh, it's the same principle of taxation that we have for manufacturing, right? Which is, uh, in manufacturing, you don't tax the parts and then the bigger parts all the way to the end. You wait until the end and then tax. We try to mimic that as much as possible with the service tax. So, you know, services are not as clean as goods and products. Um but our attempt was to not provide a value added tax. Right? Which is why we exempt things along the supply chain that are services, but you have those ancillary products that are taxed just like you would have the ancillary services, like lobbying, except the lobbyists will pay the tax because Tim, these lobbyists are making so much money. I saw the story that they've spent record numbers on lobbying. They can eat the 6% tax. They don't have to pass it on to their clients. They can eat the tax and they're doing just fine. Go ahead.

**[01:11:08] Reporter**

This has been asked. I apologize, but how can the newspapers factor this Markkanen newspaper's descriptions of publishing?

**[01:11:16] House Speaker Matt Hall**

I guess my understanding is the publishing that would be taxed newspaper publishing, and that makes sense to most people.

**[01:11:27] Reporter**

So it wouldn't be like. Something else like a task for that.

**[01:11:34] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Um, I guess they're getting into the nuances, but generally a newspaper would be a good, um, but the publication service would be taxed if they were contracting for like a publication service.

**[01:11:51] Reporter**

Probably newspaper's product.

**[01:11:55] House Speaker Matt Hall**

It could be taxed, but a product isn't under a service tax. You know what I'm saying? It would be under a sales tax on goods. If it was a newspaper, just like, uh, just like, uh, this microphone. If you bought this microphone, you would pay a 6% sales tax.

**[01:12:12] Reporter**

Not wanting to extend a tax to the sale of the newspaper.

**[01:12:18] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Correct. Because that would be a product, a good that would not be a service. This is we're not expanding the like, you know, there's a lot of things exempt from the sales tax. Food is exempt from the sales tax. Um, if newspaper is exempt. I haven't looked at that. We're not proposing adding that in because we're not touching the, uh the goods. We're only looking at the services. So, um, you know, I, again, that's why we're, uh, that's why we're taking our time here because it gets very complex, but, uh, if you provide a service of newspaper publishing than someone would pay a 6% sales tax for that service, just like if you provide a service for lobbying. Um, except the lobbyists are going to pay for it because of their record profits. Yeah.

**[01:13:11] Reporter**

Delivery people get Amazon deliveries that service.

**[01:13:17] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Um, I'll have to, I'll have to get into the details on that with you later. I, um, I don't recall whether that's in, I think I spent a lot of efforts trying to, uh, deal with delivery and installation and I know, uh, we're trying to exempt that, but I don't know where that will wind up in the final plan. I'll have more to announce next time. Yeah. Go ahead. Uh.

**[01:13:49] Reporter**

Why not? Why not just have the House passed the Senate? Because the A house. Built a house.

**[01:14:00] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Yeah. So just to kind of go through the timeline again. Um, when, when Joe Tate was speaker, uh, in 2024, the House passed this bill under Democrat House with 105 votes. Senate did not act on it in 2025. We passed the bill in March. I think it had 102 votes. The Democrats did not act on it. So then we sent it again this year in February. So this is the third year in a row that the House has sent the bill to the Senate. Um, Senate is again sitting on it. Uh, my understanding is it's very likely this is because during Camilleri does not want his local, uh, colleagues to get public acts. I think that's ridiculous. It's working against his own community to block some of the local state reps from getting their bills. So I think instead of blocking Riley Linting from getting the bill, because the Democrats are concerned about her upstaging during Camilleri. And by the way, for those of us who were there at Moss, you guys remember that we were there. It was me, Darren Camilleri, Riley Linting. We were there to celebrate. No tax on tips, overtime and Social Security. Uh, and we were there, um, downriver, and, uh, Riley Linting upstaged Darren Camilleri there. Go watch the tape. She upstaged him big time. Uh, she did a great job at that bill signing, and she really had a lot to do with that legislation. Um, and the budget we got, and I think ever since then, Darren Camilleri doesn't want her upstaging him again. And so he's blocking her bill. That's what many people are telling me. Many people in the know.

**[01:15:55] House Speaker Matt Hall**

So, um, we can just stop the games. I don't think we should encourage the political games. Roger Hauck, who's the sponsor of the Senate bill. He's told me and he said publicly that they should just pass the Riley Linting bill. I agree. Um, we can get a lot more done if we're not selectively blocking our colleague's bills and working against our own communities the way that Darren Camilleri appears to be doing. Um, he just doesn't want to get upstaged again. I mean, he got upstaged big and we were over there, I believe it was in Trenton and right down the street, uh, was the bridge that Riley Linting got in the budget to fix that bridge right down the street from there. So we got to take a look at that, too. So that was a good day. And I predict we're going to have another good day for downriver and the rest of the state. Uh, when Darren Camilleri does the right thing and, uh, helps us release this bill so we can protect 8000. Doctor's licenses. I think he'll do it. I, I endorsed him for Democrat leader for a reason. I saw the potential in him, and I think he'll do it. I think he will. He'll come to his senses. This is too important. I mean, there's 100,000 Michigan patients who are not going to have a doctor if this thing doesn't get done before spring break, just like how we're jeopardizing the fighter mission in Michigan. If we don't get this new money for Selfridge to start construction on the runways before spring break. All right. Oh, go ahead.

**[01:17:29] Reporter**

If I could just circle back to this.

**[01:17:31] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Yeah.

**[01:17:32] Reporter**

You suggested that Hertel is hesitant of taking this up, right? If we're to assume that he might be looking for something to sort of sweeten the deal in the supplemental, is there anything you would be amenable to sort of add into the supplemental if you want it gets more volume from Democrats.

**[01:17:50] House Speaker Matt Hall**

No, we need to pass the supplemental. For Selfridge air National Guard base clean. Um, we're running out of time. We really have to get this done before the end of spring break. And so we shouldn't jeopardize the fighter mission for the state of Michigan by trying to stuff pork into the supplemental. We need to do this clean, and then we can have other discussions. I mentioned there's negotiations going on on the work project money, the 369 million. That's under preliminary injunction because of our successful court challenge of the Dana Nessel opinion. Um, so there's other ways. I mean, some people will want a book closing. Um, so there are other ways to do it, but this is so critical to get done before spring break because of the timing. If we don't get it done, we're jeopardizing the mission because we're pushing. We asked for an aggressive timeline and the Air Force Secretary told us, if you want to meet the timeline, we'll do it. You've got to get us that runway. And the time is really up. It's got to be done before we leave on spring break, or else. Kevin Hertel and the Democrats are jeopardizing the mission. And I saw his public comment about, um, doing it with the July 1st budget and that, well, we'll never get it done. It'll miss the deadline and then you're jeopardizing the mission. I don't know why Kevin Hertel would want to do that. So. All right. Well, I appreciate it. Everyone. Look forward to look forward to our discussion again. I you think I should come in during spring break and do this? We'll see. We'll see if I do it. All right. I know you would be here, but I don't know if the rest of them would.

**[01:19:31] Reporter**

I would.

**[01:19:32] House Speaker Matt Hall**

Yeah. Remington. He's a he's a machine man. Every night. Every night. All right.



Automated transcription curated by MIRS' staff. We apologize for any misspellings.

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