



34TH DISTRICT
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MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SHELDON A. NEELEY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

January 29, 2015

Honorable Rick Snyder, Governor
State of Michigan

Dear Gov. Snyder,

With the dawn of a new beginning in our state, the city of Flint stands on the precipice of civil unrest. This letter comes as an appeal to your office concerning this proud Michigan community and recent discussions pertaining to Flint's water distribution and management strategies for both present and future operations. Flint has had a long history concerning the implementation of water practices and financial management of its water assets. Our present journey has caused us to take a closer look at our 80-year-old infrastructure and examine a difficult position where we must correct some past and even present challenges, one of which is affecting the people of my community to the point of a fervor over something as simple as drinking clean water.

As we engage these challenges, Flint must revisit the present water revolving loan plans to determine how these current funding obligations will affect water delivery and asset development for the future. It is clear that no significant improvements can be obtained without some supportive concessions. Therefore, I am requesting on behalf of the 34th District, which contains a portion of the city of Flint, for you to consider an executive decision to forgive (in-total or part) Flint's water fund loan balances of \$20,770,336 so that we may effectively apply those funds to rebuilding the city's infrastructure, to competitively obtain highly qualified personnel and provide a more cost effective water delivery system. I understand there has been many requests made of your office to resolve this very serious issue, but this approach will best safeguard the health and welfare of the residents of Flint as well as minimize the potential for litigation against the city of Flint and/or the state of Michigan.

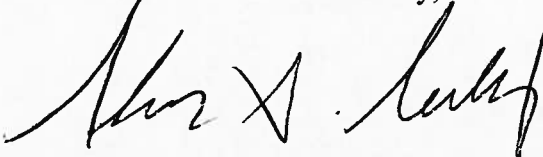
With a cost-effective water delivery system, we will be able to improve our system in the following ways: upgrade wastewater treatment processes, improve safe drinking water upgrades, and maintain and sustain a water system that provides a better quality of water product to the citizens of Flint.

It is imperative that this issue be addressed in some way on the state level. Residents of Flint are already finding themselves forced to take drastic measures simply to have clean drinking water.

Community health could be on the decline as citizens become afraid to even shower or bathe in their homes. The people of Flint bring bottles of brown water full of sediment and other foreign substances to community meetings, asking only to be treated as human beings. That is all I am asking of you - to see the suffering and anger from the people in one of Michigan's municipalities and understand that there is a need to react and respond to this crisis.

With the beginning of a new year to work toward a better Michigan, my office is ready to have discussions on this request and other planning that works to improve OUR Michigan. I sincerely thank you in advance for your consideration on this matter.

For the Love of the Community,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheldon A. Neeley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Sheldon A. Neeley, State Representative
34th District

CC: Dennis Muchmore
Dick Posthumus