

## Eddie Sleeper

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**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 2:21 PM  
**To:** Eddie Sleeper  
**Subject:** HB 6062

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I'm the owner of 9 weekly newspapers that circulates all of Calhoun and Barry Counties and parts of Kent, Allegan, Ionia, Eaton and Kalamazoo counties and have done our best to work with local governments to get their notices in our papers - and in return cover their meetings to keep their citizens informed. In fact two years ago Gaines Township, one of the fastest growing townships in the state asked us to extend our coverage to get to their residents which we did and since then have covered their township and zoning meetings. Our readers appreciate the fact that they can be assured that we are keeping them abreast of what's going on in the area, and due to our strong readership have filled a township hall over special requests. Putting these notices on a government website is nothing more than out-of-sight out-of-mind. Residents are busy in their lives, they expect us to keep them informed by reading the notices and when necessary reporting on them. The only reason newspapers shouldn't be required would be in that there isn't any coverage in the area. Newspapers are already struggling due to economic conditions the last thing they need now would be for them to lose legal. There's all kinds of data on news deserts and the impact on good government - keep legal in print.

Fred