

Steven M. Bieda (P48011) MPA, JD, LL.M Tax Law
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Professional Experience

Michigan House of Representatives, State Representative, 25th District, January 1, 2003 - January 1, 2009 (left office due to term limits). Committees: *Tax Policy*, Majority Chair and Minority Vice Chair; *Employment Relations*; *Vice Chair, member of the Judiciary*; *Capitol Committee*; *Transportation, and Ethics and Elections Committees*. *Deputy Minority Whip*. Michigan House Legislative Delegate to the Streamlined Sales Tax Governing Board.

Major areas of legislative accomplishment:

- Key architect and leader in the development of the Michigan Business Tax (MBT), the largest and most comprehensive business tax restructuring in over thirty years.
- Green energy tax credits and incentives, including tax incentives for the auto industry to produce advanced car batteries in Michigan.
- State ethics reforms, including a new act, the Legal Defense Fund Reporting Act, the only major piece of ethics reforms to reach the Governor's desk in seven years.
- Comprehensive revisions to Michigan's highly successful 30 year old bottle deposit law, major revisions designed to stem the flow of the fraudulent redemption of foreign containers.
- Sponsor of over thirty Public Acts, one of the highest for any member of the Michigan Legislature, on subjects related to state tax restructuring, economic development, consumer protection and judicial reforms.
- Worked closely with members of the legislative and executive branch, including the State Treasurer and the Governor. Substantial state tax experience on issues related to state sales, use and property tax.
- I also have extensive background working with representatives of the electronic and print media, both providing background information on legislation as well as being available for comment on pending state issues. I have appeared on ABC Nightline, Off the Record, Lou Dobbs, BBC, and have had legislation I sponsored written about in various national print media including Newsweek, Business Week and USA Today.
- Frequently met with constituents including various interest groups representing diverse interests such as labor, manufacturing and business.

Elder and Disability Law Firm, Attorney, private practice, 2001 – part-time affiliation present. Scope of practice includes trust, probate law, and Medicaid advance planning. In this capacity I frequently would lecture on the topic of state probate law and estate planning before retirement planning and senior citizen organizations.

City of Warren, Director, Labor Relations, 1999-2000

Experience with arbitration and with dealing with both the elected executive branch (strong Mayor Form of government) and with the legislative branch. Lead negotiator on seven different contracts with the City's six public employee unions.

- I oversaw and administered a department budget of over \$600,000; formulated annual departmental budgets and presented them to City Council.
- Negotiated union contracts for the third largest city in the State of Michigan worth tens of millions of dollars.
- Supervised and managed staff, prepared performance reviews of departmental employees, and oversaw contracts with outside legal counsel.
- Successfully negotiated major changes to the City's pension system, moving from a Defined Benefit program to a Defined Contribution program. I frequently worked with local media and often was the administration's spokesman during contract negotiations.
- In addition, I worked with the City on legislation pending in Lansing, and worked directly with our elected officials at the state, federal and county level.

Michigan House of Representatives, Legal Counsel, Senior Policy Analyst, 1995-1999

My primary focus was on issues relating to state taxation, local government and school funding.

- I prepared and proposed clean-up legislation relating to Proposal A which pertained to property tax reform and public school financing.
- Prepared memorandum for various committees and for use by the caucus on the House Floor. Prepared briefings for legislators, worked as a liaison for legislative leadership with the executive branch. Provided technically sound advice regarding proposed amendments to legislation, and assisted in the drafting and interpretation of amendments.
- Testified before House and Senate committees and conveyed complex legal information in understandable terms for non-attorney legislators and statewide constituent groups.

Private Practice, Attorney at Law, 1993-1995

Business transactions, bankruptcy, property and tax appeal work. Civil practice and family law. Bench and jury trial experience. Argued one case in front of the Michigan Court of Appeals, and prepared one *amicus curie* Brief to the United States Supreme Court.

Miller Canfield, Paddock & Stone, Summer Associate, 1992

Primary focus was on issues relating to labor law, with a particular emphasis on public sector employment issues.

- Prepared legal memorandum, conducted research and document preparation.

Coopers & Lybrand, Management Consultant, State and Local Government Practice, 1987-1989

Prepared and presented special reports on issues related to specific client engagements relating to public sector compensation, economic development, downtown redevelopment, and real estate investment. Frequently represented the firm before legislative and executive branch elected officials at the local, county and state levels.

- Prepared responses to RFPs (requests for proposals) and conducted analysis on a number of engagements.

Education

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL
LLM, Taxation, December 2008

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Leadership Council, 2002

UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY SCHOOL OF LAW
Juris Doctor, December 1992

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
Masters of Public Administration, Policy Analysis, May 1988
Bachelors of Public Affairs-Political Science, May 1984

Professional Associations

Admitted to the Bar, State of Michigan P48011
Admitted to the United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan, Nov. 1995
Admitted to the United States Tax Court, April 2008
Michigan State Bar Association, Tax Section
Federal Bar Association
Macomb County Bar Association
National Conference of State Legislators
Streamlined Sales Tax Governing Board, Michigan Delegate, 2007-2008
American Bar Association

Accomplishments

Designer, reverse of the United States Olympic Half Dollar issued in 1992. Funds from the surcharges of this coin were used to construct the Aquatic Center and Gymnasium at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the primary training facility for the United States Olympic Swimming Team.

MotorCities National Automobile Heritage Area, Director, 2005, Chairman 2008 - present
MotorCities is an affiliate of the National Park Service and is dedicated to preserving, interpreting and promoting the automobile and labor heritage of the State of Michigan. As Chairman, I make recommendations to the Board on everything from proposing an annual budget to hiring decisions. Assist with fundraising efforts, and work with major benefactors
Michigan Labor Legacy Project 2001-2002, Fundraiser and Grant-writer

Successfully generated donations of over \$1.5 million dollars for the design and construction of a permanent work of art entitled "Transcending," which consists of two sixty-three foot stainless steel arches and fourteen granite boulders that showcase bronze sculpture depicting labor's history. I successfully solicited contributions from labor organizations and individuals. I also wrote successful grant applications, working with individuals such as Civil Rights icon, Rosa Parks, and Congressman John Conyers in obtaining letters of support for the grant application. The monument, which was dedicated in August, 2003, is the largest of its kind commemorating the labor movement in the United States. It was erected on the riverfront in Hart Plaza, Detroit, Michigan, and is now a significant feature of the Detroit skyline.

Host, Lansing Update. Hosted a government channel public access show, filming approximately 75 different half hour talk show format episodes. Guests have included the Governor of Michigan, Lt. Governor, several congressmen, the Director of the United States Mint, and various state and federal department representatives.

Innocence Project. My work on securing justice for wrongfully convicted and incarcerated Michigan prisoners has been the subject of extensive articles in the Michigan and Detroit Legal News, and I appeared in a short documentary: "*The Price of Innocence: The Wrongful Conviction of Ken Wynnemko*," which was awarded two Emmys by the National Television Academy, Michigan Chapter, in 2006.

Publications

Facing the Challenge of Replacing the Single Business Tax: The Development and Evolution of the Michigan Business Tax, WAYNE LAW REVIEW, 2008, Vol. 53:4

Awards

Brandi Award, State Bar of Michigan, 2008.

Legislative Advocate Award, Michigan Manufacturers Association, 2007.

Distinguished Alumnus Award, Cousino High School, Warren Consolidated Schools, 2004.

Distinguished Alumnus Award, Wayne State University, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, March 29, 2007.

Distinguished Service Award, Michigan Business and Professional Association, May 11, 2007.

Service to Schools Award, Macomb Intermediate School District, September 2007.

Legislative Service Award, Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers, July 29, 2008.

Legislative Award, Student Leadership Services, State Wide Leadership Conference, November 10, 2007.

Michigan Archives, upon leaving office due to term limits, I was honored to have been selected

by a panel of historians, state archivists and legislative bureau professionals to be invited to donate my legislative papers to the State of Michigan archives. From a class of 47 members leaving, I was one of five legislators whose official state papers have been selected for inclusion in the official state collection. December 2008.

American Jurisprudence Award, for Administrative Law, Lawyers Cooperative Publishing, 1992