



**Michigan Association of Timbersmen  
Self-Insurers' Fund**

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**TO: Honorable Chairman Wayne Schmidt  
Michigan Senate Committee on Commerce**

**FROM: Barbara J. Bennett, Fund Administrator  
Michigan Association of Timbersmen Self-Insurers' Fund**

**DATE: October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**RE: House Bill 4362**

My name is Barbara Bennett and I am the Fund Administrator for the Michigan Association of Timbersmen Self-Insurers' Fund (MATSIF). We were the first group fund established in Michigan. Our organization was instrumental in getting the laws changed to allow group self-insurance in 1974.

We currently have 350 members in our group fund and collect \$5.5 million in premium annually. The ability to refund a surplus has always been one of the selling points of our workers' compensation program. Therefore, we offer our support to the language in HB 4362 clarifying the issue of surplus ownership.

Our position remains that the trustees of each group fund have a fiduciary responsibility for establishing policies and procedures outlining the distribution of the surplus. We are pleased to see this included in the language of HB 4362. We appreciate the Commerce Committee considering HB 4362 and urge a yes vote on this important legislation.