



**Michigan
Alliance**
for Legal Reform

NEWS

Michigan Alliance for Legal Reform Applauds House Vote to Reinstate Open and Obvious

*Bill would bring Michigan in line with 41 states across the nation with
commonsense legal protections for property owners*

Lansing, MICH (March 11, 2026) – Lower costs, stronger property safeguards and a fairer legal system for all is one step closer to becoming a reality in Michigan.

The Michigan House passed [HB 4582](#) to restore Michigan’s “open and obvious” premises liability protection, restoring a decades-long precedent eliminated by the Michigan Supreme Court eliminated in a 2023 ruling.

The standard provides property owners with legal protection from liability for hazards that are clearly visible to an average person, like a patch of ice or a puddle of water by a mop bucket. Today, 41 states across the country maintain this commonsense protection, including New York, California, Florida, Texas, and all of Michigan’s neighboring Great Lakes states.

“Without the open and obvious doctrine, Michigan is a national outlier and a hotbed for frivolous lawsuits,” **said Zach Rudat, director of the Michigan Alliance for Legal Reform.** “Thanks to a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers, Michigan is one step closer to lower housing costs, stronger property owner protections and a fairer legal system for all. We thank the House for this important step and look forward to further discussions in the Senate.”

The Michigan Alliance for Legal Reform is a coalition of 45 Michigan associations and employers dedicated to reining in lawsuit abuse and restoring balance and fairness in Michigan’s legal system. Learn more about the Alliance and our coalition members at MIAllianceForLegalReform.com.

Contact: Zach Rudat, MI Alliance for Legal Reform, zach@miallianceforlegalreform.com or 989-640-8140

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