

# Federalism

...a citizen's avenue to keeping democracy accountable

A Federal government provides multiple outlets for citizen involvement. Don't get overwhelmed by all of the choices; instead get familiar with the web and your options. Make sure when writing and calling your elected representatives to go to the proper person at the proper place. That way you will ultimately be more effective in making your voice heard.

When contacting your elected representatives, first go to their websites. You will find various addresses and phone numbers. You may choose to contact the Lansing or Washington offices or if you wish, the place more local to you.

Some representatives, like Congressman Bill Huizinga, have a local office. Congressman Huizinga has an office in downtown Muskegon. You can walk right into his office and state your issue. If you so desire you can choose to exercise your right to assemble outside of his office. And you can do so 24 hours a day without breaking the law. In fact the police must protect that right.

Congressman Huizinga is your elected representative. You pay his salary. In fact you pay the salary of each of the following individuals. They have a responsibility to be accountable to your needs. Remind them of this - regularly.

## State Government - Lansing

### Executive Branch - Governor

**Governor Rick Snyder** - <http://www.michigan.gov/snyder>

PO Box 30013

Lansing, MI 48909

Phone: (517) 373-3400 or (517) 335-7858

### Legislative Branch (House MI 91st District)

**Collene Lamonte** - website will become active January 1, 2013

### Legislative Branch (Senate MI 34th District)

**Geoff Hansen** - <http://www.misenategop.com/senators/Hansen.asp?District=34>

PO Box 30036

Lansing, MI 48909

Phone: (517) 373-1635

# National Government - Washington D.C.

## Executive Branch - President

**President Barack Obama** - <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/president-obama>

1616 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington D.C.

Phone: 202-456-1111 or 202-456-1414

## Legislative Branch (House - MI 2nd District)

**Congressman Bill Huizinga** - <http://huizinga.house.gov/>

1217 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: (202) 225-4401

Muskegon Office: 900 Third Street - Suite 203 - Phone (231) 722-8386

## Legislative Branch (Senate - Michigan)

**Senator Carl Levin** - <http://www.levin.senate.gov/>

269 Russell Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone: (202) 224-6221

## Legislative Branch (Senate - Michigan)

**Senator Debbie Stabenow** - <http://www.stabenow.senate.gov/>

133 Hart Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone: (202) 224-4822

## Muskegon Chronicle Letter to the Editor:

<http://www.mlive.com/mailforms/muchronicle/letters/>  
<http://www.mlive.com/opinion/muskegon/>

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