
From: GOV Newsroom
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Governor Rick Snyder
REINVENTING MICH
Getting It Right. Getting It Done.

In the News

Tuesday, November 17, 2015
[NEWS \(Click the link to read the full article\)](#)

GOVERNOR'S ACTIVITIES

Syrian refugees

[Snyder change on Syrian refugees leads more opposition \(Freep\)](#)

Gov. Rick Snyder's announcement Sunday that he would back off — at least temporarily — from an effort to relocate Syrian refugees in Michigan set off a wave of even stronger opposition by governors across the U.S. on Monday, with several saying they would reject outright any attempts to resettle Syrians in their states.

[Snyder suspends Syrian refugee effort in Michigan \(Freep\)](#)

Gov. Rick Snyder's decision to suspend efforts to bring Syrian refugees to Michigan in light of the deadly terrorist attacks in Paris on Friday has sparked controversy and launched the state into the national debate of how to protect U.S. citizens while providing a haven for those who desperately need help.

[Snyder urges 'full review' of refugees, says safety is key \(AP\)](#)

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder is asking the Obama administration for a "full review" of security clearances for refugees who could be placed in Michigan. Snyder's office released a letter that was sent Monday to Secretary of State John Kerry and the head of Homeland Security after the attacks in Paris and Beirut. The governor says he's "unwavering" in welcoming refugees to Michigan but adds that his first priority is keeping people safe.

[Governors Who Want To Ban Syrian Refugees Have Something In Common \(FiveThirtyEight\)](#)

"Michigan is a welcoming state and we are proud of our rich history of immigration," Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder said in a statement Sunday announcing his position on refugees. "But our first priority is protecting the safety of our residents."

[Michigan among those states not welcoming refugees \(WWMT\)](#)

In the wake of the deadly terror attacks in Paris on Friday, the state of Michigan is one of 11 across the country that has announced it will not take in Syrian refugees. U.S. governors—including Michigan's Governor Rick Snyder, are saying no to Syrian refugees. The news comes with concern that terrorists may enter the United States under the cover of a refugee to cause us harm.

Michigan Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs: "We support the governor" (WLNS)

We support the governor's step that is designed to ensure the safety and security of all Michiganders. We also ask our fellow citizens to stay away from stereotyping and racially-charged comments at this sensitive time. In unity, we will uphold the values that have served America well and made us the great society we are today.

Governor Snyder's decision to suspend Syrian refugee relocation to Michigan criticized by some (WXYZ)

Governor Rick Snyder is defending his decision to suspend the state's program to accept Syrian refugees following recent terrorist attacks in Paris and Lebanon.

Snyder's action on refugees receives tepid response from local leaders (Macomb Daily)

Snyder was one of several governors who expressed concern over the prospect of terrorists slipping into the United States as part of the refugee process.

Ohio, Michigan governors take stance on Syrian refugee resettlement (WTOL-TV Ohio)

Friday's terror attacks in Paris have prompted governors of several states to close their borders to Syrian refugees, including Ohio Gov. John Kasich and Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder.

Snyder's change on Syrian refugees leads wave of opposition (WZZM)

Gov. Rick Snyder's announcement on Sunday that he would at least temporarily back off an effort to relocate Syrian refugees in Michigan set off a wave of even stronger opposition by governors across the U.S. on Monday, with several saying they would reject outright any attempts to resettle Syrians in their states.

For Syrians in Michigan, call to block refugees is a gut punch (Washington Post)

Among the first and most surprising was Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder (R), who until this weekend had enthusiastically embraced the idea of resettling refugees in a depopulated Detroit.

Gov. Snyder suspends acceptance of refugees in Michigan (UP Matters/TV 3)

No Syrian refugees will be allowed into Michigan in the near future. Governor Rick Snyder has suspended the state's acceptance of those refugees until the U.S. Department of Homeland Security reviews its procedures for allowing them into our country.

Advocates urge Gov. Snyder to reconsider "hasty" decision on Syrian refugees (Michigan Radio)

Michigan's Syrian American community and its supporters are urging Governor Snyder to resume efforts to re-settle refugees in the state.

Snyder says hold on Syrian refugees is temporary (WOOD-TV)

Gov. Rick Snyder said that the hold he placed on allowing Syrian refugees into Michigan is a temporary precautionary decision. Two days after a group of Islamic extremists killed more than 100 people in Paris, Snyder made the move out of concern for the safety of Michigan residents, he said.

Snyder Says Suspending Acceptance of Syrian Refugees is "Prudent" and Temporary (Michigan Radio)

Governor Rick Snyder stresses that he's only pausing, not ending, plans to welcome refugees from Syria and other Middle East countries to Michigan. Governor Snyder has a very pro-immigration record, and says there are humanitarian and practical reasons for Michigan to welcome refugees.

Border Not Closed: Snyder Clarifies Refugee Situation (WSJM)

Governor Snyder is clarifying his stance on allowing Syrian refugees into the state. On Sunday, Snyder said he was temporarily halting efforts to relocate refugees into the state pending a review by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on the procedures for allowing them into the country. He also said yesterday that the borders aren't being closed.

Snyder Temporarily Blocks Refugees (WILX)

Governor Snyder says he's blocking more refugees from coming to Michigan for now in order to keep our state safe. "Most people are not terrorists," said Gov. Rick Snyder. "We need to be thoughtful about helping people around the world. This is just to be prudent to make sure that some terrorist element is not entering our country."

Snyder clarifies Syrian refugees already headed to Michigan OK (Fox 17)

In a bid to clarify a decision he announced Sunday, Gov. Rick Snyder says Syrian refugees already in the pipeline or who recently arrived or are expected to arrive in Michigan soon will not be stopped.

Bill signing

Snyder signs legislation to promote financial education (AP)

Gov. Rick Snyder says financial literacy courses will help Michigan high school students be better equipped to understand and manage their personal finances.

Snyder signs 11 bills, including increased penalties for poaching (UP Matters)

Michigan high school students will be better equipped to understand and manage their personal finances by earning credit for financial literacy courses, under bipartisan legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

DEQ

Boil water advisory in Shelby lifted after follow-up tests negative (MLive)

A boil water alert for the Village of Shelby has been lifted. The alert was issued late Thursday after coliform bacteria was discovered in the water distribution system. The alert, which was lifted around noon Sunday, advised people to boil water or use bottled water for cooking, drinking, washing dishes, making ice and brushing teeth.

Flint water crisis prompts more scrutiny of federal drinking water rules (Michigan Radio)

The Flint water crisis will be part of a public meeting this week in Virginia about federal rules on lead. The National Drinking Water Advisory Council is holding meetings tomorrow through Thursday to develop recommendations for the Environmental Protection Agency.

DNR

Firearm deer opener provides plenty to check at St. Charles DNR (MLive)

Officials at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources office in St. Charles saw nearly twice as many deer checked this firearms deer opener, as last year.

Fourth case of CWD confirmed in Michigan (UP Source)

A fourth case of chronic wasting disease has been confirmed in a deer downstate. Locally, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is taking steps to keep chronic wasting disease out of the Upper Peninsula. The disease is a neurological disorder that is fatal.

DOC

Midland County Board of Commissioners approves 2016 budget (Midland Daily News)

The Midland County Board of Commissioners recently approved the 2016 administrator/controller's recommended budget. But it didn't happen until commissioners had debated whether to include a request from Sheriff Scott Stephenson for an additional eight corrections officers.

Attorneys discuss a Flint water class action lawsuit (Michigan Radio)

Attorneys are hoping to sign up tens of thousands of Flint water customers for a class action lawsuit against the city and state. The suit was filed Friday on behalf of four families.

MDE

[LCC to interview finalists for board vacancy \(Lansing State Journal\)](#)

The Lansing Community College Board of Trustees will interview three candidates to fill a vacancy left by the resignation of one of its members last month. Alex Azima, Ronald Gillum and Todd Heywood were selected as finalists for the position from a pool of 18 applicants, according to a news release.

MDOT

[MDOT Earns Honors for Rumble Strip Idea \(WHTC\)](#)

The rumble strip concept that the Michigan Department of Transportation has implemented on rural highways has earned a national honor. The Roadway Safety Foundation and the Federal Highway Administration recognized MDOT's initiative with a 2015 National Roadway Safety Award for its effectiveness, innovation and efficient use of resources.

MEDC

[Switch confirms plans for \\$5B investment, 1,000 jobs at West Michigan data center \(MLive\)](#)

Switch has confirmed it intends to build a new \$5 billion data center on the site of the former Steelcase Inc. Corporate Development Center, commonly known as the Steelcase pyramid. The new 2 million-square-foot data center, dubbed Supernap Michigan, would be the largest data center in the eastern United States, the company said in a press release on Monday, Nov. 16.

MVAA

[Gov. Snyder honors businesses for veteran hiring efforts \(WWMT-TV\)](#)

Nearly 1,000 good paying jobs are ready to be filled by veterans in West Michigan. Governor Rick Snyder joined the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency on Monday at Michigan State University to recognize 37 employers for their veteran hiring efforts.

[One thousand jobs targeted for veterans through MVAA's Veteran \(UPMatters.com\)](#)

Nearly 1,000 good-paying jobs are ready to be filled by veterans at companies throughout Michigan that recognize and respect their military skills, training and experience. Gov. Rick Snyder joined Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency Director Jeff Barnes Monday during MVAA's Veteran-Friendly Employer Awards and Recognition Breakfast, held at Michigan State University.

SOS

[Judge: HP must turn over computer code to Mich. SOS \(The Detroit News\)](#)

A Kent County judge has ordered Hewlett-Packard to turn over the computer source code for vehicle registrations online to the state of Michigan, according to the Michigan Secretary of State's Office. The state terminated its contract with the global information technology company in August and sued HP in Kent County Circuit Court in September after the company failed to deliver on a \$49 million contract over 10 years.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

[Should Michigan change tax law to lure \\$5B data center? \(Free Press\)](#)

A vacant Grand Rapids site could become the largest data center in the eastern half of the United States but only if the Michigan legislature grants the company a tax break potentially worth millions of dollars.

[Switch confirms plans for \\$5B investment, 1,000 jobs at West Michigan data center \(MLive\)](#)

Switch has confirmed it intends to build a new \$5 billion data center on the site of the former Steelcase Inc. Corporate Development Center, commonly known as the Steelcase pyramid.

[\\$5B data center for Steelcase pyramid is 'an incredibly game-changing project' \(MLive\)](#)

About two months ago, Birgit Klohs, president and CEO of Right Place Inc., was invited to meet with a Nevada entrepreneur with the dashing name of Rob Roy and Roger Norman, the new owner of the former Steelcase pyramid.

Michigan State Senator wants to repeal Self-Defense Act (Ammoland)

On Tuesday, November 10, state Senator Rebekah Warren (D-18) implicitly made a bold statement that violent criminals deserve more legal protection than their law-abiding victims when she introduced Senate Bill 611.

OPINION

Why collective bargaining still works (Detroit Free Press)

The recently concluded negotiations between the Detroit 3 and the UAW shows the benefits of collective bargaining in a democratic society.

The long road to peace and the end of terror (Detroit Free Press)

It will be months before Paris, Beirut, Nairobi and the rest of the world recover from the loss of life and shaken sense of security wrought by the cowardly terrorist acts of the past week.

Gov. Snyder's decision on Syrian refugees plays into what ISIS wants (Michigan Radio)

Governor Rick Snyder bowed to pressure yesterday and made a decision that was politically easy.

Initiative petition process cries for reform (Detroit News)

We are about one year away from the 2016 general election and efforts are in full swing to qualify initiated statutes and constitutional amendments for that statewide ballot. Already we're seeing evidence with those efforts of the dysfunction that we've come to associate with the law/amendment drafting, petition circulation process, and voter information that comes with ballot questions.

Editorial: Roads funding plan is a start (Lansing State Journal)

When Gov. Snyder put pen to paper last week, he finally gave us a roads funding plan.

Candice Miller: Gov. Snyder's prior willingness to accept Syrian refugees was 'off the mark' (MLive)

U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, R-Harrison Twp., joined WJR 760 AM host Paul W. Smith on Monday to make clear her concerns regarding the U.S. accepting Syrian refugees in the wake of Friday's terrorist bombings in Paris.

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