

News Release:

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Rep. Lee Chatfield Named 2017 MLA Legislator of the Year

LANSING – State Rep. Lee Chatfield (R-Levering) was recognized as Michigan Library Association Legislator of the Year for his leadership in promoting libraries and supporting legislation advancing the library mission. Chatfield received his award at a community-wide celebration at the Pickford Community Library in Pickford, Mich. The library is a member of the Superior District Library.

Chatfield represents the 107th District which encompasses Chippewa, Emmet and Mackinac counties, and in Cheboygan County: Koehler, Tuscarora, Beaugrand, Hebron, Mackinaw and Munro townships and the city of Cheboygan.

“Rep. Chatfield understands how essential libraries are to their communities and the need to keep them adequately funded and supported,” said Gail Madziar, MLA Executive Director. “He was instrumental this past year in helping pass legislation that gave libraries a voice in how tax capture authorities and tax increment financing could use specially dedicated library millages.”

The bills ensured the millages are used to fund libraries while promoting transparency and accountability for voters.

The MLA Legislator of the Year award recognizes lawmakers for their action on legislation impacting libraries and for their work supporting libraries and the communities they serve.

The Michigan Library Association (MLA) is Michigan's oldest and largest library association spanning more than 125 years. MLA's membership is comprised of more than 1,500 members from public, academic, private and special libraries. Guided by the belief that free and open access to information is the cornerstone of a free society, the Michigan Library Association advocates for libraries and the free access of information on behalf of the state's residents.

Photo Attached: Left to right - Rep. Lee Chatfield and Pickford Community Library Manager Ann Marie Smith

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