



JULIAN VAIL, LLC NEWS & NOTES



MARCH 20, 2009



2009 MICHIGAN LEGISLATIVE SCHEDULE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- 1:30 pm - Tuesday, Wednesday March 24-25
- 12:00 pm - Thursday March 26

SENATE

- 10:00 am - Tuesday-Thursday March 24-26

COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

SENATE

Agriculture

March 24, 2009

1:00 pm

Room 405 Capitol Bldg.

Chair: Sen. Cameron Brown

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF DETECTIVES

Mid-Term Board Meeting

March 26-29, 2009

Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six
Resort

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Networking Reception

Thursday, March 27th

6:30 pm

*“The foolish man seeks
happiness in the dis-
tance, the wise grows it
under his feet.”*

-James Oppenheim

Julian Stille S.B. 134 Moved For Final Vote

Julian Stille AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS S.B. 134 introduced by Senator Vanwoerkom has moved for final vote in the House of Representatives. The Act requires the MDA to establish and administer an agricultural value-added grant program.

The Agriculture Commission must award grants from the Fund for projects designed to establish, retain, expand, attract, or develop value-added agricultural processing and related agricultural production operations in the State. Under the bill, the MDA Director, with the consent of the Commission, would have to award those grants.

In approving a grant, the Agriculture Commission must state the specific objective reasons supporting the selection of the applicant over competing applicants. The bill, instead, would require the MDA Director to provide supporting documentation on the selection of approved applicants to the Commission.

Of the 40 projects funded under the latest round of grants, about 19 had been completed as of May 2008, according to the MDA.

RECOGNIZING

Mark Elzinga with Michigan Floriculture Growers Council

Mark Elzinga is a Board Member of the Michigan Floriculture Growers Council and the owner of Elzinga & Hoeksema Greenhouses. Elzinga & Hoeksema Greenhouses were founded in 1962 in Portage, Michigan. Today, they have five locations ranking at No. 45 on *Greenhouse Growers' Top 100 Growers* and is run by Jake's eldest son Mark Elzinga and head grower Roger Rosenthal. Mark bought the business from his father and Hoeksema 10 years ago and learned to value long-term partnerships from their example.

From solar-thermal energy systems to certified organic production and recycling initiatives, Mark Elzinga and Roger Rosenthal are leading the way for large-scale sustainable greenhouse production. Elzinga and Hoeksema Greenhouses have been proudly recognized by *Greenhouse Grower* as their Grower of the Year for 2008.

Elzinga also has been active helping fellow growers by working closely with them on the Michigan Floriculture Growers Council board, which directs legislative priorities at the statehouse and research priorities at Michigan State University.

Check out www.mifgc.org to read more about MFGC and www.elzingagreenhouses.com to read more about E&H Greenhouses.

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