
News Release



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Albers Statement Regarding Finance Committee Action on Comprehensive Planning

“My understanding is that yesterday’s motion by the Joint Finance Committee to repeal comprehensive planning was completed from start to finish in not more than a few hours. In fact, the explanatory note accompanying the motion wasn’t even an accurate reflection of current law. I’m not sure that pulling the rabbit out of the hat and rushing it to a vote is the best way to develop a budget.”

“The motion approved yesterday does nothing to address ongoing land use conflicts between cities and villages and the towns that surround them. Replacing something with nothing will just lead to further erosion of private property rights, especially in townships near villages and cities that are experiencing rapid growth.”

“I will be the first to acknowledge that comprehensive planning is not perfect. It is, however, a compromise that resulted from detailed, careful, and thoughtful discussion between groups representing farmers, builders, realtors, environmentalists, and local governments across the state. Those efforts resulted in the first formal recognition of private property rights in state law.”

“The overwhelming majority of people in this state are supportive of planning efforts. They recognize that planning, when done properly, leads to higher property values for landowners, lower costs for municipal services, and a better quality of life. It is my hope that if Governor Doyle indeed agrees to sign this repeal into law that we will immediately commence discussions on a new planning framework that enjoys even broader support than the current framework already has.”