

**LDA OF MICHIGAN:
Statement on Michigan's Budget Deficit**

Michigan currently faces a \$900 million budget shortfall and anticipates a \$2.4 billion shortfall in fiscal year 2008.* Budget cuts are being proposed that affect essential services and supports for Michigan citizens with learning disabilities and other conditions.

The Learning Disabilities Association of Michigan is a 501(c)3 non-profit volunteer organization with offices located at 200 Museum Drive, Ste. 101, Lansing, Michigan 48933.

Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for all individuals with learning disabilities and their families through advocacy, education, training, service and support of research. Our organization supports initiatives that encompass prevention, early identification, and access to the necessary supports to allow full participation of our constituents as citizens.

LDA of Michigan urges the Michigan legislature to resolve the current deficit by implementing measures to increase revenue. We support legislation that maintains full funding of human services. This includes quality public education (pre-school, K-12, adult & post secondary); adequate health care, including access to quality, comprehensive mental health services; after-school programs/recreational opportunities, basic support services, and work-force development programs, etc. for children, adolescents, and adults with learning disabilities.

Approved: May 16, 2007

*SOURCE: *Lansing State Journal*, retrieved 5/8/07 from the *Lansing State Journal Online*: <http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/>