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Ypsilantians to Pump Up Their Grass Roots Political Power at Town Hall Meeting to Repeal the "Emergency Manager" Law

The statewide initiative to repeal Public Act 4 will be the focus of a town hall meeting in Ypsilanti on Monday 25 July. This town hall, sponsored by The Washtenaw Community Action Team (WCAT), will provide a forum to educate interested community members and organizations on the implications of the law for Washtenaw County communities, the effort to repeal PA-4, and the opportunity to begin discussing alternatives for Washtenaw County and Michigan communities.

"We are building grassroots power to repeal this undemocratic law." said WCAT spokesperson Janella James. She said, "Our state governments refuses to raise taxes to fund the services that Michigan residents want, and instead have created a law that allows them to take away the power of mayors and city councils in order to rule local governments, and even dissolve a city, county, or school system."

Public Act 4, the "emergency manager" law, allows the governor to assign an unelected person to run municipalities placed in the receivership of the state. The \$1.7 billion tax cut for businesses has put a number of Washtenaw County municipalities and school districts at risk of this type receivership and therefore at risk of having an emergency manager appointed. Earlier this spring, the City Council of Ypsilanti issued a formal resolution against PA-4.

The town hall will include several speakers, including: Chris Savage (Blogger, www.eclectablog.com), whose coverage of PA-4 has received national attention, Brandon Jessup (CEO, Michigan Forward, www.michiganforward.org), whose organization launched the campaign to repeal PA-4 and spokespeople for the Ypsilanti municipalities that will discuss the potential impact of PA-4 on the community.

The event will take place at Metropolitan Memorial Full Gospel Baptist Church located at 431 Hawkins St., Monday, July 25th from 6:45-8:45. For more information please visit our website: <http://washtenawcat.org/>

The Washtenaw Community Action Team is a grassroots coalition of community groups, unions, church groups, students and activists working together to defend and advocate for working people at the local, state and national level.