



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MICHIGAN

EDUCATING AND ADVOCATING FOR RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

April 18, 2016

Senator Jim Stamas
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Senator Stamas:

The League of Women Voters of Michigan is opposed to SB 501 as it has been reported from the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and is now on the House Calendar. The bill has changed dramatically from the bill you originally introduced to allow some foreign visitors drive with their foreign driver's licenses.

The League is particularly concerned about the new requirements that have been added to require a driver to carry some form of legal documentation to verify his or her legal presence in Michigan.

Some problems include:

- 1) a potential for malfeasance during a traffic stop when the officer must ask for and request all documents, assess their validity, as well as assess the situation,
- 2) the need for adequate training for an officer to deal with over 75 kinds of visas that could be presented, and
- 3) in Michigan, migrant agricultural workers may be discouraged from traveling to our state for fear of document errors or database errors and subsequent fines or detention.

The League of Women Voters of Michigan believes that immigration policies should meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States. All persons should receive fair treatment under the law.

We urge you to make changes to improve SB 501.

Sincerely,

Judy Karandjeff
President

cc: Kevin Cotter, Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives
Tim Greimel, Democratic Leader of the Michigan House of Representatives