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*News from Engage Michigan*

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**Citizens Groups Call for Expanded Voting Rights on MLK Day**  
Legislators should make voting more accessible

MICHIGAN – Today, in the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr., voting rights groups are calling on elected leaders in Lansing to expand citizens' voting rights and oppose voter suppression legislation.

Several bills were introduced and/or passed in 2015 that would negatively impact voters' ability to participate in elections. Governor Rick Snyder signed a bill to eliminate straight ticket voting. Another bill that was introduced would put up numerous roadblocks to local officials who want to make voting more convenient and accessible in their communities.

The organizations listed below sign on to the following statement:

“Voting is our right and our responsibility. The integrity of our elections depends on every eligible citizen being able to register and cast their ballot. Martin Luther King Jr. knew that and dedicated his life to ensuring that every eligible citizen in America had the right to participate in our democracy. We continue in 2016 in carrying on his quest by urging our representatives to modernize and streamline elections in order to make voting more accessible, convenient, accurate, and fair.”

Michigan State Conference NAACP  
APIAVote-MI  
Sierra Club Michigan Chapter  
The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law  
Fair Elections Legal Network  
League of Women Voters of Michigan  
Michigan Election Reform Alliance  
Michigan Muslim Community Council  
Michigan Center for Election Law  
American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan