



Testimony by League of Women Voters of Michigan on SB909 and Companion Bills

December 5, 2012

My name is Susan Smith; I am President of the League of Women Voters of Michigan.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address the Committee.

The League of Women Voters supports passage of SB 909 and its companion bills as passed by the Senate to allow a county and the three largest contiguous counties to create a regional transit authority with a 10-member board. Senate Bill 909 would create the "Southeast Michigan Regional Transit Authority Act" to coordinate public transit within a region consisting of Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties.

The League of Women Voters of Michigan supports measures that allow flexibility in solving metropolitan area or regional problems, and that encourage orderly growth and efficient government. The measure should include full cooperation among governmental units and coordination by the State of Michigan, of state agency policies and programs as they relate to both regions and to local governments.

The League actively promotes the coordination by state agencies of their rules and regulations for local governments. We also support membership in regional planning and development commissions that include local units of government and special purpose districts.

We urge you to support passage of SB 909 and its companion bills to allow a regional transit authority for southeast Michigan.

Thank you.

Susan Smith, President
League of Women Voters of Michigan