



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **League of Women Voters of Michigan applauds court ruling in victory for voter petitions**

LANSING – The Michigan Court of Claims has ruled in favor of the **League of Women Voters of Michigan** in a complaint regarding aspects of a law related to the collection of signatures for Michigan ballot drives.

The court concluded that the 15 percent cap on signatures and related provisions in 2018 Public Act 608, and the checkbox requirement for paid circulators are unconstitutional. The cap said no more than 15 percent of the signatures on a ballot petition can be counted from a single congressional district, while the checkbox requirement required signature gatherers to indicate on each petition page if they are paid or volunteers. Both placed onerous requirements on petition gathering.

“Our most direct exercise of democracy is the right to petition our government, so the League of Women Voters of Michigan is applauding this decision as it further protects the right to petition,” said **Christina Schlitt**, co-president of the League of Women Voters of Michigan. “These provisions imposed unnecessary obstacles on the will of the people being carried out and did not ensure the voices of voters were being heard.”

“For 100 years, the League of Women Voters have worked to advance democracy, ensuring every person has the desire, knowledge and confidence to participate,” said **Paula Bowman**, Michigan League co-president. “The provisions that were ruled unconstitutional go directly against our mission, and we are thankful petitioners will no longer have to deal with these unnecessary rules.”

A PDF of the Michigan Court of Claims ruling is available [in PDF form](#). Progress Michigan and RiseUpMI are plaintiffs along with the League.

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The League of Women Voters of Michigan is the state league for the U.S. League of Women Voters, which is a nonpartisan political organization that aims to encourage informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Learn more at [lwvmi.org](http://lwvmi.org).