



30 September 2021

Via Email: elections@michigan.gov

LWVMI Public Comment to Support MISOS Rules

Please include in the public hearing of 1 October 2021

1. Absent Voter Ballot Application

The LWVMI supports the online ballot applications for all Michigan voters especially for the youth vote that are readily adept to this format. The League participates in a widespread program of high school voter registration and encourages the online application to help get this population out to vote.

All Michigan voters have highly endorsed the opportunity to vote absentee and this step is critical to the process. Online application supports the Michigan voters overwhelming support of making absentee voting more accessible.

2. Signature Matching Standards for Absent Voter Ballot Applications and Absent Voter Ballot Envelopes

The LWVMI supports making absentee voting rule in establishing standards of signature verification of the voters' ballot application and the signature on the absent voter ballot envelope agree sufficiently to meet the voter's signature on file (with the presumption that the voter's signature is valid). Exact matches are not required, but sufficient to determine validity. This rule is important to ensure Michigan voters exercise their constitutional right to vote by absentee ballot.

The LWVMI would recommend that any voter be able to track their absentee application or ballot to include information about signature rejection in order for the voter to correct the error.

3. Disqualification from Ballot Based Upon Contents of Affidavit of Identity

The LWVMI supports codifying the best practices/ rules that the Bureau of Elections has employed with success.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Paula Bowman in cursive.

Handwritten signature of Christina Schlitt in cursive.

Paula Bowman and Christina Schlitt
LWVMI Co-Presidents

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