



September 13, 2021

To: Members of the House Rules and Competitiveness Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Michigan believes state and local governments should pass legislation and publicly fund programs and services that address the ongoing challenges faced by agricultural employers to recruit and retain viable, skilled migrant/seasonal farm workers. It is quality of life issues for workers and their families that draw workers in a competitive labor market. Quality of life is enhanced by safe, healthy, affordable housing; education; health care; fair treatment by law enforcement and other services provided by state and local government offices and agencies.

Specifically, the state should allow a person to apply for, secure and renew a driver's license or obtain an identification card regardless of immigration status. Sixteen states and the District of Columbia have enacted laws to allow unauthorized immigrants to obtain driver's licenses.

According to estimates there are 100,000 immigrants in Michigan who would benefit from passage of this legislation.

Thank you for having a hearing on HB 4375 and HB 4376, and we urge you to support passage of these bills to enable immigrants to have access to state IDs or driver's licenses.

Sincerely,

Paula Bowman *Christina Schlitt*

Paula Bowman & Christina Schlitt
Co-Presidents