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League of Women Voters of Michigan asks Michigan Supreme Court to end gerrymandering at county level

LANSING – The **League of Women Voters of Michigan** has called on the Michigan Supreme Court to end partisan gerrymandering at the county level.

Filed today, the League is asking the Court to hear its appeal from a Court of Appeals order upholding the Kent County Apportionment Commission's County commission map for 2022-30 despite its clear partisan gerrymandering. The Michigan Supreme Court has never interpreted the ban on partisan gerrymandering in the 1966 law governing county reapportionment. The League's appeal provides an excellent opportunity for the Court to do so.

"Michigan voters, including those in Kent County, spoke loud and clear when they voted to end partisan gerrymandering through Proposal 2 in 2018," said **Christina Schlitt**, co-president of the Michigan League. "This blatant example of gerrymandering goes against the will of Michigan voters and the Kent County Apportionment Commission's plan needs to be replaced with a fair one in a timely manner."

"Partisan maps can have significant effects on the policies adopted by a public body and impact every county resident, but advantage few," said **Paula Bowman**, co-president of the Michigan League. "We must respect the will of Michigan voters by ensuring partisan gerrymandering has no place in our democracy."

The League asked the Court to expedite its appeal because the April candidate filing deadline is fast approaching. The county clerk will need time to adjust the boundaries before the filing deadline for county commission candidates, so they can be aware of the new boundaries.

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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.