

# The Detroit News

## Letter: Want to dispel election irregularity falsehoods this fall? Volunteer

### **The Detroit News**

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After the 2020 election, amid lies that the election certification was unfair and incorrect, the League of Women Voters of Michigan launched our election certification observer program.

Over the past two years, the League has deployed volunteer observers to watch and listen as the Michigan Board of State and County Canvassers certify our elections.

During the 2022 primary election, the program mobilized 140 volunteer observers, covering 35 Michigan counties. Even more volunteers are expected for the general election in November, and our major focus this year is on counties where underserved communities vote.

These trained, nonpartisan volunteers will report their observations to our organization, and we will pass along details about any irregularities to the appropriate government agencies or legal sources.

These observers are important to the election certification process to protect our democracy and help ensure Michigan voters have a voice in deciding on their representation and any policies on the ballot. Every eligible Michigan voter's voice must be heard.

Helping ensure the certification process follows the Michigan Constitution is particularly crucial as we continue to see politicians, candidates and pundits perpetrate the "big lie," although President Joe Biden won Michigan by nearly 150,000 votes. The partisan efforts to damage our democracy by disrupting the certification process should not be tolerated.

We were encouraged by comments from Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, who reported that the courts would swiftly enforce attempts to block the certification of our elections regardless of the results. This is critical to ensure the will of the voters is carried out.

The League of Women Voters of Michigan envisions a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate. Our organization is very proud to be nonpartisan, so the will of all voters is protected and heard.

Observing county canvassing is open to the public, and we invite all Michigan voters to participate in this important process. The League will be hosting webinars for the public and the media about this part of the election process this fall.

As this election year continues, we will keep voters informed of any irregularities in our election certification process. We look forward to helping ensure the will of the people is carried out, and that every voter's voice is heard.

**Christina Schlitt**, co-president  
**Paula Bowman**, co-president  
League of Women Voters of Michigan