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**Partners continue high school voter registration program in 2023:
MI Vote Matters**

Program aims to increase young voter knowledge and participation

The **MI Vote Matters** High School Voter Registration Challenge encourages high schools across Michigan to help connect students with their right to vote through civic education and nonpartisan voter registration drives. Schools can strive for the highest voter registration rate and earn recognition from the Secretary of State for the percentage of eligible seniors who have registered or pre-registered:

- Gold for 90% and above
- Silver for 70% and above
- Bronze for 50% and above

In Michigan, teenage residents who are U.S. citizens and at least 17.5 years old can pre-register to vote and then automatically become active voters once they turn 18. Some students will have their first opportunity to vote in municipal elections in 2023.

In the MI Vote Matters program, once students have registered or pre-registered to vote, they will submit a pledge to vote card either online or by paper in order for their registration to count toward their school's participation numbers. The deadline for students to register to vote under the challenge is at the end of May, 2023.

The Secretary of State's Office is partnering with several nonpartisan organizations that already have standing high school voter registration programs, including:

- Inspire2Vote, a program of Project High Hopes
- League of Women Voters of Michigan
- Michigan Center for Civic Education
- When We All Vote, an initiative within Civic Nation

"The League of Women Voters is happy to participate in this project, which promotes voter

registration among students” said Paula Bowman, Co-President of the League of Women Voters of Michigan. “Young people have a stake in our future and voting is the best and easiest way to participate in our democracy.”

We encourage schools to participate in the MI Vote Matters High School Voter Registration Challenge. By working together, we can educate students of all ages through civic participation.

Michigan high schools can sign up for the challenge at inspire2vote.org/MIVoteMatters. Teachers and/or students can choose to run their own voter registration program, or one of the non-partisan partners can come into the school and assist with the details.

For more information about the program, contact:
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