

# Legislative Outlook 102<sup>nd</sup> Session 2023-24

Presented by LWVMI Advocacy Committee



# AGENDA

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# Executive Branch

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# UPDATE: Executive Branch

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Governor Gretchen Whitmer &  
Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist (D)

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson (D)

Attorney General Dana Nessel (D)



# 102<sup>nd</sup> Legislature

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# Composition of MI Legislature

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## Michigan Senate

38 Members

20 Democrats

18 Republicans

## Michigan House of Representatives

110 Members

56 Democrats

54 Republicans

# MI Senate Chambers



# Senate Leadership

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Lt. Governor Gilchrist presides over the Senate & breaks ties.

Majority Leader - Winnie Brinks, D-Grand Rapids

Minority Leader- Aric Nesbitt, R – Porter Township

All committees have a majority of Democratic members.





# Senate Committees

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There are 18 standing committees in the Michigan Senate

They are all chaired by a Democratic member and have a majority of Democrats.

Members are appointed by the Majority Leader

Committees include:

- Elections and Ethics Committee
- Appropriations Committee  
with 13 subcommittees
- Energy and Environment
- Health Policy
- Civil Rights, Judiciary and Public Safety



# MI House of Representatives Chambers



# House Leadership

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Speaker – Joe Tate, D-Detroit

Minority Leader – Matt Hall, R-Kalamazoo

All committees have a majority of Democratic members.



# House Committees

There are 23 standing committees in the Michigan House of Representatives

They are all chaired by a Democratic member and have a majority of Democrats.

Members are appointed by the Speaker

Committees include:

- Elections Committee
- Appropriations Committee  
with 13 subcommittees
- Family and Children Committee
- Education Committee
- Judiciary Committee



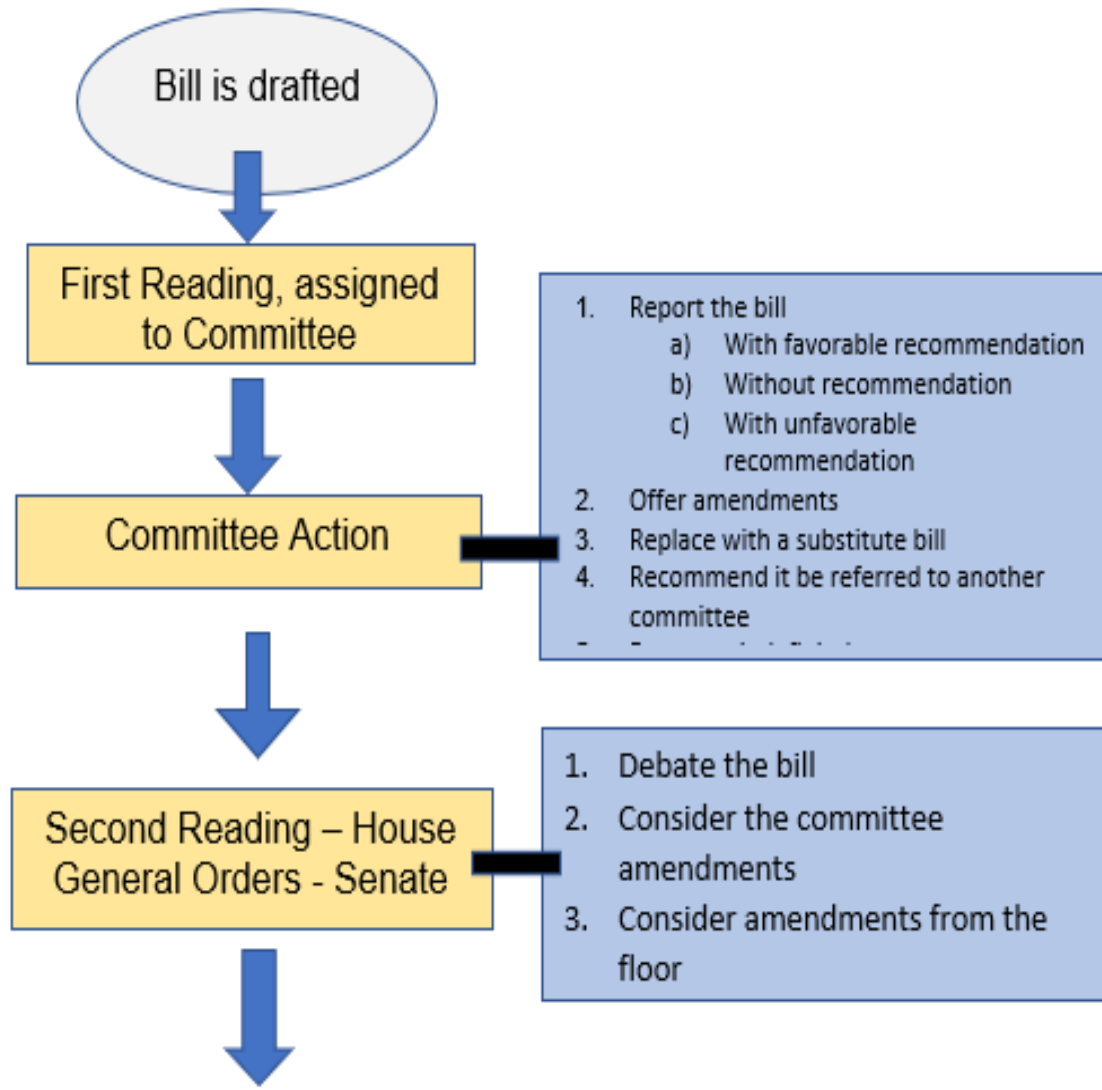


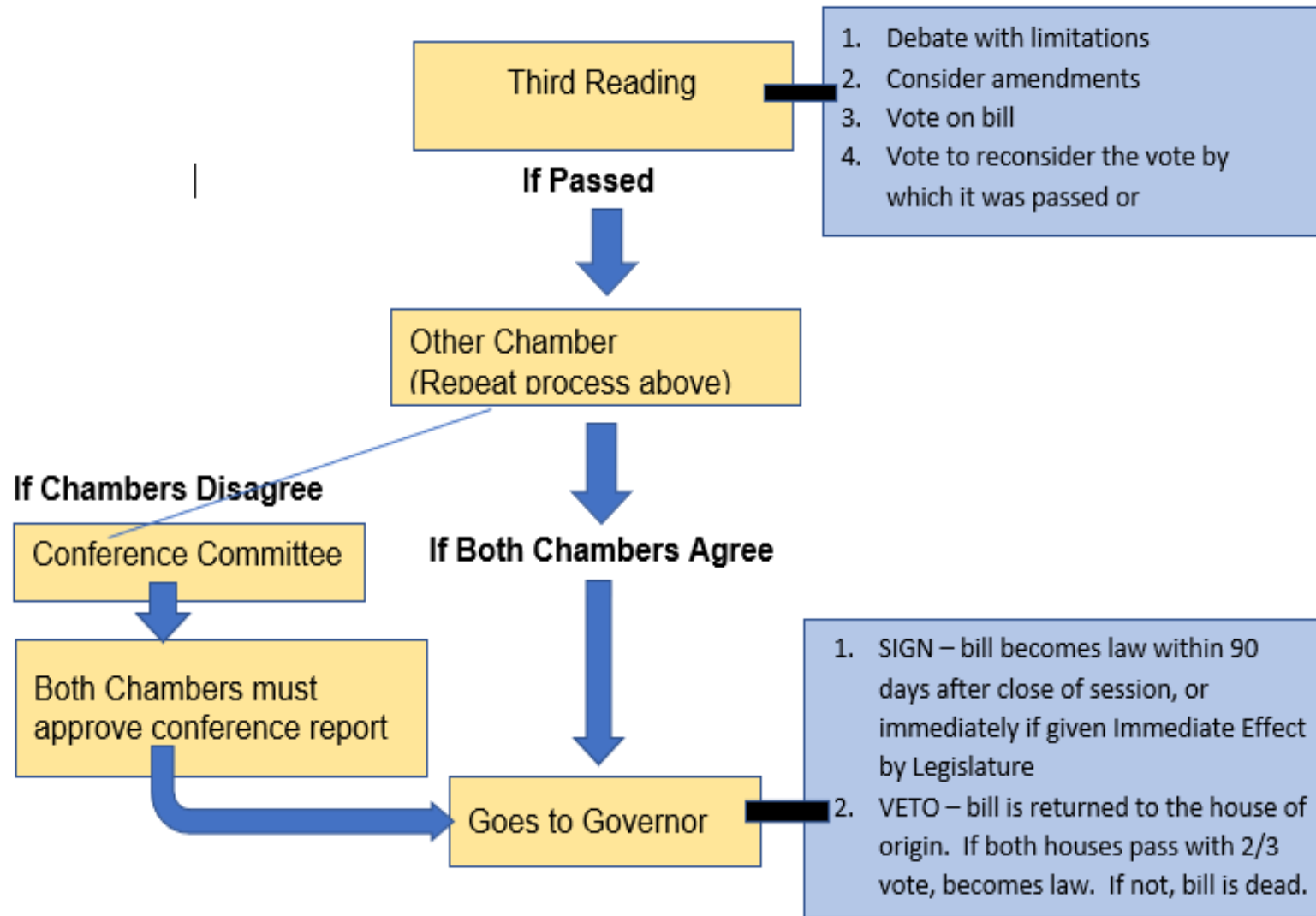
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# Legislative Process

# HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW IN MICHIGAN

Source: The State We're In



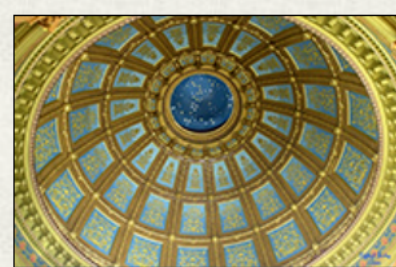


# Immediate Effect

The Michigan Constitution, Article IV, Section 27, says, “No act shall take effect until the expiration of 90 days from the end of the session at which it was passed, but the legislature may give immediate effect to acts by a two-thirds vote of the members elected to and serving in each house.”







# MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

Michigan Compiled Laws Complete Through PA 2 of 2023  
House: Adjourned until Tuesday, February 14, 2023 1:30:00 PM  
Senate: Adjourned until Tuesday, February 14, 2023 10:00:00 AM

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## Legislature

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## Laws

- [Basic MCL Search](#)
- [Advanced MCL Search](#)
- [Public Act MCL Search](#)
- [Michigan Constitution](#)
- [Chapter Index](#)
- [Executive Orders](#)

### Michigan Bill Search

House bills begin with 4001, Senate bills begin with 1

You can use a wild card, e.g., "limit\*"

(For Example: Select 'food' to show related bills even if 'food' is not found in the text of the bill.)

### Michigan Compiled Laws Search

e.g., 2.14

You can use a wild card, e.g., "limit\*"

### Legislative Activity

- [Today's Calendars](#)
- [House Audio/Video](#)
- [Senate Audio/Video](#)
- [Recent Bill Activity](#)
- [Daily Intro/Passed/Enrolled](#)

### How do I...

- Bills
- Appropriation Bills (Passed)
- Calendars
- Committees
- Committee Bill Records
- Committee Meetings
- Concurrent Resolutions
- Initiatives/Alternative Measures
- Joint Resolutions
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- Search - Basic
- Search - Advanced
- Laws
- Basic MCL Search
- Advanced MCL Search
- Public Act MCL Search
- Michigan Constitution
- Chapter Index
- Executive Orders
- Executive Reorgs
- Historical Documents
- MCL Tables
- Often Req Laws
- Req Outdated Acts
- More
- Archives
- Email Notifications
- Legislative Directory
- Michigan Manuals

Friendly Link: <http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2023-HB-4001>

### Sponsors

Angela Witwer (district 76)  
Joeseph Tate, Laurie Pohutsky, Erin Byrnes, Jaime Churches, Jason Morgan, Tyrone Carter, Natalie Price, Kara Hope, Noah Arbit, Stephanie Young, Jennifer Conlin, Sharon MacDonell, Denise Mentzer, Jenn Hill, Jim Haadsma, Mike McFall, Veronica Paiz, Penelope Tsernoglou, Carol Glanville, Jason Hoskins, Carrie Rheingans, Matt Koleszar, Christine Morse, Reggie Miller, John Fitzgerald, Phil Skaggs, Kelly Breen, Tullio Liberati, Felicia Brabec, Jasper Martus, Will Snyder, Kristian Grant, Samantha Steckloff, Ranjeev Puri, Jimmie Wilson Jr., Julie Rogers, Karen Whitsett, Helena Scott, Amos O'Neal, Nate Shannon, Dylan Wegela, Cynthia Neeley, Betsy Coffia, Abraham Aiyash, Lori Stone  
(click name to see bills sponsored by that person)













### Categories

Individual income tax: retirement or pension benefits; Individual income tax: revenue distributions; Individual income tax: school aid;  
Individual income tax: retirement or pension benefits; limitations and restrictions on deductions of certain retirement or pension benefits and revenue distribution to state school aid fund; revise. Amends secs. 30 & 51 of 1967 PA 281 (MCL 206.30 & 206.51).

### Bill Documents

[Bill Document Formatting Information](#)  
(gray icons indicate that the action did not occur or that the document is not available)

#### Documents

-   **House Introduced Bill**  
Introduced bills appear as they were introduced and reflect no subsequent amendments or changes.
-   **As Passed by the House**  
As Passed by the House is the bill, as introduced, that includes any adopted House amendments.
-   **As Passed by the Senate**  
As Passed by the Senate is the bill, as received from the House, that includes any adopted Senate amendments.
-   **Conference Report**  
Report of the Committee of Conference on the matters of difference between the House and the Senate.
-   **House Concurred Bill**  
Concurred bill is the version passed in identical form by both houses of the Legislature, issued prior to availability of the Enrolled bill.
-   **House Enrolled Bill**

# Legislative Resources

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[www.legislature.mi.gov](http://www.legislature.mi.gov)

<https://house.mi.gov/>

<https://senate.Michigan.gov/>

Journals

Committee meetings listed

Links to Senate and House members

Links to all bills in this session and past sessions

# Legislative Priorities

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# Governor's State of State Agenda:

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Universal Pre-School free for all 4-year olds

Firearm Regulation – red flag and universal background laws

Tax Relief - Expand Earned Income Tax Credit and pension tax relief

Expand Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to cover sexual orientation and gender identity

K-12 student help with tutors and after-school programs

Expand free tuition program for free community college or skills training schools

Remove abortion and marriage bans

# Secretary of State Benson's Agenda:

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During the week of January 30, 2023, the Secretary of State presented her agenda to the House Elections Committee and the Senate Elections and Ethics Committee.

She noted these issues needed to be addressed:

- Implement Proposal 2
- Align current laws with Constitutional amendments
- Put clerks in position to succeed
- Fully fund elections

# LWV Priorities

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# LWVUS Priorities:

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Campaign for Making Democracy Work ® ensuring a free, fair and accessible electoral system for all eligible voters by focusing on:

Voting Rights, Improving Elections,  
Campaign Finance/Money in Politics,

Direct election of the President by popular vote (including through the national popular vote interstate compact and abolition of the Electoral College), and

Redistricting.

## Watchlist:

Respond strategically on issues like the Equal Rights Amendment, immigration reform, climate change and, health care with LWV positions when needed, but focus on the Campaign for Making Democracy Work®



# LWVMI PRIORITIES:

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**Prison gerrymandering,  
Campaign finance,  
Criminal justice,  
Voting rights,  
Environmental protection and restoration,  
Public education,  
Social justice equity, and  
Public health & safety.**

# LWVMI Advocacy Committee

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# LWVMI ADVOCACY COMMITTEE 2021-23:

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1. Marty Couretas – Gun Violence Prevention
2. Betsy Cushman – Voting Rights
3. Tricia Denton – Water/Line 5
4. Sandy Sorini Elser – Natural Resources/Environment/Climate
5. Judy Karandjeff, Chair - Election Laws, Women's Issues
6. Carolyn Madden – Criminal Justice
7. Connie Mitchell – Education/Critical Race Theory
8. Maria Woloson – Abolish Electoral College
9. Chris Zilke – Great Lakes
  
10. Sue Smith – Ex Officio – National Popular Vote
11. Christina Schlitt – Ex Officio
12. Paula Bowman – Ex Officio

## 2 Networks under the Advocacy Committee

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### 1. Environmental Network – Sandy Sorini Elser, Liaison

- 41 members from 10-15 local Leagues
- Water sub-group

### 2. Money in Politics – Sue Smith, Liaison

- Newly formed

# Bills We Are Following:

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We keep a list on the state website

Right now bills that are moving

- Elliott Larsen Civil Rights Act
- Gun Safety
- Repeal old anti-abortion laws
- National Popular Vote

Will work on bills to implement Proposals 1 and 2



## LWVMI Support/Oppose Form

600 W. St. Joseph St., Suite 3G - Lansing MI 48933-2288  
517.484.5383 phone --- 517.484.3086 fax --- president@lwwmi.org

INSTRUCTIONS: The LWVMI Board must decide on all requests for League action in support of or opposition to governmental decisions or proposed decisions at the state level (e.g. legislature, governor or state department or bureaus). This form may be used for making a recommendation to the LWVMI Board to endorse such League action on proposed rules, ballot initiatives or other pending decisions, including bills introduced in the Legislature.

This form is not necessary for local advocacy (i.e., on a purely local issue and working with local officials – township, city, county) using local, state or national positions. Local Leagues don't need approval for local advocacy.

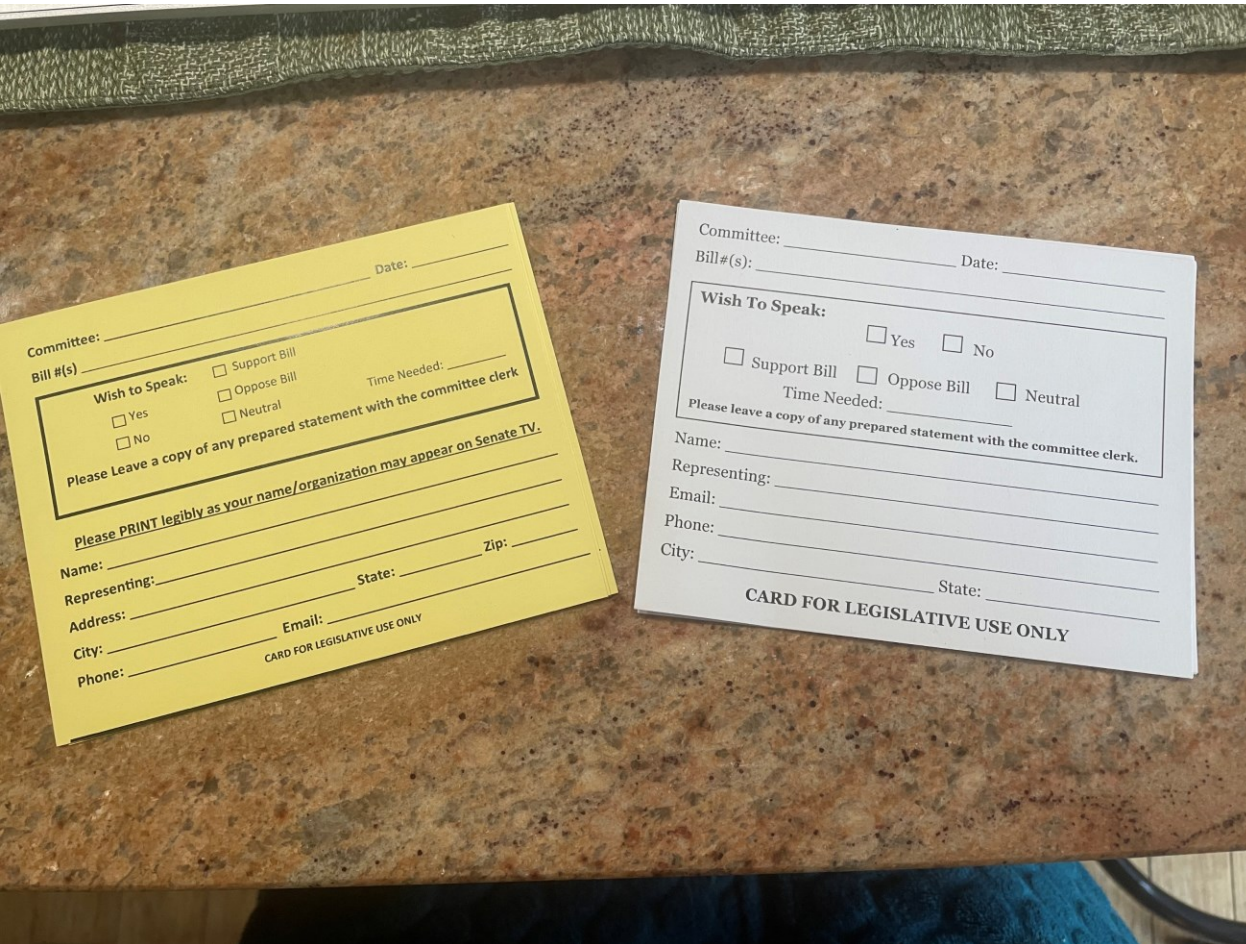
\* Indicates that a response is required.

**Date \***

**Bill number(s) or other identifier (e.g., name of ballot initiative, proposed rule): \***

**Synopsis of bill(s) or other proposed governmental decision: \***

# We support/oppose bills and testify at committee hearings



# LWVMI Action Alerts

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LWVMI does action alerts as needed.

There is a video on website explaining why taking action is important

Sent to members and available on website, TAKE ACTION Button

Example on next slide



# Support Electing The President By National Popular Vote

The League of Women Voters of Michigan supports our state joining the National Popular Vote Compact and is encouraging our members to reach out to their legislators and voice their support.

Since the early 1970s, the national League of Women Voters has taken a position that direct election of the president by popular vote is essential to representative government. Michigan should join the 15 states and the District of Columbia (with 195 electoral votes) that have already enacted the National Popular Vote Compact into law.

Five of our 46 Presidents have come into office without winning the most popular votes nationwide. Enacting National Popular Vote will apply the concept of "one person, one vote" to our presidential elections. More information is available at the [National Popular Vote website](#).

Please help make National Popular Vote happen in Michigan by emailing your legislators today. Note you can edit the message before you send it.

In League,  
Christina Schlitt and Paula Bowman, Co-Presidents



# Resources:

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MI Legislature – [www.legislature.mi.gov](http://www.legislature.mi.gov)

LWVMI – [www.lwvmi.org](http://www.lwvmi.org)

MI Senate - <https://senate.Michigan.gov/>

MI House of Representatives - <https://house.mi.gov/>

# CITIZEN'S GUIDE

to State  
Government

102<sup>ND</sup>  
LEGISLATURE  
2023-2024



# QUESTIONS???

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