



March 4, 2025

Dear Members of the House Election Integrity Committee:

The League of Women Voters of Michigan opposes passage of HJR B.

Imagine that it is five days before Election Day, and you are on your way to register and then vote at an early voting site in your community—did I mention you are a busy mom and it's your first election voting in Michigan—when you arrive to register, you're told you need to prove that you're a U.S. citizen and will need to provide a birth certificate or passport. You rush back home to find your birth certificate, but when you return you're told that because the name on your birth certificate and your driver's license aren't the same—because you changed your last name when you got married—you'll also need to produce your marriage license, but by now it's time to pick up your kids from daycare so you leave frustrated, angry, and unable to cast a ballot.

This could be the new reality for Michigan voters if the Michigan Constitution is amended to require voters to provide proof of citizenship to register to vote. This is a solution to a problem that does not exist!

It is a felony for non-citizens to register to vote and vote in U.S. elections. It is also illegal in Michigan for non-citizens to cast a ballot in any state election. People who violate this law risk both imprisonment and deportation. It is a risk most people are not willing to take. There is absolutely no evidence of widespread, non-citizen voting in federal or state elections.

Voters already affirm their identity when they go to vote and check a box indicating that they are a U.S. citizen, and again, the penalty for lying can result in imprisonment, fines, or deportation. So, we must ask, who are these lawmakers trying to silence? Women? Members of the U.S. military? Rural voters? Working class voters? Voters of color? Older Americans? Or all the above?

Our elections are secure. We urge you to oppose passage of HJR B.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Paula Bowman in cursive.

Paula Bowman
Co-President

Handwritten signature of Denise Hartsough in cursive.

Denise Hartsough
Co-President

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