



**Public Comment for the Michigan Board of State Canvassers
April 18, 2025**

Thank you, Chair Houskamp and Board Members, for the opportunity to comment today.

I am Denise Hartsough, co-president of the League of Women Voters of Michigan.

The League of Women Voters of Michigan has 33 local Leagues with members throughout the state. Our mission is to empower voters and defend democracy.

The League suggests two changes to the 100-word summary of the ballot proposal from the Committee to Protect Voting Rights.

Most voters asked to sign the petition to put this proposal on the ballot will read only the 100-word summary, so it is very important that it clearly convey the key aspects of the proposal. There are two key aspects that are conspicuously missing.

1. Voters must appear in person with their documentary proof of citizenship. This is when they register to vote, or move and need to re-register, or within 6 days after an election, if their citizenship has not already been verified. People asked to sign will need to know that one must physically appear with the documents.
2. Any citizen whose name has changed since birth will need to provide additional documents to prove their name change. Over 2 million women in Michigan have changed their last name to match that of their husband. People asked to sign the petition will need to know of this additional documentation requirement for those 2 million women.

The League of Women Voters of Michigan urges the Board to add these two key points to the 100-word summary.

Thank you.