

January 11, 2026

To Local and County Leaders,

Michigan has a strong history of protecting the right to vote and ensuring that voting is safe and accessible for the over 7 million active registered voters in our state, including the passage of pro-voter ballot initiatives by Michigan voters in 2018 and 2022. Since then, voters across the state have enjoyed access to same-day registration, no-excuse absentee voting, and in-person early voting.

Michigan's investment in pro-voter policies, and our election officials' commitment to implement these changes, have made our elections a point of national recognition and statewide pride. In 2023 and 2024, [Michigan received an A+ grade from the Institute for Responsive Government's Election Progress Report.](#)

However, two competing efforts to impose documentary proof-of-citizenship requirements for Michigan voters would create red tape and inject confusion into the voter registration process, walking back the incredible strides our state has made in making elections accessible. These proposals would require voters to show a birth certificate or passport when registering to vote and then additional documents when casting a ballot. A recent report from Demos suggests that nearly [700,000](#) Michiganders do not possess or do not have easy access to these documents. The proposals would make it more difficult for married women, rural voters, and low-income voters to participate in our elections, potentially kicking thousands of eligible voters off of the rolls.

Voters deserve to know the truth: state and federal law *already* prohibit non-citizens from voting. Now is the time to build on our collective progress, engage communities, and ensure every eligible voter can participate in our elections through their preferred voting method.

In addition to the threat posed by these ballot proposals, we continue to see efforts to cut state and federal funding for election administration. Our election officials continuously note that they need more funding so they can continue to prepare for and administer free and fair elections. As a coalition of nonpartisan voting rights organizations, we are asking local and county leaders stand with our hard-working election officials, celebrate our reliable and accessible elections, and commit to advocating for the resources our municipal clerks need to prepare for elections in 2026 and beyond.

As trusted local leaders, you have the power to combat the ongoing efforts threatening our sacred right to vote. We ask that you protect Michigan voters and our hardworking municipal and county clerks by passing a resolution supporting Michigan's laws that have made our state a leader in free and fair elections.

Sincerely,



