



## MICHIGAN LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

House Elections Committee  
June 8, 2023

Good afternoon, Chair Tsernoglou and members of the House Elections Committee,

Michigan League of Conservation Voters is writing in support of House Bills 4695, 4697, 4698, 4699, and 4700 to expand access to voting to more Michiganders.

HB 4695 implements the early voting provision of Proposal 2, further expanding Michigan voters' options for casting a ballot. In addition to codifying the minimum requirement of 9 days of early voting for all statewide and federal elections, this bill allows for municipal and county agreements to conduct early voting, providing local clerks the opportunity to choose a model of early voting that works best for their jurisdictions.

HB 4697 implements the state funded dropbox requirement of Proposal 2, requiring all cities and townships to have at least one dropbox and larger ones to have 1 dropbox per 15,000 registered voters. Dropboxes are a secure, efficient, and convenient way for voters to return absentee ballots and applications and this bill helps to establish equitable access to dropboxes for all Michigan voters.

HB 4698 expands the list of types of identification that can be used for election purposes. Expanding the list to include local government photo identification and replacing mention of a school ID with an ID issued by an "educational institution" provides more options to voters.

HB 4699 establishes the permanent mail voter list. Allowing voters to choose to be mailed an absentee ballot for each election is not only more convenient for voters but may also increase voter participation by removing steps in the process and providing a tangible, actionable reminder for each election.

HB 4700 implements prepaid postage for absentee ballots and applications, eliminating a logistical and financial burden for voters and making voting by mail more accessible and efficient. This bill also creates standards for signature matching and outlines a cure process for any missing or mismatched signatures on absentee ballots and applications. The signature



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match standards provide for equal treatment of all voters and prevent the rejection of valid signatures due to minor variations, and the cure process creates a way for voters to correct a missing or mismatched signature in a timely manner, enhancing the accuracy of mail-in ballots and helping to ensure all votes are counted.

We thank you for having a hearing on this important package of bills today and urge you all to vote yes on each one.

Thank you,  
Brooke Harris  
Democracy for All Director  
Michigan League of Conservation Voters