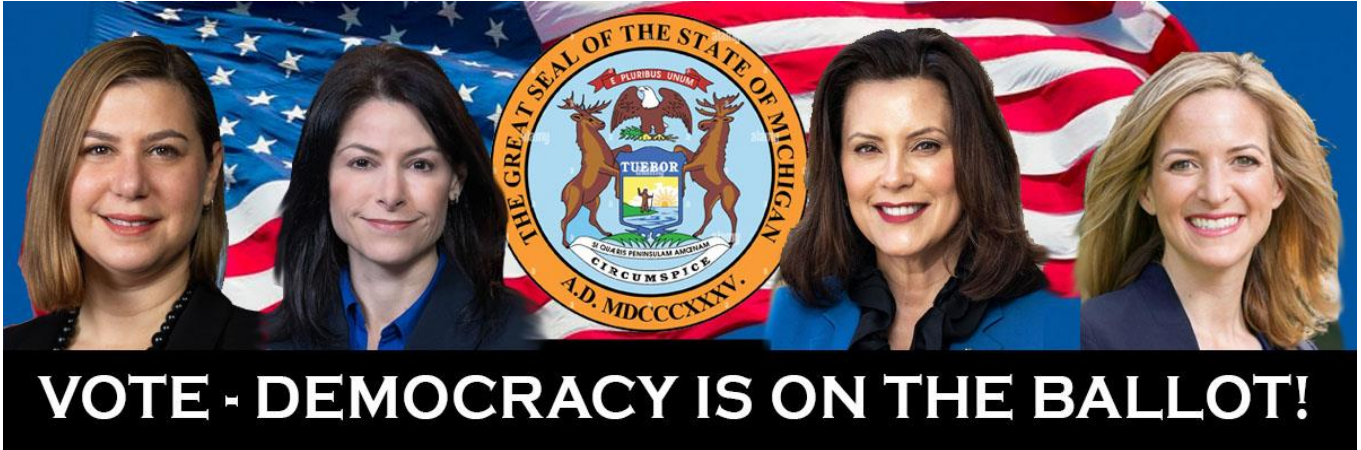




CLINTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

# NEWSLETTER



## Message from Your Clinton County Democratic Party

Welcome to CCDP's October Newsletter. This month's header really says it all. Democracy is on the ballot, and we need every person to act in these critical weeks leading up to the election.

What can you do? Here are a few very important steps that will help immediately and on election day!

- ✓ **Read this informative newsletter!** This issue is jam-packed with content on candidates, endorsements, ballot proposals, and more, including a thoughtful piece on a national, coordinated misinformation movement aimed at school boards and one on why transparency is so important in our state elections. Feel free to share the newsletter with friends and family who may have questions about the election. Understanding what is on the ballot and what candidates truly support is especially important this year!
- ✓ **Make your voting plan.** Whether cast absentee or in person on November 8, your vote is critical to electing proven leaders who care about all of Clinton County's residents. We have

time, but it goes so quickly with our many day-to-day obligations. Talk to your friends and family, too. We need everyone at the polls. Sitting this election out is not an option!

- ✓ **Request a yard sign.** It's been refreshing to see the strong support for Democratic candidates up and down the ballot all over Clinton County. Posting a yard sign is an important visual reminder of the very real support that exists in the county. It might give that little piece of encouragement that an on-the-fence voter needs, and it feels good to know you are standing with others who feel the same. Let's keep the momentum going! [Contact us](#) for details.
- ✓ **Join us virtually or in-person for our next meeting.** We look forward to welcoming you on Thursday, October 6, at 7:00 p.m. at the Clinton County Courthouse, 100 East State Street, St. Johns. Need a Zoom link? [Just let us know](#). Our meetings typically have candidates or their representatives offering updates from their campaigns, and we talk about what can help advance the issues Clinton County residents care about. There is much to do before November 8, and we would love to have you take part!

These are busy days, and many of us are stretched thin from work and family responsibilities as well as the many other ways we choose to give of our time and ourselves. As you consider these next few weeks leading up to the election, please find a few spare minutes to think about how you can make a difference. You are not alone – we are here to provide the tools and resources you need to make your vote count on November 8. Thank you in advance for your efforts!



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## **A Very Stark Difference!**

**By Theresa Kidd and Melany Mack**

The difference between the two candidates running for governor of Michigan could not be more stark. And the consequences that will ensue depending on who wins the gubernatorial election could not be more distinct. Below we compare the two candidates on five important topics: Public Education, Access to Abortion, Economy and Jobs, the Environment, and Elections. Here is just some of what is at stake:

### **Public Education for Our Kids**

#### **Governor Whitmer**

From her first day in office, Governor Whitmer has worked tirelessly to expand opportunities and improve outcomes for Michigan's children. She believes parents are their children's first and most important teachers. The governor's children attended public schools, and she knows firsthand how important family involvement is in a child's education.



She recently created the Michigan Parent Council, an advisory group that will—for the first time—bring parents more formally into the education budget process. The council includes [members](#) who reflect the range of experiences and perspectives from across the state. **Governor Whitmer made the largest education investment in state history in the recently passed School Aid Act** which includes the highest per-pupil funding (\$9,150) for every child in every district. Additional investments have been made in resources for special education students and at-risk students.

Under the governor's leadership, the number of literary coaches has tripled, the funding gap between schools has closed, and districts have been able to hire thousands of teachers and on-campus mental health professionals. In addition, access to preschool programs for all eligible 4-year-olds has been expanded.

The governor invested in educational professionals and created tuition-free pathways to become a teacher. She and her team have laid the groundwork that will help assure that every Michigan student can overcome pandemic-caused learning losses and reach their full potential.

### **Tudor Dixon**

Tudor Dixon's own children attend private schools, which says a great deal about her commitment to public education. **She has proposed Education Savings Accounts to enable parents to use the state's per-pupil funding on public, private, charter, virtual, or homeschooling options.** Dixon supports the Opportunity Scholarship Program that Whitmer vetoed last year. That program, strongly backed by the Devos family and major Republican organizations, would allow Michigan residents to contribute money to scholarships which families could then use for private school tuition. Donors would receive a tax credit which would reduce their state tax liability. Senate Fiscal Agency analysts predict that would result in a \$500 million loss in state revenue in the first year.

Much of what Dixon touts as her education priorities are hot-button cultural issues that have been politicized by Republican governors in other states and by groups such as Moms for Liberty, a well-resourced organization engaged in a concerted effort to take over local school boards. Dixon has proposed a Parents Right to Know Act which she claims will increase school transparency and accountability. It would require publicly funded schools to post information, such as the titles of every textbook being used, syllabi for each course being offered, information about the district's approach to diversity, equity, and inclusion or social justice plan as well as information about any related consulting contracts.

## Access to Abortion & Women's Health Care

### Governor Whitmer

A staunch advocate for Michigan's women, **Governor Whitmer believes every woman deserves to be able to make decisions about her body**, including when and if to start a family. She has used every tool in her toolbox to ensure women have control over their own bodies and access to reproductive health care. Governor Whitmer is adamantly opposed to Michigan's 1931 abortion ban which looms over the state following the US Supreme Court's ruling that overturned **Roe v Wade**. Under the 1931 law, abortion providers could face felony charges, except to save the life of the mother. It is considered one of the strictest laws in the country, with no exceptions for rape or incest. Governor Whitmer is doing everything she can to protect the reproductive freedom of Michigan women.



### Tudor Dixon

**Tudor Dixon is a vocal anti-abortion advocate** who believes that all abortions should be prohibited, except in the instances where the life of the mother is at stake. She believes there should be no exceptions for rape or incest.

Dixon's stance is in direct opposition to the 80% of Michigan voters who said in a recent poll they believe abortion should be legal in the case of rape or incest. Michigan's Republican nominee for governor said in an interview that she believes there's a "bond" that can form between a rape victim and a child born from sexual assault if forced to go through with the pregnancy. She has been endorsed by Right to Life of Michigan.

## Growing the Economy & Creating Good-paying Jobs

### Governor Whitmer

Growing Michigan's economy and ensuring every community can thrive have been top priorities for Governor Whitmer. **She has worked closely with the major automobile manufacturers, enabling an announcement of 25,000 auto jobs and the first Detroit plant in 30 years.** The Governor established and funded two cutting-edge work force development programs—Michigan Reconnect and Futures for Frontliners—that put tens of thousands of Michiganders on a tuition-free path to a good paying, high-skill job.



**Under Governor Whitmer, Michigan has enjoyed the fastest small business growth in 23 years.** She collaborated with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to attract over \$11 billion in investments from over 30 companies in the first half of 2022. Governor Whitmer also created and funded the Office of Rural Development and secured \$50 million for food and agriculture economic development projects. And she is focused on the future, setting a goal to increase the number of working-age adults with a skill certificate or college degree from 49% today to 60% by 2030.

### **Tudor Dixon**

Tudor Dixon has released a 5-Point Economic Policy Plan. **Her vision to “Restore Michigan’s Economic Might” relies on platitudes like “Invest in Our Workers” and “Empower Our Entrepreneurs.”** Other points include engaging with job creators, growing the middle class, and making communities safe. She proposes “upscale workforce training programs focused on developing workers in high-demand skills and trades.” Dixon is evidently unaware that Governor Whitmer has already put 170,000 and counting Michiganders on a path to good-paying jobs with two tuition-free skills training and higher education programs.

Empowering entrepreneurs in Dixon’s vision involves the ever-popular Republican staple of removing overly burdensome or unnecessary regulations. She believes that “an overly burdensome state licensing process” keeps many entrepreneurs from pursuing their dreams, and she will remedy that through regulatory reductions and streamlining.

## **Protecting Our Land, Air, and Water**

### **Governor Whitmer**

Over the past four years, Governor Whitmer has shown a strong commitment to defending our Great Lakes and mitigating the impacts of climate change on our communities. **She launched the MI Healthy Climate Plan to move all sectors of our economy to carbon neutral by 2050** and ensure communities impacted by climate change will benefit from our energy transition.



The Governor launched the Michigan Infrastructure Office to coordinate resources from the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act with a focus on replacing lead service lines and deploying electric vehicle chargers. Governor Whitmer made critical investments in our

parks, trails, and public lands to create jobs, boost surrounding economies and ensure that all families can enjoy “Pure Michigan.”

### **Tudor Dixon**

Dixon’s website lists these “Issues That Matter”: Education, Economy, Public Safety, Election Integrity, Energy & Infrastructure, Life, 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, and Lockdowns. **There is no reference to environmental issues.**

## **2024 Elections & Beyond**

### **Governor Whitmer**

Governor Whitmer is committed to upholding fair elections and ensuring voter protections. **She invested millions to enhance elections infrastructure** and vetoed bills that would have disenfranchised and intimidated voters by imposing unnecessarily strict ID rules and prohibited the Secretary of State and local elections officials from continuing to provide absentee mail ballots to voters.



The Governor also vetoed bills that would have weakened campaign finance requirements, and she called on the legislature to strengthen requirements to keep foreign money out of Michigan elections and politics.

### **Tudor Dixon**

Dixon was endorsed in the Republican gubernatorial primary by Donald Trump, and throughout her campaign **she has echoed Trump’s false claims that the 2020 election was rigged.** Dixon’s website proclaims that she wants to make Michigan’s voter ID laws “the strongest in the country” by strengthening criminal penalties for forging ballot signatures.



As a lawmaker, Dixon's running mate, former state representative Shane Hernandez, signed onto a letter with other Republicans calling for a forensic audit of the 2020 election. While Dixon seems to be softening her stance on fraud in that election, States United Action, a nonpartisan election advocacy group tracking election denialism, places her in that group. In fact, States United Action reports that election deniers are in the running for all three top statewide positions, governor, secretary of state, and attorney general.

## Infrastructure and Energy

### Governor Whitmer

When Governor Whitmer took office in 2019, Michigan roads, after decades of underinvestment, were some of the worst in the nation. **By the end of this year, the Governor has led the state in fixing over 16,000 lane miles of roads and 1,200 bridges, supporting over 89,000 jobs.** Importantly, Governor Whitmer is rebuilding crumbling roads and bridges with the right mix and materials, so they stay fixed, with skilled workers paid a prevailing wage so taxpayers get the best value for their money.

In March of this year, the governor signed the bipartisan *Building Michigan Together Plan* which will invest nearly \$5 billion in Michigan's infrastructure. The plan will benefit families in every region of the state by improving transportation, water, and high-speed internet infrastructure. In April, Governor Whitmer unveiled *MI Healthy Climate Plan* which outlines a path to carbon neutrality by 2050 and interim steps to take by 2030 including more clean energy, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and land and water conservation.

### Tudor Dixon

Tudor Dixon believes Michigan should use public-private partnerships and other financing mechanisms to address infrastructure and energy issues. She proposes that she will consolidate agencies and streamline departments in Michigan to improve overall management of the state's road system. Dixon touts another Republican standard "eliminating wasteful overhead costs."

She proposes that a multi-year overhead reduction plan should be developed by the state legislature, working with national and state experts. **In a debate with other Republican candidates for governor on July 6, Dixon dismissed the national bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act as fake**, and she released a plan that named actions that Governor Whitmer has already taken. The [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) actually benefits Michigan in many ways.



# The Power of a Single Vote – Make Your Election Plan Today

By Ann McCulloch

*"They're hoping that you'll stay home so that they can make these important decisions for you." — Former First Lady Michelle Obama, Harper's BAZAAR, June, 2020*

It is easy to be overwhelmed by the issues confronting our country today. The nation's very fabric is being stretched and pulled and tested. A woman's autonomy, a family's economic security, an immigrant's future, climate's trajectory, what our children learn in school – all tossed around like political footballs this fall. If this is not enough, certain candidates seem bent on taking us further down the road toward democratic crisis.



Now, more than ever in recent memory, it is vitally important to participate in a free and fair election. A September 18 *Washington Post* headline proclaimed that Republicans in battleground races, including Michigan, refuse to say they will accept election results, following the dangerous precedent set by Donald Trump, January 6 insurrectionists, and election deniers. If it feels like democracy itself is on the ballot this November, it is, and the surest way to protect it is also the simplest: VOTE!

Voting gives us the opportunity to ensure that our voice is heard. What is important to you and your family? Whom do you trust to govern for the collective benefit of your community? From school boards to county commissions, the governor's house, and the state legislature to the halls of Congress, we need proven doers and bridge-builders, empathetic listeners, critical thinkers, and servant leaders.

The impact of one vote is personal and powerful. Your vote indicates your solidarity with others. Your vote allows the opportunity to show how you care about your community and the people in it. Your vote shows your persistence and hope for our country.

Throughout this newsletter and on CCDP's website, you will find information about how to [apply for and submit an absentee ballot](#), detailed candidate and proposal information, and a slate of candidates that the Clinton County Democratic Party is proud to support. Spend a few minutes with these materials and reflect on what is critical for you and your family, as well as for our community and our country.

If you're voting absentee, be sure to return your ballot early enough by mail or personally deliver it to your clerk's drop box. Maybe you are like me and strangely nostalgic about voting in person. I will be standing in line in Watertown Township on November 8. I'll be there early, and I

will bring respect and kindness. Maybe you will talk to your neighbors about what your plans are and make sure that they are making their plans too. This election is truly all hands on deck. Please join in this most important endeavor and exercise this basic democratic right – you will make a difference. Remember, Democracy is on the ballot!



**By Melany Mack**

We've witnessed organized efforts to polarize and misinform voters at the national, state, and local levels. Whoever thought it would extend to local public-school boards? But that is exactly what is happening in multiple districts across our region.

Often affiliated with national, well-resourced groups like Moms for Liberty, some candidates in local school board races are focused on promoting an ideological agenda, rather than on the specific needs of

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*Often affiliated with national, well-resourced groups... some candidates... are focused on promoting an ideological agenda*

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students. Some of them have been speaking out at board meetings over many months about hot button issues such as public health mandates, policies for trans athletes, and racial and gender equity programs. Critical Race Theory has figured prominently in their statements. While you won't find clear mention of these issues in their literature, if you compare some of the

“talking points” from the flyers of some of these candidates running in different local districts, they are very similar, down to the way they are ordered.

The organized effort to promote these candidates and exploit divisive issues has not gone unnoticed. Bridge Michigan recently featured an [article](#) about the new contentiousness in school board races. In September, Michigan Advance featured [commentary](#) by David Hecker, President of American Federation of Teachers Michigan about the toxic politicization of education in Michigan.

Moms for Liberty has multiple chapters across Michigan, including one in Clinton County that boasts over 400 members in its private Facebook group. The organization has been written about in the Washington Post, including articles by [Adam Laats](#) and [Tim Craig](#). You’ve probably seen the group’s signs which have been popping up in residential areas across our community proclaiming, “*We don’t co-parent with the government.*” And this is but one of several well-organized and well-funded groups working across the nation to make school board races partisan—a move that would undoubtedly create division among the board and shift the focus away from the needs of students.

Detroit Free Press editorialist Nancy Kaffer, writing about [the troublesome course schoolboards are on](#), had this to say, “All the school board members and administrators I talked to are worried ideology will interfere with educational best practices, making it even more difficult for teachers to overcome the learning deficits the COVID-19 pandemic left in its wake. They worry their schools will become less hospitable to LGBT students and students of color. They’re worried that infighting will drive good administrators, teachers, and parents to other districts.” This is happening in our own back yards!

In the face of all this, what are voters to do? We need to support pro-education school board members committed to improving schools, supporting teachers and administrators, and providing an environment where all students can succeed. While it’s not always easy to get reliable information about school board candidates, we can consult [the list](#) of candidates Michigan Education Association recommends and regularly updates. In addition, Mid-Michigan Network to Save Democracy has created a [Facebook page](#) with recommendations for school board races across the tri-county community.

Please help assure that pro-public education candidates win in November by making informed choices in school board races. Our children’s future depends on it!

# AFSCME Endorses Clinton County Democratic Candidates

By Fred Clark



With 1.3 million members, The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) is the country's largest trade union for public employees. They have taken a close look at our candidates and thrown their considerable weight behind Democrats.

State-wide AFSCME is supporting Gretchen Whitmer, Dana Nessel, and Jocelyn Benson. They've endorsed Richard Bernstein and Kyra Harris Bolden for the Michigan Supreme Court.

AFSCME has also expressed strong support for Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin. For as much as they like Slotkin, after taking a hard look at her opponent, Tom Barrett, they dislike Barrett in equal measure, based on his stance on key issues. Their online opinion piece states:

*"During his time in the state legislature, Barrett's done everything he can to protect big pharma. He opposed legislation that would allow Medicare to negotiate lower drug costs, and cap insulin costs at \$35 a month."*

*"Barrett has repeatedly voted against historic bipartisan education bills, including investments in school safety and funding for Pre-K programs. The billionaire DeVos family is one of his biggest political donors, and he'll do anything to help advance their extreme political agenda, even if that hurts Michigan students."*

To read more of AFSCME's views on Tom Barrett go to:

[https://tombarrettforsale.com/?utm\\_source=search&utm\\_medium=pm](https://tombarrettforsale.com/?utm_source=search&utm_medium=pm)

Closer to home, AFSCME has endorsed local Democrats Sam Singh for State Senate, as well as Penelope Tsernolgo and Emily Dievendorf for State House.

To see all of AFSCME's endorsements visit:

<https://www.miafscme.org/2022-people-endorsements>

## Shame on You!

### Elissa Slotkin Rips Republicans over Female Veterans' Rights

"Although the Senate passed Slotkin's bill by unanimous consent earlier this month, a group of House Republicans... threatened to vote the bill down over a... provision of the bill: ensuring the VA is "providing women veterans with information that is tailored to their specific health care and benefit needs." Source: CSPAN [Watch Video](#)

# Public Service Requires Transparency

By Logan Byrne

Merriam-Webster Dictionary provides two definitions of “public service” which are relevant to the political sector: (1) government employment and (2) services rendered to the public.<sup>1</sup>

Frequently, political candidates tout their extensive public service experience when campaigning for elected office. For the true community leader, running for elected office is not an end goal. Instead, campaigning is one of many tools in their public service toolbox.



However, unsurprisingly, there are many politicians who use politics to further their own careers and accumulate wealth instead of serving their communities. It is usually easy to spot these politicians because they lack a key tenet of public service: transparency. As voters and community advocates, it is important that we require transparency at all levels of government and in all aspects of the decision-making process. Unfortunately, Michigan has outdated lobbying laws, which allow money and favors to reign supreme in the Lansing decision-making process.

In 2019, The Center for Public Integrity, a nonpartisan and nonprofit organization, ranked Michigan last nationally for government accountability and transparency. It was ranked last in 2015 as well. According

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*In 2019, The Center for Public Integrity... ranked Michigan last nationally for government accountability and transparency*

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to The Center for Public Integrity, “[t]he shadowy aspects of Michigan’s money-driven politics serve as a key reason why the state ranks last among the 50 states with a grade of F and a numerical score of 51 out of 100 from the State Integrity Investigation, a data-driven assessment of state government transparency and accountability by the Center for Public Integrity and Global Integrity.”<sup>2</sup>

Michigan has many “dark money” issues that result in opaque political spending. Simply put, Michigan’s lobbying disclosure laws are weak and ineffective at accurately picturing lobbying activities and spending in Michigan. For example, in Michigan, lobbyists are only required to disclose transactions between themselves and a public official, if the transaction is \$1,350.00 or more. Likewise, lobbyists do not have to report travel and lodging paid for or reimbursed to a public official, in connection with public business, unless it is more than \$875.00. Similarly,

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/public%20service>.

<sup>2</sup> See <https://publicintegrity.org/politics/state-politics/state-integrity-investigation/michigan-gets-f-grade-in-2015-state-integrity-investigation/>; see also <https://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2019/09/04/michigan-transparency-bills/2210247001/>

lobbyists can wine and dine public officials at the rate of \$66.00 a month without disclosure.<sup>3</sup> These are just some examples of how lobbyist can spend money on political candidates and elected officials while avoiding disclosure.

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*Why are we allowing fiscal favoritism to direct public policy? Even more important, why are we allowing it to happen without disclosure?*

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To some, these dollar amounts may seem insignificant. However, I believe it raises a bigger question. Why are we allowing fiscal favoritism to direct public policy? Even more important, why are we allowing it to happen without disclosure?

Michigan is not unique in its struggle to preserve integrity in the political system. Many states have strengthened their financial disclosure laws to protect election integrity. For example, in 2016, out of fear of “shadow lobbying,” California strengthened its fiscal reporting requirements. Like other states, Michigan should move away from a favor-building lobbying system and allow issue-based lobbyists to lobby on the merits.

**Michigan should do the following:**

- (1) lower the dollar amounts that lobbyists are able to spend on elected officials;
- (2) require lobbyists to disclose all spending on elected officials; and
- (3) require lobbyists to disclose what issue the spending is tied to.

Public policy will benefit when undisclosed financial contributions are removed from the equation and the issues are placed front and center. Likewise, our communities’ honest public servants will thrive in an environment of transparency and disclosure. On November 8, let’s hold our elected officials to our expectations of honesty and transparency at the ballot box!

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<sup>3</sup> See <https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/11diljak/LobbyThresholds.pdf?rev=0316a0343ddd4e8faacb400120b4b6b4>.

# Under the Dome

## *Legislative Update for Clinton County Democrats*

By Tim Hughes



### **Term Limits, Voting Rights, and Reproductive Rights on November 8th Ballot**

Although more than a dozen ballot proposal campaigns were launched for the upcoming election, only three wound up with sufficient support to get on the November 8<sup>th</sup> ballot. Here are brief summaries of the three proposals (**in bold**), as they will appear on the ballot, along with more detailed information.

#### **Proposal 22-1**

**A proposal to amend the state constitution to require annual public financial disclosure reports by legislators and other state officers and change state legislator term limit to 12 total years in legislature.**

Proposal 1 was placed on the ballot by a two-thirds vote of the legislature. (*HJR R, May 10, 2022*). It would amend the current constitutional provision on term limits, which allows Senators to serve two four-year terms and House members to serve three two-year terms, for a total of 14 total years of legislative service. Proposal 1 would replace those restrictions with a 12-year limit on total service that could be served in any combination in the House or Senate. Someone could serve two terms in the House and two terms in the Senate for a total of 12 years, or a person could serve all 12 years in the House or Senate.

Another part of the amendment would require members of the Legislature, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State and Attorney General to file annual financial disclosure reports including assets, liabilities, income sources, future employment agreements, gifts, travel reimbursements, and positions held in organizations, except positions held in religious, social, and political organizations.

The proposal is supported by a wide range of organizations, including Michigan AFL-CIO, Michigan Chamber of Commerce, League of Women Voters, Business Leaders for Michigan, United Auto Workers, Michigan Manufacturers Association, Michigan Education Association, and Michigan Farm Bureau.

## Proposal 22-2

**A proposal to amend the state constitution to add provisions regarding elections.**

Proposal 2 would add nine provisions to the state constitution, including a fundamental right to vote without harassment. It would allow voters to verify their identity with a photo ID or signed statement, allow a single application to vote absentee in all elections, require state-funded absentee ballot drop boxes, require nine days of early in-person voting, and require canvass boards to certify election results based only on the official records of votes cast.



Supporters of Proposal 2 include League of Women Voters, Common Cause, Michigan AFL-CIO, NAACP, Voters Not Politicians, and Michigan Farmers Union.



## Proposal 22-3

**A proposal to amend the state constitution to establish new individual right to reproductive freedom, including right to make all decisions about pregnancy and abortion; allow state to regulate abortion in some cases; and forbid prosecution of individuals exercising established right.**

Proposal 3 establishes a new individual right to reproductive freedom, including the right to make and carry out all decisions about pregnancy.

It allows the state to regulate abortion after fetal viability, but the state may not prohibit abortion if medically needed to protect a patient's life or physical or mental health.

Proposal 3 prohibits state discrimination in enforcement of this right and prohibits prosecution of an individual, or a person helping a pregnant individual, for rights established by this amendment. It also invalidates state laws conflicting with this amendment.

Supporters of Proposal 3 include League of Women Voters, Michigan Nurses Association, American Federation of Teachers of Michigan, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and ACLU.



## Petitions for Initiated Laws on School Vouchers & Voting Restrictions Filed Late

A DeVos-backed school voucher plan (Let MI Kids Learn) and a Republican-backed proposal to restrict voting rights (Secure MI Vote) filed initiated law petitions with the Secretary of State almost two months after the deadline for having the measures placed on the November 8<sup>th</sup> election ballot.

Supporters are hoping to use the initiated law process to bypass the Governor and voters by trying to get the legislature to pass the proposals before the end of this year. However, there are several hurdles they will have to clear. The Secretary of State would have to certify that they have at least 435,000 valid signatures to proceed.

That is not a sure thing, considering the Republican track record on forged signatures that wiped out half of their candidates for Governor earlier this year. And there is no timeline for the Secretary of State to review the signatures, a process that could extend past the end of the year and place the question before a new legislature in 2023.

The November election results could also affect the two proposals. If Democrats win a majority of the House or Senate, there would probably not be enough votes to pass the Republican proposals next year. And if voters approve Proposal 2 on the November ballot, strong provisions protecting voter rights would be placed in the Constitution, trumping any initiated law passed by the legislature.

**Stay tuned!**

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*Supporters are hoping to use the initiated law process to bypass the Governor and voters*

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### CHECK OUT OUR DIGITAL MEDIA OFFERINGS:

Web Page - <https://clintoncodems.org/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/ClintonCoDemsMI/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/ClintonCoDemsMi>

**2022 VOTING SLATE  
FOR CLINTON COUNTY DEMOCRATS  
& PROPOSALS 1, 2, 3**

**US CONGRESS:** Elissa Slotkin

**GOVERNOR:** Gretchen Whitmer/Garlin Gilchrist II

**SECRETARY OF STATE:** Jocelyn Benson

**ATTORNEY GENERAL:** Dana Nessel

**MI STATE SENATE (28th):** Sam Singh

**MI STATE SENATE (34th):** Christine Gerace

**MI STATE HOUSE (75th):** Penelope Tsernoglou

**MI STATE HOUSE (77th):** Emily Dievendorf

**MI STATE HOUSE (93rd):** Jeffrey Lockwood

**MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT:**

Richard Bernstein & Kyra Harris Bolden

**MI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

Pamela Pugh & Mitchell Robinson

**MSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

Renee Knake Jefferson & Dennis Denno

**UNIV OF MICHIGAN BOARD OF REGENTS:**

Kathy White & Mike Behm

**WAYNE STATE UNIV BOARD OF GOVERNORS:**

Marilyn Kelly & Danielle Atkinson

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 6:**

John Andrews

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER – DISTRICT 7:**

Dwight Washington (Incumbent)

**YES ON ALL 3 BALLOT PROPOSALS:**

1 Term Limits

2 Voting Rights

3 Women's Reproductive Rights