



For Immediate Release

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Lansing-area clerks endorse Proposal 3

***Clark, Swope and Hope: Proposal will boost voter participation,
protect election integrity***

LANSING: The clerks of Lansing, Delta Township and Delhi Township today announced their support for Proposal 3, a statewide ballot proposal designed to remove voting barriers for eligible voters and protect the integrity of Michigan elections.

At a press conference at the Lansing headquarters of the League of Women Voters of Michigan, the election officials touted the proposed state constitutional amendment's potential to modernize and boost the security of elections in Michigan. If adopted, the proposal would:

- Protect the right to vote using a secret ballot.
- Ensure military service members and overseas voters get their ballots in on time.
- Provide voters with the option to vote straight party.
- Automatically register citizens to vote at the Secretary of State's office unless the citizen declines.
- Allow a citizen to register to vote by mail or in person until 15 days before an election. After that, citizens may register to vote in person with proof of residency up to and on Election Day.
- Provide all registered voters access to an absentee ballot for any reason.
- Ensure the accuracy and integrity of elections by auditing election results.

Delta Township Clerk Mary R. Clark, who has served for seven years, said the proposal will boost elections officials' efforts to increase voter participation.

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“Michigan once led the nation in voting access innovation but in recent years, we’ve fallen behind,” said Clark. “I’m excited that this proposal will give more eligible Michiganders voting access while ensuring that our elections are accurate and safe.”

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope said Michigan’s current absentee balloting rules are too restrictive.

“For so many folks, voting on a particular day between a particular set of hours just doesn’t work,” said Swope, who has helmed elections in Lansing for 12 years. “People should be able to a vote from home and do their full research on a candidate.”

Delhi Township Clerk Evan Hope praised the proposal’s measures to protect election integrity.

“Proposal 3 will mandate post-election audits, giving Michigan voters the confidence of knowing that their vote is secure,” said Hope, who has been Delhi Township Clerk for 20 years.