



STATE OF MICHIGAN
JOCELYN BENSON, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

October 16, 2020

Campaigning in Clerks' Offices During Absent Voter Ballot Issuance

Campaigning activities are prohibited in areas where individuals are voting. During the 40 days prior to an Election, voters have a right to obtain and return in person an absent voter ballot. Inside clerks' offices and satellite offices at which voters may receive, complete, and return absent voter ballots, directly or indirectly making reference to an election, a candidate, or a ballot question is prohibited. This includes any solicitation of voters at the polling place including, but not limited to petition signature gathering or sales of any kind.

The following activities are included under this restriction:

- Displaying "pro and con" information on the proposals appearing on the ballot.
- Approaching voters to encourage them to vote for or against a candidate or ballot question.
- Distributing any type of campaign literature or write-in stickers.
- Displaying signs, posters, or bumper stickers.
- Attempting to collect petition signatures.
- Requesting donations, selling tickets or engaging in similar activities.

Clerks wishing to post signage at clerk offices and satellite offices informing voters and members of the public of this prohibition may post this direction or signage recommended by the Secretary of State.

Recommended signage:

NOTICE

CAMPAGNING ACTIVITIES ARE PROHIBITED IN CLERK OFFICES AND DURING THE 40 DAY PERIOD PRIOR TO AN ELECTION WHEN VOTERS ARE RECEIVING AND RETURNING ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS. THIS PROHIBITION INCLUDES DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY MAKING REFERENCE TO AN ELECTION, A CANDIDATE, OR A BALLOT QUESTION.