



MICHIGAN CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

# RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1 & S.1

**WHEREAS**, as of March 24, 2021, lawmakers in 47 states have this year introduced more than 360 bills with provisions that restrict voting access, constitute an all-out assault on voting rights across the country, and underscores the need for - and urgency of - reform;

**WHEREAS**, both the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives have introduced bills that would significantly affect Michigan voters access to the ballot by imposing several voting restrictions, including requiring stricter voter ID requirements for absentee voters; shortening the deadline for returning absentee ballots via drop boxes; prohibiting clerks from paying for postage on absentee ballot return envelopes; and restricting the Michigan Secretary of State's ability to make absentee voting applications available to voters;

**WHEREAS**, the United States House of Representatives passed House Resolution 1 (H.R. 1), otherwise named "For the People Act of 2021", on March 3, 2021, and a companion bill (S.1) is pending in the United States Senate;

**WHEREAS**, H.R. 1 and S.1 would:

- Expand voter registration and access by requiring automatic, same-day and online registration; vote-by-mail; two weeks of early voting; and implement no-excuse mail voting;
- Limit removing voters from voter rolls;
- Require states to establish independent redistricting commissions to carry out congressional redistricting;
- Set forth provisions related to election security, including sharing intelligence information with state election officials, supporting states in securing their election systems, developing a national strategy to protect U.S. democratic institutions, establishing in the legislative branch the National Commission to Protect United States Democratic Institutions, and other provisions to improve the cybersecurity of election systems;
- Address campaign financing, including an expansion of the prohibition on campaign spending by foreign nationals, requiring additional disclosure of campaign-related fundraising and spending, requiring additional disclaimers regarding certain political advertising, and establishing an alternative campaign funding system for certain federal offices;

- Strengthen small donor public financing to empower ordinary Americans instead of the big donors;
- Address ethics in all three branches of government, including requiring a code of conduct for Supreme Court Justices, prohibiting Members of the House from serving on the board of a for-profit entity, and establishing additional conflict-of-interest and ethics provisions for federal employees and the White House;
- Require the President, the Vice President, and certain candidates for those offices to disclose 10 years of tax returns;
- Help safeguard our sacred and constitutional rights and increase access to the vote by ending congressional gerrymandering;
- Restore the full protections of the Voting Rights Act; and
- Preempt state laws on felons voting in elections;

**WHEREAS**, H.R. 1 and S.1 respond to two crises facing our country: the ongoing attack on democracy — reflected in the assault on the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021, and the subsequent flood of voter suppression bills across the country — and the urgent demand for racial justice, and is based on the principle that the best way to defend democracy is to strengthen democracy;

**WHEREAS**, if enacted, H.R. 1 and S.1 would be the United States’ most significant voting rights and democracy reform in more than half a century;

**WHEREAS**, in 2018, Michigan voters passed Proposition 3, which significantly enhanced our voting rights and provided equal access to the ballot;

**WHEREAS**, those rights and access are now in jeopardy as a result of the introduction of several voter suppression bills in both the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives;

**WHEREAS**, Michigan voters voiced their support for the strengthening of their voting rights by passing Proposition 3 with a 67-33% margin, thus rejecting Michigan’s former restrictive standards;

**Therefore, be it resolved**, that the Michigan Civil Rights Commission supports the enactment of the “For the People Act of 2021”, designed to protect and strengthen the voting rights of United States citizens, and provide the unfettered and unencumbered access to the ballot that is guaranteed by the United States and Michigan Constitutions, and request that the United States Senate pass the bill with all due haste;

**Be it further resolved**, that this resolution is effective immediately upon its passage;

**Be it finally resolved**, that this resolution be forwarded to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and the President of the United States Senate.



Passed unanimously on the 24th day of May 2021, by the  
**MICHIGAN CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Stacie Clayton, Chair  
Zenna Faraj Elhasan, Vice Chair  
Ira Combs, Secretary  
Richard Corriveau

Regina Gasco-Bentley  
Gloria E. Lara  
Anupama Kosaraju  
Portia L. Roberson