

## Sample Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Last year, Michigan broke midterm election turnout records and overwhelmingly passed Proposal 2 to expand our voting rights under the state constitution. It was a strong victory for Michigan voters and for democracy. But there's still more work to do to ensure our voting rights as citizens aren't vulnerable to future attacks.

Just two years ago, 39 bills were introduced in the Michigan state senate that would have significantly restricted our ability to make our voices heard in elections. Opponents of voting rights have not given up their fight so we need to act now to uphold the will of the people.

The Michigan Voting Rights Act has been introduced in the state senate to protect the rights of every citizen and preserve the integrity of our elections. Join me in urging our elected state representatives to pass this important legislation before the end of the year.

To the Editor:

When President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 into law it was a turning point for our nation.

But in 2013, the U.S. Supreme Court struck a devastating blow to the rights and protections of the VRA. In the last ten years, dozens of states have enacted new laws making it harder to vote and adding new restrictions and barriers for citizens.

Here in Michigan, the voters have spoken. At every opportunity since 2018 Michigan citizens have passed ballot initiatives to expand our voting rights, make elections more accessible, and ensure our legislative districts are established by the people instead of politicians.

Now there's another opportunity to strengthen our state laws and protect the progress we've made. The Michigan Voting Rights Act mirrors and expands the original federal VRA, establishing its provisions into state law. We need our lawmakers to sign on to this important legislation in the State House and Senate and get it to Governor Whitmer's desk by the end of this year.

To the Editor:

At a time when the American electorate is more diverse than ever, we need to be extra vigilant against targeted attempts to suppress the voting rights of non-white citizens.

The Michigan Voting Rights Act (Senate Bills 401-404) would add essential protections for Michigan voters and make good on the promise of the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution – that no citizen shall be denied the right to vote based on race.

Michigan is a national leader in protecting the voting rights of our citizens and making elections accessible to every eligible voter. By passing the MVRA, we will further strengthen our commitment to secure and fair elections. The Legislature should act quickly and get this done for the people of our state.