

Hello. I'm [].

I want you to know that in Michigan, if you are currently experiencing homelessness, you can still register to vote and cast a ballot in elections, even without an ID.

Like all voters, you must be a U.S. citizen and at least 18 years old by Election Day to do so.

Registering to vote

If you don't have a home, you can register to vote by listing a street corner, shelter, park or any other place you usually stay as your address.

The address can also be a local shelter, outreach center, advocacy organization or someone who will accept mail for you.

You can go and register at your local county, city or township clerk's office or at any state agency that provides public assistance or services to people with disabilities.

If you have a state ID card or driver's license, and access to a computer or mobile phone, you can register to vote online at **Michigan.gov/Vote**.

But if it is within 14 days of the election—after July 18th for the August 2nd primary election—you must go to your city or township clerk's office to register and prove you live in Michigan. You can register right up until 8 p.m. on Election Day there and vote.

Within 14 days of an election, you should bring a letter from a shelter, church, or public assistance agency you interact with that states you live in Michigan and your name.

Or if you have a state ID card or driver's license, you can bring that as proof of residency.

Voting options

Once you have registered to vote, you can vote in person at your polling place on Election Day.

Beginning 40 days ahead of Election Day, which was June 23rd, you can vote early by going to your city or township clerk's office.

Or you can request an absent voter ballot from your clerk. They will have you fill out and sign an application.

If you have a state ID or license and internet access, you can request an absentee ballot online at Michigan.gov/Vote.

Your clerk will send an absentee ballot to your designated address or provide it to you in person. You can complete it when you are ready, sign the envelope and return it.

To return it, you can put it in your clerk's drop box if they have one, take it back to their office or mail it back.

If you are going to mail it, be sure to get it in the mail as soon as possible and no later than two weeks before Election Day.

Voter ID

When you go to the polls, you will be asked to produce photo identification. If you do not have photo ID, you can still vote.

All you will have to do is sign a brief statement that you are not in possession of photo ID. Your ballot will be included with all the others.

Conclusion

I just want to leave you with a couple more important points.

If someone tells you that you can't register to vote or you can't vote, you can contact the ACLU or the Secretary of State to report it.

The number of the Department of State is 888-SOS-MICH.

You may be thinking, why should I vote, in this or any election, and I have an answer:

Voting empowers each of us. It allows us to help make the decisions that can improve our community, state and nation.

Some elections are decided by one vote but it is when we join together as a chorus of voters that we the people can lift each other up to a better future.