



# GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

## PROTECTING OUR DEMOCRACY, ADVANCING GOOD GOVERNMENT



Governor Whitmer is committed to ensuring that Michiganders have a transparent, responsive state government and can make their voices heard at the ballot box.

### Upholding fair elections & ensuring voter protections

- Signed bills [implementing Proposal 2](#), expanding voting rights in Michigan.
- Signed bills expanding voting rights for overseas [military members and families](#).
- Signed [bills](#) allowing pre-processing of absentee ballots two days before Election Day.
- [Signed bills](#) to expand voting rights and allow rideshares to polling places.
- [Signed](#) bills to improve election security, efficiency, and ensure every vote can be cast and counted.
- [Signed](#) executive directive to expand access to voting opportunities for Michiganders.
- [Invested millions](#) to improve elections, fight gerrymandering, and ensure census accuracy.
- Vetoed bills that would have [disenfranchised](#) or [intimidated](#) voters.
- Vetoed bills that would have [weakened campaign finance requirements](#) and called on the legislature to strengthen requirements to keep foreign money out of elections.
- Lt. Governor Gilchrist launched the [MI First Vote Tour](#) to educate residents about voting and ensure young voters have everything they need for a successful first vote.
- Called on the legislature to [improve access to the ballot box](#) by removing barriers to absentee voting and granting sufficient time to preprocess absentee ballots.
- Led a group of governors urging congress to [pass voting rights legislation](#) amidst unprecedented attacks on voting rights.
- [Worked with governors](#) to protect voting rights and uphold the integrity of elections after the 2020 election.
- [Protected voters](#) by making it illegal to possess a firearm at polling locations.
- [Signed bills](#) improving ballot printing efficiency, prohibiting individuals from serving on a board of canvassers if they have been convicted of certain election crimes, and clarifying both the petition process and the timeframe for election lawsuits.
- [Enacted a budget](#) investing in cybersecurity, election administration, and voter access.

### Working towards transparency in state government

- [Voluntarily disclosed](#) public calendars, federal income tax returns, and personal financial information.
- Signed executive directives to:
  - Identify opportunities to [help eligible Michigan residents register to vote](#).
  - Require reporting of [irregularities relating to public money or public property](#) to ensure state government is transparent and accountable to taxpayers.
  - Establish high standards of [ethical conduct for employees within the executive branch](#) to ensure public confidence in state government leaders.
  - [Prohibit the solicitation and receipt of political contributions](#) in all state government facilities to curtail improper political influence.
  - [Prohibit the use of private email](#) for the conduct of state business within the executive branch to ensure transparency in state government activities.
  - [Strengthen the Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act](#) by closing loopholes, establishing liaisons to facilitate public requests, and [modernizing access](#) to public records.
- Signed a bill to [expand transparency and accountability](#) by ensuring government bodies create and maintain audio recordings of their meetings.
- [Signed](#) bills implementing Proposal 1, improving transparency in state government.
- Signed a bill to make the [Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission](#) more transparent by ensuring all meetings are public.
- [Signed](#) executive order streamlining state boards, councils, and commissions.
- Signed bills increasing transparency for elected officials by strengthening requirements for financial disclosures.

UPDATED: January 7, 2025