

GOVERNOR WHITMER'S PLAN TO PROTECT FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS



THE CHALLENGE

Michigan has outdated laws on the books restricting people's freedom. These laws limit people's ability to control their own bodies and restrict who they can marry. We know that states with extreme laws are losing talent and investment. We need to make Michigan a welcoming place of opportunity where anyone can succeed no matter who they are or where they come from.

THE PLAN

Governor Whitmer's Make it in Michigan plan proposes repealing the state's 1931 abortion ban and other outdated laws restricting people's ability to control their own bodies, shaming them for seeking health care, and restricting who they can marry. She is also calling for an expansion of the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to include legal protections for the LGBTQ+ community. Shoring up these fundamental freedoms will also improve talent recruitment and retention, as young people want to live in states where their rights are respected. Together, we can build on our reputation as a welcoming beacon of opportunity where anyone can succeed. Michigan's message to anyone living in a state that controls their body or denies who they are is simple: we will always have a place for you.

THE STORIES

KATHERINE FROM SAGINAW

Katherine is a social worker who moved from Denver to start her life in Michigan. Through her work with children who have become pregnant from rape or incest, she recognizes the importance of preserving the fundamental right to reproductive healthcare, including abortion. Last year, she attended one of Governor Whitmer's roundtable discussions, where she told the governor that not having access to abortion would make her feel less safe at work and put the children she works with in an impossible situation. It is a relief that Katherine can continue the exceptional work she does to support these kids.

JUDITH FROM TRAVERSE CITY

Judith from Traverse City has been marching for reproductive rights for decades. Now 80 years young, she is instilling those values into her grandchildren. Judith feels confident knowing that Michigan now protects reproductive rights and that her grandchildren's bodily autonomy will be upheld.

MATTHEW FROM YPSILANTI

Matthew and his partner are approaching 20 years together in April. Members of the LGBTQ+ community are not asking for special treatment; rather, they want the same freedoms to marry, buy a house, and to know their partners are taken care of. All Michiganders deserve a life free of discrimination, and now it's time to make that a reality.

