SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.31

Senator McBroom offered the following concurrent resolution: 1 A concurrent resolution to support the duly enacted election laws that ensure the integrity and efficient administration of our 2 elections. 3 4 Whereas, Election laws must provide access to voting while also ensuring sound election administration and mitigating the risk 5 of fraud. This is paramount to uphold the integrity of the 6 7 electoral system; and Whereas, The Constitution of the United States, in Article I, 8 9 Section 4 and Article II, Section 1, vests state legislatures with the authority to prescribe election procedures for presidential and 10 congressional elections; and 11 Whereas, The Constitution of the State of Michigan of 1963 12 13 charges the Legislature with enacting laws on elections. Article

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II, Section 4 of the constitution states, in part:
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          Except as otherwise provided in this constitution or in
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          the constitution or laws of the United States the
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          legislature shall enact laws to regulate the time, place
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          and manner of all nominations and elections, to preserve
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          the purity of elections, to preserve the secrecy of the
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         ballot, to guard against abuses of the elective
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          franchise, and to provide for a system of voter
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          registration and absentee voting.
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    ; and
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          Whereas, In accordance with the United States and Michigan
    constitutions, the Legislature enacted prudent laws aimed to
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    produce organized, fair elections by prohibiting the paid
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    transportation of able-bodied voters to the polls; limiting who may
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    assist an absentee voter with their ballot; and setting the ballot
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    receipt deadline on election day; and
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          Whereas, Two court rulings have declared that these laws
    cannot be enforced. On September 17, 2020, a U.S. District Court
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    granted a preliminary injunction that will permit the paid
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    transportation of voters to an election. On September 18, 2020, the
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    Michigan Court of Claims granted preliminary injunctive relief
    broadly opening up who may assist an absent voter with their ballot
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    and set the receipt deadline for absentee ballots postmarked no
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    later than one day before election day to 14 days after election
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    day; and
          Whereas, Permitting the paid transportation of voters to the
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    polls creates opportunities for political groups to engage in quid
    pro quo crimes that affect votes; and
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Whereas, Failing to limit who may assist citizens with their

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- 1 absentee ballots, especially in mass quantities, can increase fraud
- 2 and diminish public confidence in election results. Through such
- 3 ballot harvesting, political operatives entrusted with voters'
- 4 ballots could tamper with them or discard them; and
- 5 Whereas, Extending the absentee ballot receipt deadline past
- 6 election day delays election results and causes severe and serious
- 7 problems with election administration. It invites court battles and
- 8 undermines confidence in the outcome of the election; now,
- 9 therefore, be it
- 10 Resolved, That the Michigan Senate commits to the selection of
- 11 electors to the Electoral College that will be faithful to voting
- 12 for the candidate with the most votes for President in Michigan as
- 13 certified by Michigan election officials; and be it further
- 14 Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives
- 15 concurring), That we support the duly enacted election laws that
- 16 ensure the integrity and efficient administration of our elections;
- 17 and be it further
- 18 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
- 19 Governor, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General.