

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.31

Senator McBroom offered the following concurrent resolution:

1 A concurrent resolution to support the duly enacted election
2 laws that ensure the integrity and efficient administration of our
3 elections.

4 Whereas, Election laws must provide access to voting while
5 also ensuring sound election administration and mitigating the risk
6 of fraud. This is paramount to uphold the integrity of the
7 electoral system; and

8 Whereas, *The Constitution of the United States*, in Article I,
9 Section 4 and Article II, Section 1, vests state legislatures with
10 the authority to prescribe election procedures for presidential and
11 congressional elections; and

12 Whereas, *The Constitution of the State of Michigan of 1963*
13 charges the Legislature with enacting laws on elections. Article
14 II, Section 4 of the constitution states, in part:

1 Except as otherwise provided in this constitution or in
2 the constitution or laws of the United States the
3 legislature shall enact laws to regulate the time, place
4 and manner of all nominations and elections, to preserve
5 the purity of elections, to preserve the secrecy of the
6 ballot, to guard against abuses of the elective
7 franchise, and to provide for a system of voter
8 registration and absentee voting.

9 ; and

10 Whereas, In accordance with the United States and Michigan
11 constitutions, the Legislature enacted prudent laws aimed to
12 produce organized, fair elections by prohibiting the paid
13 transportation of able-bodied voters to the polls; limiting who may
14 assist an absentee voter with their ballot; and setting the ballot
15 receipt deadline on election day; and

16 Whereas, Two court rulings have declared that these laws
17 cannot be enforced. On September 17, 2020, a U.S. District Court
18 granted a preliminary injunction that will permit the paid
19 transportation of voters to an election. On September 18, 2020, the
20 Michigan Court of Claims granted preliminary injunctive relief
21 broadly opening up who may assist an absent voter with their ballot
22 and set the receipt deadline for absentee ballots postmarked no
23 later than one day before election day to 14 days after election
24 day; and

25 Whereas, Permitting the paid transportation of voters to the
26 polls creates opportunities for political groups to engage in quid
27 pro quo crimes that affect votes; and

28 Whereas, Failing to limit who may assist citizens with their
29 absentee ballots, especially in mass quantities, can increase fraud

1 and diminish public confidence in election results. Through such
2 ballot harvesting, political operatives entrusted with voters'
3 ballots could tamper with them or discard them; and

4 Whereas, Extending the absentee ballot receipt deadline past
5 election day delays election results and causes severe and serious
6 problems with election administration. It invites court battles and
7 undermines confidence in the outcome of the election; now,
8 therefore, be it

9 Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives
10 concurring), That we support the duly enacted election laws that
11 ensure the integrity and efficient administration of our elections;
12 and be it further

13 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
14 Governor, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General.