

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 46

Senator Stamas offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to urge the United States Congress and the
2 President of the United States to exempt absent voter ballots used
3 in a federal election from the requirement of postage when using
4 the United States Postal Service.

5 Whereas, The right of citizens to participate in free and fair
6 elections is the cornerstone of our constitutional republic and our
7 state, inscribed in and safeguarded by the United States
8 Constitution and the Constitution of Michigan of 1963; and

9 Whereas, Access to and participation in the election process
10 should be equally protected and provided to all citizens,
11 regardless of geographic location, financial status, or any other
12 immutable characteristic prohibited from discrimination by our
13 legal system, established on the natural law principal that

1 equality under the law is undeniable; and

2 Whereas, Procedural uniformity and predictability are
3 paramount in conducting a secure, fair, and efficient election in
4 the state of Michigan, as village, city, township, and county
5 clerks are expected to work together to ensure that access to and
6 the integrity of the system remain intact; and

7 Whereas, 3.3 million absent voter ballots were cast in
8 Michigan during the 2020 general election, but those citizens who
9 chose to mail their ballots were not treated equally, as some were
10 provided a pre-paid postage return envelope and others had to
11 obtain postage themselves; and

12 Whereas, The federal Postage Regulatory Commission and the
13 process to establish postage rates were created by an act of
14 Congress. An act of Congress to provide an exemption for absentee
15 ballots from postage requirements would make it unambiguous and
16 protected from the actions of unelected bureaucrats; now,
17 therefore, be it

18 Resolved by the Senate, That we urge the United States
19 Congress and the President of the United States to exempt absent
20 voter ballots used in a federal election from the requirement of
21 postage when using the United States Postal Service; and be it
22 further

23 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
24 President of the United States, the President of the United States
25 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
26 and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.