

BALLOT PROPOSAL DEEP DIVE



A Guide to Michigan Ballot Proposals 2026

Proposal One: Constitutional Convention aka “Con-Con”

Con-Con is on the ballot every 16 years and has always been rejected. If passed, there will be a statewide constitutional convention. One delegate from every MI legislative and Senate district would be elected in special primary and general elections. The convention is open-ended. Guidelines are decided by the delegates. Delegates could decide to not change anything, or to rewrite the entire Constitution.

A new constitution must be approved by $\frac{2}{3}$ of delegates and then presented to voters at a special election not less than 90 days after the convention adjourns. Acceptance/rejection of the proposed constitution would be decided by a simple majority of voters.

Status quo: Currently the constitution can be amended by ballot proposal and has been amended 39 times since 1963.

Who supports Prop 1:

Some Republican leaders, including Speaker of the House Matt Hall and State Senator Aric Nesbitt, have stated that they would like a ConCon. Michigan Right to Life has indicated that they would like to remove the Reproductive Freedom for All amendment from our constitution.

What do supporters of Prop 1 say:

Our constitution is long, outdated, and driven by special interests. We have not had a thorough review in 63 years. It's time to stop amending it piecemeal and have a comprehensive approach.

Who opposes Prop 1:

The opposition is led by a coalition called Protect MI Constitution. protectmiconstitution.com. The coalition includes: ACLU, Mi Chamber of Commerce, League of Women Voters, Michigan Education Association, Voters Not Politicians, MI AFL-CIO, Citizens for Traditional Values, and others.

What do opponents of Prop 1 say:

Campaign finance limitations would not apply to the election of delegates so there would be no limit on campaign donations. A Con-Con would allow special interest groups and wealthy politicians to advance their agendas. This will be expensive and nearly impossible to adequately educate voters about the details included in an entirely new constitution.

Proposal Two: Michiganders for Money Out of Politics (MMOP)

Creates a state law that bans utility companies and corporations that hold a state/city contract worth more than \$250K from contributing to candidates, campaigns, and PAC's. Would also ban any corporation from getting a \$250K+ state/city contract within 18 months of making a contribution. Requires political ads to disclose the donors.

Who supports MMOP:

Coalition includes: Clean Water Action, Climate Cabinet, Detroit Action, Hip Hop Caucus Action Fund, Michigan League of Conservation Voters, Michigan United Action, MOSES Action, and Voters Not Politicians.

What do supporters say:

- This would help get dark money out of politics and increase transparency.
- This would help lessen corporate interests in government.

Who opposes MMOP:

Opposition is led by Protect MI Free Speech

What opponents say:

- MMOP targets businesses & government contractors by expanding control over political speech & association, stripping businesses of 1st Amendment rights.
- It reaches beyond corporations by restricting employers, and individuals who work for them.
- Concentrates political influence among labor unions and progressive organizations.
- Blurs the line between issue advocacy and campaigning.
- MMOP's changes would be locked into the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA), would require a legislative supermajority vote to amend its provisions.

What happened to the Americans for Citizens Voting (ACV) proposal? onlycitizens.vote/michigan

ACV was a constitutional amendment proposal that would have required documentary proof of citizenship when registering to vote, confirmation of citizenship for all voters, and valid photo ID when casting a ballot.

Despite submitting approximately 709,000 signatures, ACV did not gather enough valid signatures to meet the required 446,198 threshold to get on the ballot. An additional legal challenge to the petition alleged that it failed to identify the provisions of the Michigan Constitution that would be changed if the proposed amendment were adopted.

The MI Board of State Canvassers (BOSC) is charged with evaluating the signatures and making a determination. BOSC must make their determination based solely on the validity of the signatures.

The BOSC deadlocked on whether or not to certify the proposal and therefore ACV could not proceed. ACV filed an appeal with both the MI and the US Supreme Courts. Both courts declined to force the ACV proposal onto the ballot. ACV cannot be on the November 2026 ballot.

The next time any state-wide ballot initiative would be allowed is in November 2028. ACV has indicated that they will try again in 2028. They would have to collect all new signatures.

What are MI voting laws?

Voter registration is available online, through the mail, or in person.

Voters who do not have photo ID can sign an affidavit swearing to their identity.

Non-citizen voting is not allowed in any state or federal election and is a felony offense.

Make a Voting Plan!

We have several options for voting in Michigan:

- Vote in person during the 9 days of Early Voting.
- Vote by Absentee Ballot.
- Return your ballot in a designated dropbox. *You must return to a dropbox in the municipality where you are registered to vote.*
- Return your ballot by mail. Be sure to allow plenty of time for potential mail delays.
- Vote in person on Election Day.

NOTES:

Feel free to contact me with any questions, new information, or if you want me to come and present to your organization or house of worship.

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