

2012 NOVEMBER ELECTION

Michigan is starting to turn around. Employment is up, personal incomes are on the rise, and our economy is growing again. We have adopted balanced budgets, lowered taxes on job providers and started to reinvest in our higher education institutions - a primary source for the talent Michigan employers need.

This November, voters will be asked to decide one referendum and five proposed amendments to the Michigan Constitution that have the potential to undo all the progress we've made.

Proposal 1 is a referendum on whether or not Michigan should retain Public Act 4 of 2011, which helps Michigan communities in financial emergencies regain fiscal stability. In cases where communities are unable to meet payroll, pay vendors, or are operating under continuous deficits, the law allows the state to appoint an emergency manager to help address these problems.

BLM **SUPPORTS** PROPOSAL 1.

Proposals 2-6 attempt to use our Constitution to re-write legislation passed by our elected leaders or bypass Michigan's legislative process. The Michigan Constitution sets forth our basic rights and freedoms. It should not be used to undo legislative action because a group doesn't like it.

BLM **OPPOSES** PROPOSALS 2-6.

Michigan is just starting to turn around. We can't afford to turn back.

BALLOT PROPOSAL	BLM POSITION
<p>PROPOSAL 12-1 A REFERENDUM ON PUBLIC ACT 4 OF 2011 –THE EMERGENCY MANAGER LAW Public Act 4 of 2011 would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish criteria to assess the financial condition of local government units, including school districts. • Authorize Governor to appoint an emergency manager (EM) upon state finding of a financial emergency, and allow the EM to act in place of local government officials. • Require EM to develop financial and operating plans, which may include modification or termination of contracts, reorganization of government, and determination of expenditures, services, and use of assets until the emergency is resolved. • Alternatively, authorize state-appointed review team to enter into a local government approved consent decree 	SUPPORT
<p>PROPOSAL 12-2 A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION REGARDING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING This proposal would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant public and private employees the constitutional right to organize and bargain collectively through labor unions. • Invalidate existing or future state or local laws that limit the ability to join unions and bargain collectively, and to negotiate and enforce collective bargaining agreements, including employees' financial support of their labor unions. Laws may be enacted to prohibit public employees from striking. • Override state laws that regulate hours and conditions of employment to the extent that those laws conflict with collective bargaining agreements. • Define "employer" as a person or entity employing one or more employees. 	OPPOSE
BALLOT PROPOSAL	BLM POSITION

PROPOSAL 12-3**OPPOSE****A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO ESTABLISH A STANDARD FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY**

This proposal would:

- Require electric utilities to provide at least 25% of their annual retail sales of electricity from renewable energy sources, which are wind, solar, biomass, and hydropower, by 2025.
- Limit to not more than 1% per year electric utility rate increases charged to consumers only to achieve compliance with the renewable energy standard.
- Allow annual extensions of the deadline to meet the 25% standard in order to prevent rate increases over the 1% limit.
- Require the legislature to enact additional laws to encourage the use of Michigan made equipment and employment of Michigan residents.

PROPOSAL 12-4**OPPOSE****A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO ESTABLISH THE MICHIGAN QUALITY HOME CARE COUNCIL AND PROVIDE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FOR IN-HOME CARE WORKERS**

This proposal would:

- Allow in-home care workers to bargain collectively with the Michigan Quality Home Care Council (MQHCC). Continue the current exclusive representative of in-home care workers until modified in accordance with labor laws.
- Require MQHCC to provide training for in-home care workers, create a registry of workers who pass background checks, and provide financial services to patients to manage the cost of in-home care.
- Preserve patients' rights to hire in-home care workers who are not referred from the MQHCC registry who are bargaining unit members.
- Authorize the MQHCC to set minimum compensation standards and terms and conditions of employment.

PROPOSAL 12-5**OPPOSE****A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO LIMIT THE ENACTMENT OF NEW TAXES BY STATE GOVERNMENT**

This proposal would:

- Require a 2/3 majority vote of the State House and the State Senate, or a statewide vote of the people at a November election, in order for the State of Michigan to impose new or additional taxes on taxpayers or expand the base of taxation or increasing the rate of taxation.
- This section shall in no way be construed to limit or modify tax limitations otherwise created in this Constitution.

PROPOSAL 12-6**OPPOSE****A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF INTERNATIONAL BRIDGES AND TUNNELS**

This proposal would:

- Require the approval of a majority of voters at a statewide election and in each municipality where "new international bridges or tunnels for motor vehicles" are to be located before the State of Michigan may expend state funds or resources for acquiring land, designing, soliciting bids for, constructing, financing, or promoting new international bridges or tunnels.
- Create a definition of "new international bridges or tunnels for motor vehicles" that means, "any bridge or tunnel which is not open to the public and serving traffic as of January 1, 2012."