



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

GARLIN GILCHRIST II  
LT. GOVERNOR

January 17, 2025

Michigan House of Representatives  
State Capitol Building  
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Representatives,

Today, I am vetoing Enrolled House Bills 5571, 5572, 5573, 5575, and 5576. Because the session at which these bills were passed has finally adjourned, my disapproval means they will not become law (1963 Const. Art. VI, § 33).

Together, these bills seek to modify provisions regarding ballot initiative petitions, constitutional amendment petitions, and nominating petitions by allowing for statistical random sampling of certain petition signatures.

In 2022, our state was rocked by record levels of signature fraud in our petition initiative process. This type of crime impacts the very foundation of our democracy. Unfortunately, these bills fall far short of the serious need to address this fraud, to restore public trust in our nomination petition process, and to protect voters and our state constitution. Namely, these bills move Michigan in the wrong direction by authorizing sampling procedures instead of requiring exhaustive review of signatures to ensure no fraud exists.

For the foregoing reasons, I am vetoing these bills. I am proud to have signed a number of bills that strengthen our election processes, and I look forward to working with the legislature to craft bipartisan solutions for the concerning problem of fraud in our ballot signature process.

Respectfully,

Gretchen Whitmer  
Governor