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To: Acuitas Client
From: Carson Gatt
Memo: Michigan 2020 Potential Ballot Proposals
Date: August 10, 2020

Acuitas Client,

See below the various proposals and how they relate to the November's general election ballot. Two measures will be on the November ballot as they have already been approved by two-thirds majority of the Legislature.

Will Appear on the 2020 November General Election Ballot:

1. Electronic Data: Proposed constitutional amendment to expand prohibition on unreasonable search and seizures to electronic data. The provision would add protections into the state Constitution so the electronic communications of residents would be exempt from search and seizure without a warrant.

Type: Legislatively Referred Constitutional Amendment

Status: SJR G (2019), introduced by Senator Jim Runestad, passed the Senate 38-0 on June 11, 2020. The House adopted the joint resolution with a 106-0-0-3 vote on June 24, 2020.

Contact: N/A

Full Text of Constitutional Amendment: [click here](#)

2. Natural Resources Trust Fund: Provides that at least 25 percent of the Natural Resources Trust Fund each fiscal year be spent on developing public recreation facilities, expands purpose for which Michigan State Parks Endowment Fund may be spent and declares until the endowment fund reaches \$800 million, 25 percent must be retained by the fund, at least 50 percent made available for state parks and the acquisition of park land and at least 20 percent be made available for local recreation projects; sets other rules.

Type: Legislatively Referred Constitutional Amendment

Status: SJR 0 (2018), introduced by Senator Tom Casperson, passed the House on December 21, 2018 with a 107-0 vote. The Senate passed the joint resolution on December 21, 2018 with a 37-0-1 vote.

Contact: The Committee for a Sustainable Michigan; Conan Smith

602 W. Ionia St., Lansing MI 48933; (517) 487-9539

Full Text of Constitutional Amendment: [click here](#)

Other:



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1. **“Unlock Michigan”:** would repeal the Emergency Powers of Governor Act, also known as Public Act 302 (PA 302) of 1945.

Type: indirect initiated state statute

- a. It is citizen-initiated, through the collection of signatures.
- b. Once the signatures are collected, the proposed law is sent to that state's state legislature.
- c. The state legislature can pass it and it would go into effect without the governor's approval

Status: The State Board of Canvassers voted to approve the petition on July 6, 2020 and signatures currently being collected. Signatures must be collected in a 180-day window. If enough valid signatures are collected, the proposal will head to the Legislature for a simple majority vote. If the Legislature approves the proposal, it would become law without the Governor's approval.

Contact: Unlock Michigan: 2145 Commons Parkway Okemos, MI 48864

Supporters: National Federation of Independent Business

Opponents: Governor Gretchen Whitmer

Full text: [click here](#)

Suspended Ballot Initiatives:

1. **Graduated Income Tax:** Repeals ban on graduated income tax, requires Legislature to enact income tax cut for those earning \$175,000 or less (\$350,000 for joint filers) and adjust rates for others to raise \$1.5 billion in new revenue.

Type: Initiated Constitutional Amendment

Status: Initiative suspended on March 25, 2020 because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Contact: Michiganders for the Commonwealth; Eli Isaguirre

19947 Lichfield, Detroit MI 48202; (313) 268-6012

Full Text: [click here](#)

2. **Lobbying Reform:** Prohibits lobbyists from purchasing anything of value for public officials and sets requirements for the disclosure of lobbyist-public official communications

Type: Initiated Constitutional Amendment

Status: Suspended on March 20, 2020 due to the Coronavirus.

Contact: Coalition to Close Lansing Loopholes; Lonnie Scott
614 Seymour Avenue Lansing MI 48933; (517) 999-3646

Full Text: [click here](#)

3. **LGBTQ Civil Rights:** Expands coverage of the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to persons based on their sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

Type: Indirect initiated state statute



Status: After a ruling by Judge Cynthia Stephens on June 10, 2020, the previously collected signatures will count towards the 2022 ballot. This is a consequence of the coronavirus' impact on collecting signatures by the deadline.

Contact: Fair and Equal Michigan; Trevor Thomas

P.O. Box 10030, Lansing MI 48901; (517) 374-9100

Full Text: [click here](#)

4. **Dismemberment Abortion Ban Act:** The ballot initiative would have banned dismemberment abortion, which is also known as dilation and evacuation abortion. It would have also defined dismemberment abortion as an abortion which uses an instrument, device, or object to "dismember a living fetus by disarticulating limbs or decapitating the head from the fetal torso or removing the dismembered fetal body parts from the uterus regardless of whether the fetal body parts are removed by the same instrument, device, or object or by suction or other means."

Type: Indirect initiated state statute

Status: Suspended due to rejection of certification by the Board of State Canvassers- Right to Life of MI officially suspended the campaign on July 21, 2020.

Contact: Right to Life MI, 233 N. Walnut St. Lansing, MI 48933; 517) 487-3376

Full Text: [click here](#)

