

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Lansing Branch

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NAACP to Launch Voting Rights Campaign

Lansing Branch urges citizens to decline to sign away their voting rights

LANSING – The NAACP Lansing Branch has launched a voting rights campaign – Decline to Sign - in response to a group hitting the streets across the state seeking signatures for an anti-voter rights petition. The group, Secure MI Vote, claims the petition will "secure voting rights," when in fact it will make voting harder.

The petition drive is an attempt to gather enough signatures so its supporters can get voter suppression legislation on the books in Michigan – an anti-voter process which will allow them to bypass Governor Gretchen Whitmer's veto. This strategy, if successful, will make voting harder for all Michiganders, especially Black and Brown voters.

"We are asking people to decline to sign this petition if and when they are approached to sign it," said Dale Copedge, President of the NAACP Lansing Branch. "This ploy is a clandestine way for this group to suppress voting in our community, especially in Black and Brown communities."

The NAACP Lansing Branch has recently launched an ad campaign via billboards, radio and television urging citizens throughout the Greater Lansing area to "Decline to Sign" Michigan voter suppression petitions. According to the Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, more than 250 audits proved that Michigan had a historic turnout for last year's general election and it has one of the most secure and accessible election systems in the country.

If this measure becomes law, it would turn back the clock on Michigan's election system, making it much harder for everyone to vote.

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the largest and most pre-eminent civil rights organization in the nation.

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