

Opposition to Elimination of the Straight Line Voting Option

Michigan State Conference NAACP

: Elections and Government Reform Committee

SB 13

Elections; voting procedures; straight-ticket

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## Opposition to Elimination of the Straight Line Voting Option

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1. Eliminating this option for those that utilize straight ticket voting will add time necessary to vote full ballot in elections, which will likely lead to even longer lines. Even with straight party ticket, lines have been increasing long due to dated voting equipment, decreased funding for local clerks and increasing numbers of ballot initiatives.
2. Eliminating this option for voters in increasingly partisan elections, without providing early voting or no-reason absentee voting will only increase burden on voters and election administrators on Election Day. For example in Detroit, even with voting centers at Wayne County Community a College, lines in Detroit, Grand Rapids and other cities in 2008 and 2012 were upwards of four hours.
3. Eliminating this option will also likely decrease the total number of votes cast in lesser profile partisan races like the Board of Education, and University Trustee.

The NAACP is opposed to eliminating the option for straight-ticket voting.