DINNER & DIALOGUE

GO GREEN? GO VOTE!
AN INSIDE LOOK AT PROP 18-1

AGENDA
OCTOBER 25TH, 2018

• Welcome
• Ballot Exercise
• 5 minute reading of Marijuana proposal
• Table Activity
**GO GREEN? GO VOTE. AN INSIDE LOOK AT PROPOSAL 18-1**

**UNITED STATES**

**US Senate**
- (100 national total; 33 nationally up for election; 2 MI total; 1 seat up for election in MI)
- 2 Senators from each of the 50 states are elected to pass laws and adopt the budget for the whole country.

**US House of Reps.**
- (435 national total; 14 MI total; 2 Detroit)
- Lawmakers who are elected from all 50 states who come together to make laws and pass the budget for the whole country.

**DETROIT**

**36th District Court**
- (31 total; 11 seats up for election)
- District court judges deal with traffic violations, landlord/tenant issues, lawsuits up to $25,000 and money disputes up to $6,000.

**Wayne County Comm. College Board of Trustees**
- (9 total; 5 Detroit; 3 seats up for election)

**DETROIT**

**Wayne County**

**County Executive**
- Top executive for Wayne County. Responsible for delivering county services, implementing county laws.

**Probate Court**
- (8 total; 3 seats up for election)
- Probate judges deal with wills and estates – such as what happens when a homeowner dies without a will and there is a question about who now owns the house.

**3rd Circuit Court**
- (58 total; 19 seats up for election)
- Circuit Court judges deal with larger civil cases, criminal cases (e.g. drugs, violence), and family cases (e.g. child custody, domestic violence, divorce).

**Wayne County Commissioners**
- (16 total; 7 Detroit)
- Legislators for Wayne County: adopts the budget and enacts ordinances.

**Detroit City Charter Revision Commission**
- (9 seats up for election)
- The Detroit City Charter is Detroit’s constitution and governing document for how the City’s government is structured and operates. The Commission will review and may revise as determined.

**DPSCD School Board**
- (7 total; 2 seats up for election)
- Hires the Superintendent, establishes policies for the district, approves the budget, and determines facility needs.

**Wayne County Probate Court**
- (8 total; 3 seats up for election)
- Probate judges deal with wills and estates – such as what happens when a homeowner dies without a will and there is a question about who now owns the house.

**2018 ELECTIONS**

**COLOR GUIDE**
- **Legislative**: Makes & changes laws
- **Executive**: Puts laws into action
- **Judicial**: Interprets the law
- **Other**
MI First District Court of Appeals (6 total; 2 seats up for election)

Governor/Lt. Governor
Top executive for the State of Michigan. Signs off on laws passed by the State legislature and implements those laws.

MI House of Reps (110 state total; 10 Detroit) Lawmakers who are elected from all over Michigan to make laws and pass the budget for the whole state.

MI Supreme Court (7 total; 2 seats up for election)

State Board of Education (8 seats total, 2 seats up for election)
Leadership and general supervision over all public education, adult education and instructional programs in state institutions, except institutions granting bachelor degrees.

Wayne State Board of Governors (8 total; 2 seats up for election)

MSU Board of Trustees (8 total; 2 seats up for election)

Secretary of State
Chief election officer. Oversees vehicle registration and licensing of drivers.

Attorney General
Chief law enforcement officer. Legal advisor to state gov.

UMich Board of Regents (8 total; 2 seats up for election)

Proposal 18-1
A proposed initiated law to authorize and legalize possession, use and cultivation of marijuana products by individuals who are at least 21 years of age and older, and commercial sales of marijuana through state-licensed retailers.

Proposal 18-2
A proposed constitutional amendment to establish a commission of citizens with exclusive authority to adopt district boundaries for the Michigan Senate, Michigan House of Representatives and U.S. Congress, every 10 years.

Proposal 18-3
A proposal to authorize automatic and Election Day voter registration, no-reason absentee voting, and straight ticket voting; and add current legal requirements for military and overseas voting and postelection audits to the Michigan Constitution.
DELTAS

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was founded in 1913 by 22 students at Howard University. A sisterhood of more than 250,000 predominantly Black college educated women, the sorority currently has 940 chapters around the world. The Detroit Alumnae Chapter was chartered on May 13, 1939 as Alpha Pi Sigma Chapter and was later renamed as the Detroit Alumnae Chapter in 1958. DAC is one of the largest chapters in the sorority with membership averaging over 700 members annually.

The sorority has a Five Point Programmatic Thrust that drives its programs: Economic Development, Educational Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health, and Political Awareness and Involvement.

DAC has received the 2015 National Social Action Award, the 2017 Midwest Region Award for Exemplary Programming in Economic Development, and the 2015 & 2017 Midwest Region Large Alumnae Chapter of the Year Award.

detroitdeltas.org

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

The League of Women Voters of Detroit (LWV) is a non-partisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League does not endorse candidates or political parties. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. We invite you to join us as we make democracy work in our communities. The LWV of Detroit is open to new members who share our ideals. Our League registers new voters, educates voters on upcoming elections and advocates for local issues. We work to engage Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park citizens in local governance, decision-making, and issues of interest.

lwvdetroit.org
WHAT IS MARIJUANA?

Marijuana is the psychoactive dried resinous flower buds and leaves of the female hemp or cannabis plant that contain high levels of THC and are smoked, vaped, or ingested (as in baked goods) especially for their intoxicating effect.

Michigan allows the legal use of medical marijuana. The Michigan Medical Marihuana Act of 2008 made it legal to grow and use marijuana for debilitating medical conditions. This proposal passed with 63% of citizens voting yes, and winning all 83 counties.

MEDICAL USE

According to Michigan Medical Marijuana Law, a patient must register with the MMMP (Michigan Medical Marihuana Program) to obtain a medical marijuana card from the state in order to be exempt from criminal state laws in engaging with cannabis.

In order to qualify for medical marijuana, patients need to obtain a doctor’s verification that they suffer from one of the several medical conditions listed in the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act to get the necessary identification card.

A BREAKDOWN OF MICHIGAN’S MEDICAL MARIJUANA DOs AND DON’Ts

When it comes to medical marijuana, the state of Michigan has outlined what is permitted and what is not.

✔️ DOs

- Possess up to 2.5 ounces.
- Smoke at home.
- Grow no more than 12 plants for yourself or each patient (the exception being if you are a caregiver for five people—then you can grow up to 60 plants).
- Grow for no more than five patients.

❌ DON’Ts

- Smoke in public.
- Sell medical marijuana.
- Transport more than 2.5 ounces of cannabis.

RECREATIONAL USE

Recreational use of Marijuana is currently illegal in the State of Michigan. If Proposal 18-1 does not pass, the use of marijuana in Michigan for recreational use (outside of the provisions of the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act) still results in the following penalties as summarized by National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML).

For the first offense, penalties include no more than 360 hours of community service, less than 93 days of imprisonment, and a fine no more than $300.

For the second offense (within 7 years) penalties include a fine between $200 and $1000 and one or more of the following: imprisonment for between five days and one year and community service for 30 to 90 days.

The third and subsequent offense (within 7 years) is considered a felony and will incur a fine between $500 and $5000 and either of the following: imprisonment 1 to 5 years, or probation with imprisonment 30 days to one year.
WHAT IS A BALLOT INITIATIVE?

Article XII, Section 2 of the State Constitution prescribes the process for citizens to directly pass amendments to the State Constitution or initiate legislation.

- All petitions are started by filing with the Secretary of State.
- Petitioners must gather the signatures of 10% of registered voters who voted during the last gubernatorial general election (315,653 voters) within 180 days of filing with the Secretary of State.
- Petitions must be received by the Secretary of State at least 120 days prior to election day.
- Once signatures are turned in, the State Board of Canvassers compares and verifies the validity of the signatures against the State’s Qualified Voter File, where all voter registration information is stored.
- A final determination must be made by the Board at least two months before the election that the petition is attempting to join.
- If the proposal passes affirmatively the initiative is added to the State constitution 45 days after the election.
- If two conflicting ballot initiatives pass, the one with the highest affirmative vote total prevails.

CITY OF DETROIT CHARTER COMMISSION CANDIDATE FORUM

Learn more about the City of Detroit’s Charter and the candidates running for the revision commission.

November 1, 2018 5:30 - 8:30pm at IBEW

Register here: tinyurl.com/CD-Charter

MICHIGAN MARIJUANA LEGISLATION INITIATIVE

• A proposed initiated law to authorize and legalize possession, use and cultivation of marijuana products by individuals who are at least 21 years of age and older, and commercial sales of marijuana through state licensed retailers.

• Allow individuals 21 and older to purchase, possess and use marijuana and marijuana-infused edibles, and grow up to 12 marijuana plants for personal consumption.

• Impose a 10-ounce limit for marijuana kept at residences and require amounts over 2.5 ounces be secured in locked containers.

• Create a state licensing system for marijuana businesses and allow municipalities to ban or restrict them.

• Permit retail sales of marijuana and edibles subject to a 10% tax, dedicated to implementation costs, clinical trials, schools, roads, and municipalities where marijuana businesses are located.

• Change several current violations to civil infractions.

DID YOU KNOW? In Michigan law, “marijuana” is spelled “marihuana.” According to the Washington Post, this follows the pattern of federal law.

Both the “j” and “h” spellings of the word were common after the Spanish-American War, but the federal Marihuana Tax Act of 1937 solidified the “h” spelling for future legal language.
The proposal to legalize marijuana received an estimated 277,370 signatures, and was certified by the Board of State Canvassers in April. Now, it’s one of three proposals that Michigan voters will decide on in November.

Even though more and more voters are in favor of recreational marijuana, many details go into implementing such laws. We break down what you need to know about the proposal below:

1. Marijuana would be regulated like alcohol

An initiation of legislation to allow under state law the personal possession and use of marijuana by persons 21 years of age or older; to provide for the lawful cultivation and sale of marijuana and industrial hemp by persons 21 years of age or older; to permit the taxation of revenue derived from commercial marijuana facilities; to permit the promulgation of administrative rules; and to prescribe certain penalties for violations of this act.”

Like alcohol, it would be illegal for anyone under 21 to purchase or use marijuana, and marijuana retailers and growers would be licensed by the state. And like tobacco, landlords, leaseholders, and business owners would be able to prohibit smoking marijuana on their premises. It would also remain illegal to smoke marijuana in public. It would be illegal to operate a vehicle under the influence of marijuana, however there are no proven effective tests to measure whether a driver is high or not.

2. Anyone over 21 can have up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana

According to the proposal, anyone over the age of 21 would be able to “possess, use, transport, or process 2.5 ounces or less of marijuana or 15 grams of marijuana concentrate.” It would also be legal to “share or transfer without payment” up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana to another person over 21 years old.

To put that into context, recreational marijuana is typically sold in increments starting from an eighth of an ounce to a quarter ounce, half ounce, and a full ounce. Individuals would also be able to grow up to 12 marijuana plants, and store up to 10 ounces from those plants in locked containers in one’s residence.
There would be a 10% excise tax on all marijuana sales

The state treasury department would carry out the proposal’s specifications on how marijuana tax revenue would be spent. At first, tax money will go toward “the implementation, administration, and enforcement” of the act. After that, $20 million would be provided annually to “one or more clinical trials that are approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration and sponsored by a non-profit organization or researcher within an academic institution researching the efficacy of marijuana in treating the medical conditions of United States armed services veterans and preventing veteran suicide.”

Any remaining money will be split four ways: 15% for municipalities where a marijuana business is located, 15% for counties where a marijuana business is located, 35% for the school aid fund, and 35% to the transportation fund to fix roads and infrastructure. Under the proposal, local municipalities do have the authority to ban or limit marijuana establishments. However, those municipalities would not be allotted any of the tax revenue.

People previously arrested for marijuana possession would not be pardoned

The proposal does not address what would become of those who have been arrested for selling or possessing marijuana, and does not include any language on a retroactive application of the law. In other words, people who were arrested for possessing marijuana when it was illegal would not be automatically pardoned. Currently, a marijuana possession charge is a misdemeanor, and can result in one year of incarceration and up $2,000 in fines.

As the legalization of recreational marijuana spreads nationwide, many have called for the fair treatment of those imprisoned for possession, especially since those prisoners are disproportionately non-white. Currently, nearly 10% of drug arrests in Michigan are marijuana-related, according to Michigan State Police data.

Michigan would become the 10th state to legalize the sale of recreational marijuana

California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington have legalized the use of marijuana for recreational purchases.

Meanwhile, the federal government under Attorney General Jeff Sessions has continued to buckle down on marijuana laws. The Department of Justice issued a memo in January of 2018 instructing U.S. attorneys to enforce the federal prohibition on marijuana.

However, under a bipartisan bill currently making its way through Congress, federal law might lose some power when it comes to prosecuting marijuana infractions. The Strengthening the Tenth Amendment Through Entrusting States (STATES) Act would ensure “that each State has the right to determine for itself the best approach to marijuana within its borders.”
PROPOSAL 18-1 POINTS OF VIEW

YES: PROPOSAL 18-1

Supporters of Proposal 18-1, like the Coalition to Regulate Marijuana like Alcohol claim that revenue from the legalization will help Michigan pay for better roads, schools and PTSD research. Proponents estimate the state will gain roughly $85 Million per year in new tax revenue. The State Senate Fiscal agency recently estimated higher revenue amounts.

Proponents also say that minor marijuana possession cases clog the state judicial system, and that legalizing marijuana would allow more resources to help law enforcement close more serious cases and focus on violent crime.

Voting Yes on Proposal 18-1 gives responsibility to adults for reasonable marijuana use, says its backers. They also point to surveys in legal states like Colorado and Washington that show teenage marijuana use has slightly declined or stayed the same, rather than increasing.

NO: PROPOSAL 18-1

Groups like a “Healthy and Productive Michigan” who are against Proposal 18-1, claim that the measure has nothing to do with Medical Marijuana, which is legal in Michigan, and that those who use Marijuana to treat medical conditions will still be able to.

Marijuana usage will continue to be an obstacle as part of the hiring process and during employment. Unlike alcohol, opponents remind voters that marijuana stays in the body for weeks after use, and is currently more potent than it was in the past. Opponents are also concerned about the danger of marijuana affecting workers in transportation and heavy manufacturing.

Those voting “No” on Proposal 18-1 believe this legalization is pushed by the marijuana industry that has only one focus - money. Yet, according to opponents, crime related to this drug industry will continue with the legalization of marijuana. They also claim that Marijuana is a gateway drug, leading to more dangerous drug use. These opponents contend that more youth or pregnant mothers will use marijuana, adversely affecting child brain development.
MEDICAL MARIJUANA vs. RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA

Thirty states and the District of Columbia currently have laws broadly legalizing marijuana in some form, and eight states and the District of Columbia have adopted the most liberal laws legalizing marijuana for recreational use.

The vast majority of states allow for limited use of medical marijuana under certain circumstances. Some medical marijuana laws are broader than others, with types of medical conditions that allow for treatment varying from state to state. Louisiana and West Virginia are among the few states that only allow cannabis-infused products, such as oils or pills.

Other states have passed more conservative laws allowing residents to possess cannabis only if they suffer from select rare medical illnesses. A number of states have also decriminalized the possession of small amounts of marijuana.

The map below shows current state laws and recently-approved ballot measures legalizing marijuana for medical or recreational purposes. Final rules for recently-passed medical marijuana laws are pending in some states.
VOTING IN MICHIGAN 2018

REGISTERING TO VOTE
You must be registered to vote at least 30 days before the election. If you are not sure whether you are registered, or if you want to confirm where to vote, visit www.michigan.gov/vote. The last day to register to vote for the November 6 election was October 9, 2018.

TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN MICHIGAN, YOU MUST BE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:
- A U.S. citizen
- At least 18 years old by Election Day
- A resident of Michigan
- A resident of the city or township where you are applying to register to vote

VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT
If you are a registered voter, you may obtain an absentee ballot if you are any of the following:
- Age 60 or older
- Unable to vote without assistance at the polls
- Expecting to be out of town on Election Day
- In jail or awaiting trial
- Unable to attend the polls due to religious reasons
- Appointed to work as an election inspector in a precinct outside of your precinct residence

DID YOU KNOW?
Registering to vote has no impact on your chances of being picked for jury duty. Jurors are selected from the list of Michigan driver’s license and state ID holders, not the list of registered voters.

DID YOU KNOW?
If a person registers to vote by mail, they must show up in person the first time they vote, UNLESS they are overseas, disabled, or age 60 or older.

VOTING IN DETROIT 2018
Don’t forget to flip your ballot over!
There are several important races to consider in Detroit for the 2018 General Election. On the back of your ballot you will find these non-partisan races that directly impact your everyday life:
- Judge of Probate Court
- Judge of District Court (36th District)
- Detroit Public School Community District School Board
- Charter Commission

CitizenDetroit will be hosting a Dinner and Dialogue centered around the City of Detroit’s Charter and the Charter Commission candidates on Thursday, November 1, 2018 at IBEW.
GO TO INFORMDETOIT.ORG SO YOU CAN
STAY INFORMED. KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES. THEN VOTE!

CitizenDetroit has interviewed candidates running for office in 2018.

→ For candidate videos and questionnaires, visit InformDetroit.org
→ For judicial candidate evaluations, visit DetroitLawyer.org/judges
→ To find your polling location and districts, visit Michigan.gov/vote

General Election is Tuesday, November 6th, 2018

ALERT!  At the very end of your ballot, you will find an Operating Proposal Millage for Wayne County Community College:

WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT REPLACEMENT OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow Wayne County Community College District to levy 2.25 mills for operating purposes, permanently replacing and combining two separate existing authorizations which would otherwise expire in 2020 and 2022.

To continue to provide operating funds to the Wayne County Community College District and as a replacement of existing authority which would otherwise expire in 2020 and 2022, shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the Wayne County Community College District be permanently increased by 2.25 mills ($2.25 per $1,000 of taxable value), beginning in 2019? It is estimated that 2.25 mills would raise approximately $46,533,830 when first levied in 2019.

Answer “Yes” or “No” to state whether or not you support this proposal.

Wayne County Community College District is seeking voter authorization to combine and continue two millages that currently set to expire in 2020 and 2022. If approved, voters who own property will not experience an increase in the rate taxed of about $2.25 per $1,000.00 of taxable value.
November 3rd, 2018
Noon - 5PM

Detroit PAL Headquarters
1680 Michigan Ave, Detroit, MI 48216

LIVE MUSIC. FOOD. FUN.
Rally. Celebrate.

OUR VOICE IS POWER.

CitizenDetroit.org
@CitizenDetroit
GROUND RULES FOR DISCUSSION

• Be respectful.
• Participate. Be open, honest, and forthcoming.
• Don’t dominate the discussion. Invite other points of view.
• Listen and try to understand various perspectives.
• Stay on topic and limit side conversations.
• Turn cellphones off or to vibrate.
• Be mindful of time!

STAY INFORMED. KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES. VOTE NOVEMBER 6TH!

CitizenDetroit has interviewed candidates running for office in 2018.
For candidate videos and questionnaires, visit InformDetroit.org
For judicial candidate evaluations, visit DetroitLawyer.org/judges
To find your polling location and districts, visit Michigan.gov/vote

ALERT
Straight Party Voting will not be available in this year’s election on November 6th.
The 6th Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a lower Federal District Court decision by Judge Gershwin Drain to keep Michigan’s Straight Party Voting system, despite the Michigan Legislature banning it.

CITIZENDETROIT
INFORM. ENGAGE. ACT.
Envisioning Detroit as the most informed and engaged city in the nation.

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HOW TO STAY INVOLVED:
CitizenDetroit is on the move! Join us!
☑ Visit CitizenDetroit.org to stay up-to-date on events
☑ Fill out your feedback forms
☑ Sign up with EngageD
☑ Follow us on social media

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