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POLL: Michiganders Support Dems Ending Year with Policy Push

Lake Effect poll shows Michiganders believe lawmakers' jobs are far from over this year

MICHIGAN – Progress Michigan released the November issue of Lake Effect, a monthly poll tracking public opinion about a variety of issues and political figures. As the end of this legislative term nears, polling shows that not only do a majority of Michigan voters believe Michigan lawmakers have plenty of work left to do before the end of the year, but they also strongly support action on people-first policies. From protecting reproductive freedom and workers' rights to closing corporate tax loopholes and creating protections against pollution, Michiganders continue to show their support for progressive policies.

“While the end of the year may be close at hand to some lawmakers, their job this year is far from over,” **said Sam Ingot, executive director of Progress Michigan.** “We are counting on them to pass good, proactive policies that will help working families and protect our rights and freedoms.”

When reminded that Democrats will lose control of the Michigan State House next year and asked about what policy priorities they should focus on for the rest of the year:

- 75 percent think it is important to ensure our economy works for everyone and not just the wealthy few.
- 75 percent think it is important to protect workers' rights.
- 77 percent think it is important to protect our air, water, and environment by holding corporate polluters accountable and pursuing clean energy initiatives..
- 77 percent think it is important to ensure all Michiganders' basic human rights for water and shelter.
- 61 percent think it is important to ensure all Michiganders' freedom to pursue life, liberty, and happiness is equally protected, including for the LGBTQ+ community and Michigan's many diverse immigrant communities.

Poll respondents were also asked about specific policies that advocacy organizations across the state are calling for lawmakers to pass before the end of the term:

- 81 percent support implementing paid family leave.
- 70 percent support setting a 100% clean energy standard, removing barriers to clean energy, and reducing energy waste.
- 66 percent support passing an income-based water affordability program.
- 92 percent support requiring corporations to clean up their own pollution.
- 92 percent support opening the Governor's office and Legislature to FOIA requests.

- 71 percent support second look legislation.
- 69 percent support closing the dark store tax loophole.
- 61 percent support protecting access to contraception, comprehensive and accurate sex education in schools, and reproductive freedom.
- 66 percent support addressing the Black maternal mortality rate.
- 68 percent support the Michigan Voting Rights Act.
- 87 percent support improving consumer and employee protections and holding insurance companies accountable.
- 64 percent support protecting Michigan's paid sick leave implementation, minimum wage increase, and the gradual elimination of tipped minimum wage.

"Michigan and the nation are heading into some very turbulent and tough times under a Trump presidency, but one thing is clear right now: the moral imperative for Democrats in Lansing to do everything in their power to protect our rights and improve the conditions of working people – something we know Republicans will not do in divided state government," **Inglot continued.** "For Democrats to sit on their hands and do little or nothing would be a dereliction of duty. It's time for them to get to work now, vote and pass good policy."

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Michigan Survey Results

Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Donald Trump?

Favorable 47%
Unfavorable 50%
Not sure 3%

Q2 Michigan Democrats will lose control of the Michigan State House next year, meaning Michigan will have a divided government. I am going to list several possible priorities for Democrats to focus on for the rest of the year and ask if you think that priority is very important, somewhat important, or not important at all. Here's the first one: ensuring our economy works for everyone, not just the wealthy few, by reigning in corporate greed and closing loopholes to make sure corporations pay their fair share of taxes. Do you think this is very important, somewhat important, or not important at all?

Very important 57%
Somewhat important 18%
Not important at all 23%
Not sure 2%

Q3 Here's the next one: focusing on workers' rights, including protecting and expanding paid family and medical leave and protecting the minimum wage increase. Do you think this is very important, somewhat important, or not important at all?

Very important 50%
Somewhat important 25%
Not important at all 23%
Not sure 2%

Q4 Here's the next one: protecting our air, water, and environment including making corporations pay to clean up their own messes, continuing to pursue clean energy initiatives, and ensuring our infrastructure is ready for the impact of climate change. Do you think this is very important, somewhat important, or not important at all?

Very important 54%
Somewhat important 23%
Not important at all 22%
Not sure 1%

Q5 Here's the next one: ensuring all Michiganders' basic human rights for water and shelter are met by passing water affordability policies and protecting renters from greedy or unfit landlords. Do you think this is very important, somewhat important, or not important at all?

Very important 55%
Somewhat important 22%
Not important at all 21%
Not sure 3%

Q6 Here's the last one: ensuring all Michiganders' freedom to pursue life, liberty, and happiness are equally protected. This includes the LGBTQ+ community, Michigan's many diverse immigrant communities, and reproductive freedom for all. Do you think this is very important, somewhat important, or not important at all?

Very important 50%
Somewhat important 11%
Not important at all 37%
Not sure 2%

Q7 I am going to list more specific protections the Michigan government could pass before the end of the year and ask if you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose them. Here's the first one: do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose implementing paid family leave to give workers time to deal with family or medical issues.

Strongly support 55%
Somewhat support 26%
Somewhat oppose 10%
Strongly oppose 7%
Not sure 1%

Q8 Here's the next one: ensuring Michiganders have clean air and water by setting a 100% clean energy standard, removing barriers to clean energy, and reducing energy waste.

Strongly support 46%
Somewhat support 24%
Somewhat oppose 13%
Strongly oppose 15%
Not sure 2%

Q9 Here's the next one: ensuring Michiganders struggling to make ends meet can afford their water bills by passing an income-based water affordability program.

Strongly support 42%
Somewhat support 24%
Somewhat oppose 12%
Strongly oppose 18%
Not sure 3%

Q10 Here's the next one: requiring corporations who cause contamination to pay to clean up their own pollution rather than having taxpayers foot the bill.

Strongly support 75%
Somewhat support 17%
Somewhat oppose 2%
Strongly oppose 4%
Not sure 1%

Q11 Here's the next one: opening the Governor's office and Legislature to public records requests under the Freedom of Information Act.

Strongly support 72%
Somewhat support 20%
Somewhat oppose 2%
Strongly oppose 1%
Not sure 4%

Q12 Here's the next one: giving judges discretion to review sentences for people who have already served long prison sentences and are deemed to be at low risk of committing future crimes, and are ready to contribute to their communities.

Strongly support 31%
Somewhat support 40%
Somewhat oppose 9%
Strongly oppose 14%
Not sure 7%

Q13 Here's the next one: closing the "dark store" tax loophole that has allowed retail giants and corporations to not pay hundreds of millions of dollars in property taxes while cutting funds for local governments.

Strongly support 54%
Somewhat support 15%
Somewhat oppose 12%
Strongly oppose 10%
Not sure 9%

Q14 Here's the next one: protecting access to contraception, comprehensive and accurate sex education in schools, and reproductive freedom.

Strongly support 48%
Somewhat support 13%
Somewhat oppose 12%
Strongly oppose 24%
Not sure 3%

Q15 Here's the next one: addressing the Black maternal mortality rate, which is three times higher than for white mothers.

Strongly support 47%
Somewhat support 19%
Somewhat oppose 9%
Strongly oppose 13%
Not sure 12%

Q16 Here's the next one: creating a Michigan Voting Rights Act to protect our right to elect our own leaders.

Strongly support 54%
Somewhat support 14%
Somewhat oppose 4%
Strongly oppose 12%
Not sure 16%

Q17 Here's the next one: improving consumer and employee protections and holding insurance companies accountable.

Strongly support 58%
Somewhat support 29%
Somewhat oppose 2%
Strongly oppose 5%
Not sure 5%

Q18 Here's the last one: protecting Michigan's paid sick leave implementation, minimum wage increase and the gradual elimination of tipped minimum wage to a higher wage.

Strongly support 43%
Somewhat support 21%
Somewhat oppose 11%
Strongly oppose 20%
Not sure 5%

Q19 Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the statement: Michigan's lawmakers aren't done with the job voters elected them to do and they must get to work.

Strongly agree 62%
Somewhat agree 16%
Somewhat disagree 4%
Strongly disagree 10%
Not sure 9%

Q20 Do you think it's very important, somewhat important, or not important at all that Democrats in the Michigan government spend the rest of 2024 taking action to protect Michiganders from the Project 2025 policy agenda?

Very important 49%
Somewhat important 5%
Not important at all 41%
Not sure 5%

Q21 Do you think it's very important, somewhat important, or not important at all that Democrats in the Michigan government spend the rest of 2024 taking action to protect Michiganders from the incoming Trump administration?

Very important 48%
Somewhat important 3%
Not important at all 45%
Not sure 4%

Q22 In the 2024 election for President, did you vote for Republican Donald Trump, Democrat Kamala Harris, someone else, or did you not vote in the election?

Donald Trump 48%
Kamala Harris 46%
Someone else / Did not vote 6%

Q23 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2. If you are gender non-binary, press 3.

Woman 52%
Man 46%
Gender non-binary 2%

Q24 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If an independent, press 3.

Democrat 38%
Republican 32%
Independent 30%

Q25 If you are Hispanic or Latino, press 1. If Arab-American, press 2. If white, press 3. If African-American, press 4. If Asian-American or Pacific Islander, press 5. If other, press 6.

Hispanic or Latino 3%
Arab-American 2%
White 79%
African-American 12%
Asian-American or Pacific Islander 1%
Other 3%

Q26 If you are 18-45 years old, press 1. If 46-65, press 2. If older than 65, press 3.

18 to 45 35%
46 to 65 41%
Older than 65 24%

Q27 Which of the following best describes the highest level of education you have received: high school graduate or less, some college but did not finish, 2-year college degree, 4-year college degree, or post-graduate degree?

High school graduate or less 23%
Some college but did not finish 22%
2-year college degree 13%
4-year college degree 21%
Post-graduate degree 16%
Don't care to say 5%

Q28 Are you or is anyone in your household a current or former member of a labor union?

Yes 38%
No 62%

Q29 Media Market

<i>Detroit</i>	49%
<i>Flint</i>	11%
<i>Grand Rapids</i>	20%
<i>Lansing</i>	7%
<i>Marquette</i>	2%
<i>Traverse City</i>	7%
<i>Other</i>	4%

Q30 Mode

<i>Landline</i>	25%
<i>Text</i>	75%