



Written Statement: House Elections Committee Hearing, September 12th, 2023

<p>Bill Richardson & Mike Shaver, Pure Integrity Michigan Elections, Legislative Committee Co-Chairs</p> <p>https://www.pureintegritymichiganelections.org/ purintegrityforme@gmail.com</p> <p>In support of this statement: Freedom Alliance Project, Stand Up Michigan, and Michigan Fair Elections</p>	<p>Before the Michigan House Standing Committee on Elections, Representative Tsernoglou, Chair</p> <p>Tuesday, September 12th, 2023, 10:30 AM, Room 327, House Office Building, Lansing, MI</p> <p>Committee Clerk: Edward Sleeper Phone: (517) 373-2002 e-Mail: esleeper@house.mi.gov</p>
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This statement, submitted by Pure Integrity for Michigan Elections, comes with the support of the Freedom Alliance Project, Stand Up Michigan, and Michigan Fair Elections. PIME is an issue-based, nonpartisan political movement. We welcome all who support election integrity and the US and Michigan Constitutions.

AGENDA:

HB 4129 Elections: offenses; intimidating an election inspector or preventing an election inspector from performing his or her duties; prohibit.

PIME POSITION: OPPOSE

Michigan absolutely cannot start making people felons if someone else says that their feelings were hurt. This is exactly what HB4129 would allow. Intimidation is already illegal. Courts have ruled on that. But this bill goes too far. It says "*Intimidate*" means *to commit harassing conduct that would cause a reasonable individual to feel terrorized, frightened, threatened, harassed, or molested.*"

We are **frightened by this bill!** Does that make the bill sponsor a felon? If someone says something at a voting location that offends or frightens an election official, are they now subject to felony charges, incarceration, and fines if an election official claims they "feel" intimidated? **The state cannot start prosecuting people based upon people's feelings.** Besides violating the 1st amendment of our Constitution, this sort of legislation can open doors for groups of people to be attacked for their beliefs (poll watchers and challengers come to mind).

Michigan already has laws preventing intimidation and assault, and legal methods in place to handle difficult individuals at polling locations or anywhere else for that matter. HB4129 needs to be struck down entirely. If not, we have to question if this

bill's actual intent is to discourage honest, hardworking citizens from exercising their duty to oversee fair elections.

HB 4130 Criminal procedure: sentencing guidelines; sentencing guidelines for certain Michigan election law violations dealing with intimidating an election official; provide for. TIE BAR WITH: HB 4129'23

PIME POSITION: OPPOSE

PIME opposes HB4130 for the same reasons we oppose HB4129.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Richardson & Mike Shaver, Co-Chairs, Legislative Committee Pure Integrity Michigan Elections	Allies: Stand Up Michigan Freedom Alliance Project Michigan Fair Elections
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