



Testimony of Stephanie Kreuz, Regional Manager & Senior Advisor  
Heritage Action for America  
September 21, 2021

**Supporting:** HB 5268

Submitted to the Michigan House Committee on Elections and Ethics

Thank you, Chairwoman Bollin, and members of the Committee, for the opportunity to testify in favor of HB 5268. My name is Stephanie Kreuz, Regional Manager & Senior Advisor at Heritage Action for America. We are a national grassroots organization with activists in Michigan, and across the country.

**HB 5268** would increase the security of absentee ballots by prohibiting the mass unsolicited mailing of absentee ballot applications by county, city, and township clerks, as well as the secretary of state. Residents may move, addresses may change, and not every new resident at an address may throw out the ballot application that is being automatically mailed to a former resident. Automatically mailing ballot applications to registered voters creates additional invitation to confusion, fraud, and abuse. Michigan should minimize opportunities for unauthorized individuals to complete a ballot application.

As far back as 2005, the Carter-Baker Commission Report on Federal Election Reform raised concerns about a growing lack of confidence in the fairness of America's elections. This bill is an important step to raising voter confidence and ensuring it is easy to vote, and hard to cheat in the state of Michigan.

Thank you.