IN THE MATTER OF: BUREAU OF ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATIVE RULES FOR ONLINE ABSENT VOTER BALLOT APPLICATION, PUBLIC HEARING

October 1, 2021

Prepared by



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STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS AND CAMPAIGN FINANCE

In the Matter of: Bureau of Elections Administrative Rules for Online Absent Voter Ballot Application Rule Set 2021-62 ST

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PUBLIC HEARING

3044 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan Friday, October 1, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

PANEL:

ADAM FRACASSI Moderator

DOUGLAS A. NOVAK, Esq.

JONATHAN BRATER

Bureau of Elections

BRIAN REMLINGER
Panel Member

RECORDED BY:

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1	Livonia, Michigan
2	Friday, October 1, 2021 - 9:00 a.m.
3	MR. NOVAK: Good morning. This hearing is being
4	called to order at 9:00 a.m., on October 1st, 2021 at
5	Cadillac Place, Room L150, Detroit, Michigan. This is a
б	public hearing on proposed administrative rules entitled,
7	"Disqualification from ballot based upon contents of
8	affidavit of identity, Signature matching standards for
9	absent voter ballot applications and absent voter ballot
10	envelopes, " and, "Online absent voter ballot application."
11	This hearing is being conducted pursuant to the
12	provisions of 1954 PA 116, the Administrative Procedures
13	Act, and on behalf of the Department of State, Bureau of
14	Elections. The hearing was published in three newspapers of
15	general circulation, as well as the Michigan Register, Issue
16	Number 16, published on September 15th, 2021. My name is
17	Doug Novak, and to my left is Adam Fracassi, the subject
18	matter expert from the Bureau of Elections, and we will be
19	facilitating the hearing today.
20	And just one housekeeping measure, please, this is
21	a state office building, and masks are required to be worn
22	in this building. And if you wouldn't mind, please make
23	sure your cell phone is on silent mode, and then everybody
24	can hear the comments being made today. Thank you.
25	Please note that there are three sets of rules
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being presented for comment today. To facilitate and organize record of public comment, we ask that public comment during each section be limited to the rule set that is currently being presented. So we'll go through one, the next one, then the next one. You will have a chance to address to address other rule sets during designated sections of this presentation. Please ensure that you have signed up on the comment sheets at the entrance there, and that you signed on the correct sign-in sheet.

We will call your names when each rule set is being brought up. You may comment on more than one rule set by signing in on multiple sign-in sheets. If you wish to comment on a rule set that had already been presented, we will provide a second opportunity to comment at the end of the presentation. You may comment on a rule that has already been presented by signing in on the appropriate sign-in sheet.

We are here today to receive your comments on the proposed rules. If you wish to speak, please make sure that you have signed in and indicated your willingness to speak. We will call on the speakers in the order in which names are listed on the sign-in sheets, and hopefully, we won't butcher your name. When you come forward to speak, please identify yourself with your name, the organization you represent, if any, and both your mailing and email address



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so that this information may be transcribed into the hearing report. And there is a chair up here for you to sit, and apparently the PA system didn't work, so as long as you use a strong voice, everybody should hear you. Thank you. If you have additional comments to submit in writing, you may leave them at the registration desk or submit them to our department no later than 5:00 p.m. today. Comments can be submitted by emailing: elections@michgigan.gov.

To accommodate all speakers and all the rule sets, each speaker will be limited to two minutes. And again, if you wish to provide additional comments, you're more than welcome to leave your written comments with your identifying information on it, so we know who it's from, or submit them online by 5:00 p.m. With that, I will turn it over to Mr. Fracassi.

MR. FRACASSI: So I'm going to call on people. We are currently going to start the hearing on the rule set 168.1, which is the Disqualification From Ballot Based on Contents of Affidavit of Identity. I do have the sign-up sheet here (indicating), so I'm going to call on you. As you come up, I would ask if you could spell your name for the court reporter, please, just so we can make sure that we've got it right. And if I mispronounce your name or anything, please feel free to let me know. So the first person I have is Kristina Karamo. Good morning.



1	MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: Hi. How are you doing?
2	MR. FRACASSI: I'm doing well. How are you?
3	MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: I'm great.
4	MR. FRACASSI: So just to confirm, you are
5	testifying in opposition; right?
6	MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: I'm in total opposition.
7	MR. FRACASSI: Okay. Can I have you can I ask
8	you to spell your name, please?
9	MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: Yes, my name is Kristina
10	Karamo, K-r-i-s-t-i-n-a, last name, K-a-r-a-m-o.
11	MR. FRACASSI: All right. And you have two
12	minutes. Go ahead.
13	MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: Yeah. So I am in complete
14	opposition to Rule 060, because it disfranch
15	disenfranchises the people of Michigan. There is no state
16	or federal law requiring these rules. It's additionally,
17	it's burdensome to our clerks. I have talked to multiple
18	clerks; counties, township and city clerks across the State
19	of Michigan. Many are totally unaware and they find the
20	rule to be completely unnecessary.
21	To require people to list every office that
22	they've ever sought for nomination in every jurisdiction
23	number one, you don't clarify whether or not that's in or
24	outside of only in Michigan, or maybe outside of
25	Michigan. Many people, if you ever run for precinct
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delegate, have submitted an affidavit identity to run for precinct delegate 30 years ago and may have totally forgotten about it, and then the person is disqualified from running for office, and there is no appeal process. That is the problem. You give people no right, no ability to appeal. And what if there was an error on the clerk's behalf?

Additionally, when it comes to campaign finance

Additionally, when it comes to campaign finance records, I'm completely aware that there is court communication between the Bureau of Elections and our clerks. That's why there were so many issues surrounding our elections. And I've talked to so many clerks, they're now going to be required to comb through campaign finance records. What if there was an error in submission? There -- there's no appeal process. This is going to disenfranchise a lot of low-income people running for office.

And to protect our republic, we must ensure that all people, not those who are wealthy enough to afford an attorney and accountants, but that every citizen in the State of Michigan has the ability to run for office. There is no reason to put our clerks through such a process, to disqualify people with no appeal process because there are errors. What if the Bureau of Elections make an error? What if the clerk makes an error? Then the citizen has no



1	right to appeal? And all these low-income and middle-income
2	people who want to run for office, who can't afford an
3	attorney or an accountant, what will they do? What if there
4	is an error? What if there's an honest mistake? This is
5	nothing but a rule to keep everyday people out of political
6	office, and I'm extremely disappointed that this rule is
7	even being proposed. Thank you.
8	MR. FRACASSI: The next person I have is Gabriel
9	Rees. Good morning. If I could, again, same thing, I would
10	like to ask you to spell your name for the court reporter?
11	MR. GABRIEL REES: Yup. Gabriel, G-a-b-r-i-e-l,
12	Rees, R-e-e-s.
13	MR. FRACASSI: All right.
14	MR. GABRIEL REES: You don't need any other
15	information? Okay. Great.
16	MR. FRACASSI: I'm good. Oh, actually, I should
17	say in opposition; correct?
18	MR. GABRIEL REES: Yes, in opposition. Thank you.
19	MR. FRACASSI: Thank you.
20	MR. GABRIEL REES: Good morning. Thank you for
21	having this opportunity to speak. I'll admit I wrote one
22	thing for all three combined. So my thing will be
23	especially short for just Rule 060. My concern is that the
24	burden that Rule 060 would place on our local clerks is
25	onerous and unnecessary. It does not provide opportunity
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	1	for remedy when good faith errors are made on a candidate's
	2	affidavit of identity, and it is my opinion that this rule
	3	does not serve to provide greater integrity to our
	4	elections, which is what we should be seeking after.
	5	Rather, it serves only to add additional procedures and
	6	rules that have potential to disqualify inexperienced
	7	citizens from running for elected office, something that we
	8	should not do. Thank you.
	9	MR. FRACASSI: Thank you. The next person I have
1	0	is Matthew Rees.
1	1	MR. MATTHEW REES: Hello; hello.
1	2	MR. FRACASSI: Good morning.
1	3	MR. MATTHEW REES: Good
1	4	MR. FRACASSI: And you are, same thing, testifying
1	5	in opposition; right?
1	6	MR. MATTHEW REES: Yes; yes, that's correct.
1	7	MR. FRACASSI: I'm going to ask you to spell your
1	8	name, as well, for the court reporter.
1	9	MR. MATTHEW REES: Yup. It's Matthew,
2	0	M-a-t-t-h-e-w, and Rees, R-e-e-s. So thank you, again,
2	1	having this time. I think it's pretty clear, some of the
2	2	points have already been made, that this has potential to
2	3	put a lot of people in jeopardy who want to run for office.
2	4	I know in my township that I live in, it's very, very
2	5	difficult to get anybody to run currently, with current
		Page 10



rules, just based on the process that currently exists. Adding additional burdens to our clerk's office, many of whom are well under paid for the work that they do, they're going to be dealing with a lot more documentation, a lot more analysis of finance records. I think you're -- we're going to end up with a whole slew of people not running, with blank ballots up and down. Maybe that's an extreme case, but I could see it happening, at least on the local level, if not on the state -- county and state levels.

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So it's really concerning to see that we -anything can be disqualified without an appeals process. So
that too is a huge concern, to not have any kind of appeals
process built into this law. This ruling, it would be
foolish. We have appeals processes today. And if you can
have one party decide all of a sudden that this nitpicky
thing, this interpretation of a rule can be used to
disqualify someone with literally no appeals process, you're
bound to have targeted political moves built into this, and
that should never be in our elections process.

Everyone should be able to run. Everyone should be able to voted for. Everyone should be able to have this opportunity to represent the people and their community. So I am very concerned about the way the ruling is written as it is currently. I would ask that you look into that, and if that cannot be resolved, that we take a second look, and



1	don't pass don't move this forward. Thank you very much.
2	MR. FRACASSI: So the next person I have is Louis
3	Avallor (sic).
4	MR. LOUIS AVALLONE: (inaudible)
5	MR. NOVAK: Are you signed in on the other one?
6	MR. LOUIS AVALLONE: Yes.
7	MR. NOVAK: Okay. Thank you.
8	MR. FRACASSI: Perfect. The next person I have is
9	Valentin Dumitrescu. Yes.
10	MR. VALENTIN DUMITRESCU: I am Valentin
11	Dumitrescu; Valentin, as in valentine, but no "E" at the
12	end, and Dumitrescu, D, as in David, u-m-i-t-r-e-s-c-u.
13	MR. FRACASSI: Okay. Perfect. And again, in
14	opposition; right?
15	MR. VALENTIN DUMITRESCU: I'm in opposition of
16	this solely case, and going to burden and discourages
17	people. Actually, it's the foundation of principal of our
18	republic; by The People, for The People, from The People.
19	It's if anything should be make it easier for people to
20	get involved in the political process and to get ownership
21	of the political process. Unless it's misstated before
22	here, it's an undue burden on the clerks who are verifying
23	those submission papers by candidates, which basically they
24	will not be able to perform that function, and secondly, it
25	will insert political biases.



1 I will give you an example: Last year -- I mean, 2 in the 2020 election, there was a bias; Republicans who are 3 removed from the possibility to run for office for violation of such rules, where Democrats who had the same violation were let go. So this -- this process of people applying and running for office -- public office should be as unpolitical as possible. So that's my strong opposition for this Rule 8 060. Thank you very much. 9 MR. FRACASSI: The next person I have is Jaki --10 MS. JAKI LOVRINCE: Lovrince. 11 MR. FRACASSI: -- Lovrince. 12 Thank you for allowing me to MS. JAKI LOVRINCE: 13 speak freely. If you can't speak freely, you're simply not 14 free. I'm here opposed to all of the bills simply because 15 of the -- of what the first, second, third, and fourth speaker has said. The first name, I'm going to spelling --17 is, J-a-k-i. I'm in Harper Woods. And yes, I'm here to 18 speak about the elections in our -- I'm getting off track. 19 So let me start over, gentlemen, if I may? 20 My name is Jaki. I'm -- I stand opposed to all 21 these bills. I'm here because of the governmental 22 overreach. Thank you for your time. And if you can't speak 23 freely, then you're simply not free. The censorship is maddening in this electrical B system world. Last night, 25 for this meeting, was the first time I heard. At this time, Page 13



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I would like to remind the room, the Arizona audit has concluded fraudulent, and not all doom and gloom, but some of you may be living in a very small room. Nearly a year, you say, makes absolutely no sense for another election this way, Michigan next. I stand here with God, the Constitution, and my sovereign rights. You oath takers are tearing up, stomping on that, and it isn't right. Speaking of sovereign, "build back better" is an international analogy, and it is destroying the American economy. To discredit any affidavit for a spelling error; it's an affidavit, treat it accordingly.

In turn, please tell me how many un-vetted and un-vaxxed have transported and housed on my hard-working tax.

Recent House of Representatives suggest the vetting process may be changed, only to be 16-years of age and to have an address. Now, come on, man. How many hands have you been shaking. With that, you are taking away the power of the people at the lowest level of government, and that is exactly what we have three branches of legislation for.

Leave it for the clerks?

If that's the case, then your system's a disgrace, and I don't vote for -- and I didn't vote for dominion, so get it out of the poles place. It is the government and Secretary of State that will collect all my data, because your social points matter. It's everyone's own QR code;



1	it's called Tiberius, you know. It is linked to the
2	internet 2.0, and if you don't believe me, look around at
3	this clown show. It is going to be for the medical, too,
4	this digital quantum-dot tattoo. In the end, it sounds more
5	like I'm being enslaved. You don't own my genodes; it's my
6	DNA, and that's not of your business, Secretary of State.
7	MR. FRACASSI: All right. Thank you. The next
8	person I have is Ryan Roberts. Ryan Roberts? Perfect.
9	Thank you. Can I just ask that again you kind of just
10	confirm the spelling of your name, please?
11	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Ryan Roberts, R-y-a-n,
12	R-o-b-e-r-t-s.
13	MR. FRACASSI: Okay. Thank you.
14	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Yeah, I'm in opposition of all
15	three rules being proposed, RIS form 2021-60, I read through
16	the through that form, and it's talking all this stuff
17	about how it's all good, and it doesn't seem to talk about
18	the negatives that come with the rules. I spoke with a
19	township clerk last night. She said she was unaware of any
20	of this stuff going on, and she was upset, because she likes
21	to be informed; she's part of different associations. She
22	feels she should have been informed. She also said that she
23	doesn't feel that they should have to have the
24	responsibility of vetting out candidates and possibly
25	turning them away. And that's a burden that's not listed in
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1	the RIS form.
2	Another burden is on the candidates. They have to
3 .	scramble to make sure they're in compliance with these
4	rules, and that they're not overlooking any past fines or
5	anything to face disqualification that can't be overturned.
6	Last year, a candidate in northern Michigan was on the
7	ballot, doing good, and because of a small \$1,000 fine, she
8	was disqualified, had to be removed off the ballot, making
9	it so new ballots had to be sent out. It was so much
10	confusion in northern Antrim County in Cheboygan, in
11	northern Michigan. So many problems with the election
12	system. The clerks were ticked off up there, all leading up
13	to the election. It was last minutes changes. It was
14	illegal changes last year. A whole bunch of stuff, and now
15	Jocelyn Benson want to make more changes to weaken our
16	voting system even more. It's already weak enough. She is
17	a criminal. You know, trump put in a law in 2018 for a
18	domestic and foreign terrorists who tamper with the
19	election, and this is treason from Nessel, Whitmer, and
20	Jocelyn, and we not going to stand for it.
21	MR. NOVAK: (Inaudible) and then we'll move to
22	this is 061.
23	MR. FRACASSI: So we have one more person who is
24	signing in right now, but is there anybody who wants to
25	speak on Rule 060? This is the Affidavit of Identity. For
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1	anybody who came in late and didn't hear the beginning, we
2	are taking each rule set in turn. So if anybody at this
3 .	time wants to speak on Rule 060, the Affidavit of Identity
4	rule,
5	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible)
6	MR. FRACASSI: otherwise we're going to go
7	to
8	MR. NOVAK: This is 060.
9	MR. FRACASSI: I'll ask you to come right up,
10	right in front. And I'm going to ask you if you could just
11	confirm the spelling of your name, please, for our court
12	reporter?
13	MR. ROB REMELIUS: Yes, Rob, last name is,
14	R-e-m-e-l-i-u-s.
15	MR. FRACASSI: So just because you came in late,
16	just so you know, there are two minute we are limiting
17	testimony of this for two minutes per rule set. So I will
18	turn it over to you. You may begin, when you're ready.
19	MR. ROB REMELIUS: Okay. And this is the
20	disqualification
21	MR. FRACASSI: Correct.
22	MR. REMELIUS: Right? All right. So this may
23	have been mentioned already, but I know that a lot of the
24	city and township clerks don't have the training with
25	Michigan's Campaign Finance Act, since the finance reports
	Page 17



1	are filed with the Secretary of State's office or county
2	clerk's office. So that makes them ill-equipped to carry
3	out this change. Also, they don't have the resources or
4	funding to search through the databases thousands of
5	databases to see if somebody has ever run for office before.
6	And personally, I don't see how that matters. You know, if
7	you've run for an office before, whether you won or not
8	if you won, obviously, it would be public record, and if you
9	lost, it would probably be public record still. So if
10	somebody wanted to find that out, they probably could. I
11	don't know how that is material to this. So that is why I
12	am opposed, and that's it.
13	MR. FRACASSI: Okay. Thank you very much.
14	MR. ROB REMELIUS: Thanks.
15	MR. FRACASSI: The last call before we move on to
16	the next rule set. Does anyone want to speak on Rule 060,
17	the Affidavit of Identity, before we move on?
18	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes. Thank you for the
19	opportunity to speak.
20	MR. FRACASSI: Have you signed in already or not?
21	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I haven't signed in on that
22	particular topic, but
23	MR. FRACASSI: (inaudible)
24	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: given the opportunity, I
25	would like to add my name to the list of people who have
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1 spoke, and just say that all the reasons have pretty well been stated. But I would like to support all of the same 3 I don't have all the detail they had, but after hearing what they have said, I am in full agreement and want to support exactly what they have said in opposition to that particular bill. I've lived in the State of Michigan for 74 years. I have watched all types of things come and go. I 8 have never in my entire life seen the situation that we have 9 today. 10 People who wish to run find it very difficult; 11 they make it very hard. We have elected officials who are 12 supposed to make laws that make our lives easier and protect us, and what I see currently is an absolute effort in the 13 14 other direction, obfuscate everything, make it as difficult 15 as you can, so that we can maintain our position and put people in that are hand selected and are vetted to be able 17 to not make a spelling error on an application. I think 18 it's utterly ridiculous, if not criminal, to not allow people to run for office over something as silly as that. 19 20 So that's my opinion. I won't take any more time. 2.1 Thanks for the opportunity to express it. 22 MR. FRACASSI: Could I just ask that you sign in 23 on this sheet, please, so we have your name for the --2.4 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Sure. 25 MR. FRACASSI: Thank you. So at this time, I Page 19



1 would like to close the first part of public comment for the 2 first rule set, and we can turn back at the end still, if 3 needed, as well. And I would like to move to the second rule set, which is Rule Set-061, and it's the signature matching for absent voter ballot applications and absent voter ballot envelopes. The process will be the same as it was before. I have a list of people. I will call on you 8 and ask you to speak; it's in order that I have here 9 (indicating). And again, if I could have you confirm your 10 spelling of your name for our court reporter, please. 11 again, time will be limited to two minutes, as well. 12 first person I'm going to start with is Philip O'Halloran. 13 MR. PHILIP O'HALLORAN: O-H-a-l-l-o-r-a-n. 14 REPORTER: I'm sorry? 15 MR. O'HALLORAN: O-h-a-l-l-o-r-a-n. Okay. 16 MR. FRACASSI: Thank you very much. 17 MR. O'HALLORAN: You're welcome. Thanks for 18 having me. The proposed rule I think should be renamed "The Fraud Facilitation Rule." Under this rule, all signatures 19 20 will be presumed valid. It will reject only multiple 2.1 significant and obvious differences between the signature on 22 the ballot and the signature on file. Even signatures that 23 violate all three of the above undefined rules can still be 2.4 accepted if they have one redeeming factor, such as a 25 shaking hand or a signature that appears rushed. Of course, Page 20



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hypothetical ballot harvesters working in a warehouse to create thousands of fake ballots will appreciate a rule which accommodates their rushed scribbles. Like the famous statement of a supreme court justice who admitted he couldn't define pornography, but "I know it when I see it," a mismatched signature is a mismatched signature. It's something that our Michigan pole workers, possessing basic common sense and a pair of eyes, are more than capable of spotting. They also have supervisors who can help them with close calls.

This rules is an insult to their intelligence, and it's an assault on one of the last remaining bulwarks against election fraud, and that's the fact that our ballot validation procedure is carried out by thousands of Michigan citizen pole workers. That signature matching process is decentralized, and that's a good thing. Our Secretary of State's last veiled attempt at fraud facilitation was overturned by the Michigan Court of Claims, unfortunately, after the election, when the damage had already been done.

Now she returns and shows contempt for that ruling in trying to circumvent it through this proposed signature match rule. This rule which will serve to funnel fraudulent ballots into undeserved authenticity must be withdrawn immediately if we have any hope of restoring election integrity. And lax rules from the top have consequences. I



1	was at the TCF Center last November as a GOP challenger, so
2	you can't tell me that there was no fraud or that this was
3 .	the most secure election in history; it was not. At the
4	TCF, even the senior advisor of the Detroit City Clerk,
5	Chris Thomas, presumed signature validity when he was
6	presented with a clear signature mismatch by pole worker
7	whistleblower Jessy Jacob, who allegedly he allegedly
8	told her to "let it go." If that is the attitude and the
9	protocol for handling fraudulent signatures from our highest
10	officials, what hope do we have of regaining election
11	integrity that was so obviously absent last November? Thank
12	you.
13	MR. FRACASSI: The next person I would like to
14	call on is Evelyn Archer.
15	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Turn on the microphone.
16	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We can't hear.
17	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We can't hear.
18	MR. FRACASSI: I will speak louder. This
19	(indicating) microphone is for the court reporter.
20	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It's the speaker we can't hear.
21	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: The speaker.
22	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible).
23	MR. FRACASSI: Yeah. Ms. Archer, I would ask that
24	you please speak up as much as you can. Like I said, the
25	court the microphone there is for the court reporter. So
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if you could speak up as much as possible, so people can hear you. Can I ask you to confirm the spelling of your name, please, for our court reporter?

MS. EVELYN ARCHER: Evelyn Archer, E-v-e-l-y-n, A-r-c-h-e-r, and I'm here on behalf of Oxford Grassroots for Election Integrity. I am in opposition to Secretary of State Benson's proposed rule to eliminate the signatures match, and most of my comments echo what Dr. Phil O'Halloran just said regarding that it's against state election law. Nowhere is it listed in state election law to eliminate the signature match. And the Michigan Court of Claims shot down Secretary of State Benson, as well, and here she is, only to come back to propose something that encourages fraud.

And the signature match seems to be the only last remaining safeguard that we have to free and fair elections for everybody; everybody. And in regard to the signature matches, a -- eliminating it and accepting a scribble as a redeeming factor, it is age discrimination, actually, when you consider the voter's age. If it's a scribble, it's age discrimination toward the old or the young scribbles, and discrimination against the non-old or non-young who do not scribble.

And I just object to it. The Carter-Baker

Commission on federal election reform said that the most

common source of election fraud would be for an absentee



1	ballot to find its way into the hands of someone other than
2	the voter through this type of a ruling. I think we need to
3	protect the match, protect our election records, and
4	Secretary of State Benson should know it's her job to do so;
5	if not, get out of the way. Thank you.
6	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Right on, sister.
7	MR. FRACASSI: So the next person I have is
8	Roman (sic) I'm going mispronounce the last name.
9	MR. RONALD PIOTROWSKI: Piotrowski.
10	MR. FRACASSI: Piotrowski (pronouncing)?
11	MR. RONALD PIOTROWSKI: Yes. Once again, thank
12	you for the opportunity to speak. This is the subject that
13	I came came to in order to comment on. My name is
14	Ronald, R-o-n-a-l-d, Piotrowski, P-i-o-t-r-o-w-s-k-i.
15	Again, my the people that spoke ahead of me listed a long
16	list of reasons why people would be opposed to this. I'm
17	here to support everything they said, and add a couple
18	comments of my own. And I speak for voters across the state
19	of Michigan, hundreds of thousands of whom, if they even
20	knew what was in these bills would be here in droves. But
21	they're so busy trying to make a living, trying to survive
22	in the economy that we live in today, because failed efforts
23	of government to try to lead us in the right direction have
24	just ended up complicating everybody's life to the point
25	they don't have time to dig into all of this detail.



1	If the Secretary of State wants to make law, she
2	should have ran for the legislature, not for Secretary of
3	State; it's outside her purview. She can give an opinion,
4	but she can't make the law. She doesn't have that ability.
5	We have statutes on the books that require signature
6	verification. It's worked in the past. We started
7	tampering with the existing law, and look what we have
8	today. People up in arms, not knowing that their vote
9	counts.
10	Every voter in the State of Michigan has the right
11	to know that his vote is counted; mine included, yours
12	included. And whether they write well or they don't write
13	well is not the issue. The signature should be verified.
14	Not verifying signatures opens the door to nothing but
15	fraud. And if we put a law like that into effect, to me, we
16	are promoting illegal activity and I'm totally against it
17	and propose that you reconsider and do not change the law to
18	verify signatures. Thank you.
19	MR. FRACASSI: The next person I have is
20	Jo DeMarco.
21	MS. JO DEMARCO: My name is
22	MR. FRACASSI: (inaudible) could just ask you
23	to confirm the spell
24	MS. JO DEMARCO: My name is Jo DeMarco.
25	MR. FRACASSI: (inaudible)
	Page 25



2.1

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MS. JO DEMARCO: And gentlemen, you can all check my signature and spelling of my last name up at the front security desk, because I had to sign in and show my identification to even get into the building. So just to say, I'm opposed to all three of these bills and would like to remind everybody that in October 2020, just one month prior to the presidential election, Jocelyn Benson instructed Michigan clerks and election officials to presume the accuracy of absentee ballot signatures.

State Court Judge Christopher Murray ruled this to be illegal on several levels, and also charged Benson in direction local election officials to ignore their statutory obligations. As Secretary of State, Benson should know the law, and she should instruct it. But instead, she broke it, and she incited statewide election officials to follow her violation of authority. To this day, Benson has not been held accountable. Is it her arrogance or mere disdain for the law as she attempt to reimplement the very same directive that was ruled against her last year?

And these days, we can't go anywhere or do anything without showing our identification and putting our signatures all over. As I said, I had to sign in and show my ID to even get into this building. So ask yourself, why would Democrats be so forceful in mandating identification in every phase of our normal, everyday life except in our



1	nation's most precious commodity, fair elections?
2	Relaxing election ID will only increase the
3	ability to cheat and further diminish our belief in fair
4	elections. Our country is at stake over this. Benson made
5	it clear she has no regard for the law and puts her
6	political agenda above it, while her friends Whitmer and
7	Nessel turn a blind eye to this and many other
8	discrepancies. Michigan voters need to show her she can't
9	get away with it. So voters, maintain strict ballot
10	signature compliances and say "no" to online ballot absentee
11	voting applications.
12	MR. FRACASSI: The next person I have is Polly
13	McNichol.
14	MS. POLLY MCNICHOL: You know, that's you said
15	it right, Polly McNichol, spelled like the road.
16	MR. FRACASSI: Perfect. Thank you. Go ahead,
17	whatever you're ready.
18	MS. POLLY MCNICHOL: About the signature
19	verification standards
20	MR. FRACASSI: Yes, we are still on the signature
21	matching standards.
22	MS. POLLY MCNICHOL: Yes. Lowering the standards
23	for signature matching would take it below the lowest common
24	dominator. Instead, we should be raising the standards. No
25	one here can deny this would make voter fraud crazy-easy and
	Page 27



1	rampant and almost impossible to prove, and I'm sure the
2	Secretary of State is aware of that. The rule would allow
3	practically a paw print for a signature, and even worse, it
4	would allow no signature. And We, The People, urge you to
5	not consider this rule.
6	MR. FRACASSI: Thank you. The next person I have
7	is Debbie Louisegraw (phonetic)?
8	MS. DEBBIE LOUISIGNAU: You're getting it.
9	Louisignau.
10	MR. FRACASSI: Louisignau (pronouncing). I was
11	close.
12	MS. DEBBIE LOUISIGNAU: That was pretty good.
13	That's, L-o-u-i-s-i-g-n-a-u, Deborah or Debbie, whichever.
14	MR. FRACASSI: Thank you.
15	MS. DEBBIE LOUISIGNAU: You're welcome. I am
16	really disgusted with these three new rule-making requests
17	from Jocelyn Benson to change our Michigan election rules.
18	These rules weaken the integrity of our Michigan elections,
19	especially 062, that would make it easier to commit fraud,
20	sending ballots online with no way to check ballot
21	signatures. We must keep our current requirement for every
22	ballot that requires an applicant for absentee voters to
23	sign the ballot. No valid signature should mean no valid
24	vote.
25	MR. FRACASSI: The next person I have is Kristina
	Page 28



1	Karamo.
2	MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: So my time has started
3	yet? So I would like to start my comments off with a quote.
4	"We've always had identification requirements in
5	Michigan. It's called a signature. It's one of the
6	hardest things to fake. While you can fake an ID, it's
7	harder to fake a signature. So that's the most secure
8	way of protecting the vote."
9	That's a direct quote from Jocelyn Benson. So for her to
10	claim that signature verification is the best way of
11	securing our elections, then to turn around and weaken the
12	very standard she claims is most essential to securing our
13	elections makes it quite obvious that her intention is to
14	inject the system with thousands of illegal ballots.
15	To sit there and to weaken our election system is
16	a direct attack on our republic. The way We The People
17	maintain control over our republic is through the election
18	system. And then for her, after a Priorities USA lawsuit,
19	which was very friendly, which is headed by Joe Biden's
20	number one donor, show that Joe shows that Jocelyn Benson
21	is not here in the State of Michigan to protect the people
22	of Michigan, to protect our election system; it's simply to
23	advance her political agenda.
24	It is completely unacceptable to have our
25	Secretary of State propose a rule that a judge already
	Page 29



1 knocked down into our system to weaken our elections. cannot have this rule. Additionally, it puts another burden 3 on our clerks, because now they'll be faced with the moral dilemma of what to do when confronted with a knowingly false signature, because they've been instructed to assume signatures are valid rather that not. We must shoot down this rule. It cannot stand. It's a direct attack on our 8 republic, and it's a direct attack on the citizens of 9 Michigan. Thank you. 10 MR. FRACASSI: So I just want to take a -- we're 11 going to take a couple minute recess so we can get the timer 12 back up, just so you guys have it. So at this time, we'll 13 just take a short recess, and then we'll reconvene in five 14 minutes probably. So if you want to stay, you can. 15 feel free to take a break. 16 (Off the record) 17 MR. NOVAK: We're calling the hearing back to Just to respect everyone's time, we'll do the -- I 18 19 will have a timer on my phone that I'll hold up when it's at 20 the two minutes until the computer gets back up, and then 2.1 we'll continue with the computer on the screen. So we're 22 going to continue, call the hearing back to order, and 23 proceed with the next speaker. 2.4 MR. FRACASSI: So we are still on Rule Set 061. 25 We will finish testimony with this one, and then we'll keep



1	moving. But the next person that I have wishing to speak on
2	this one is Garrett Wheat.
3	
	MR. GARRETT WHEAT: Good morning.
4	MR. FRACASSI: Good morning. And then if I could
5	ask you just to confirm your name, again, for the court
6	reporter? confirm the spelling, and then
7	MR. GARRETT WHEAT: Yeah, Garrett Wheat, G-a-r-r-
8	e-t-t, W-h-e-a-t. I am chief of staff to Senator Ruth
9	Johnson, chair of the Senate Elections Committee and former
10	Secretary of State, and I also worked in the executive
11	office of the Secretary of State during her time in office.
12	MR. FRACASSI: I'm going to ask you to speak up.
13	I'm sorry to interrupt.
14	MR. GARRETT WHEAT: Yes.
15	MR. FRACASSI: Thank you.
16	MR. WHEAT: The I'm speaking in opposition to
17	the proposed rule. The purpose of the administrative rules
18	making process is to implement the law, not to change the
19	law or make new laws. The proposed rule states that
20	signatures must be reviewed beginning with the presumption
21	that the voter's signature is their genuine, valid
22	signature, that if there are any redeeming qualities, the
23	signature must be treated as valid, and it also contemplates
24	clerks using hypothetical factors they have not verified
25	with the voter, such as the possibility that they are
	Page 31



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1
        disabled in determining a signature is valid.
                   This directly contradicts with the statutory
3
        language in our election laws, which states that the
        signature on file must be used to determine the genuineness
5
        of a signature on an application for an absentee ballot.
        And how that can -- complete with beginning with the
        presumption that it is valid is not in line with the
        statutory language, and it attempts to change or modify the
9
               So our comment is that we believe the presumption is
10
        in direct contradiction to statutory language; it does not
11
        serve to implement but to create new directives which are
12
        not in the law; And that the language regarding how the
13
        determination is made should be clarified with -- you know,
14
        it should be in the interest of helping the clerks to make
15
        that determination in conjunction with handwriting experts.
16
        We also believe there should be no hypothetical factors
17
        without the clerk confirming with the voter a reason why a
18
                                   Thank you.
        signature may not match.
19
                   MR. FRACASSI: Okay.
                                         The next person I have is
20
        Matthew Rees.
21
                   MR. NOVAK:
                               And just for the speaker's benefit,
22
        when you have 15 seconds left, I'll raise up my phone, just
23
        to give you a little advance --
24
                   MR. MATTHEW REES:
                                      Thank you.
25
                               -- until they can get -- oh, wait.
                   MR. NOVAK:
                                Page 32
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1 Here we go --MR. FRACASSI: We're back; technology. 3 MR. MATTHEW REES: Thank you; thank you, again. Matthew Rees, M-a-t-t-h-e-w, R-e-e-s. So with this specific rule, signature matching for absent ballots, I think it's already been stated numerous times. Very concerning that we presume that a signature, which is the critical piece of 8 information on an absentee ballot is good. And also having 9 to put the burden on clerks, again, I think that already is 10 pretty clear that we are looking, with all of these rules, to burden clerks beyond the point of them -- their ability, 11 12 their skill set, and their pay, for that matter. 13 It's just really concerning, because then you're 14 going to basically burn out clerks until they just give up 15 and say, "You know what? I'm just going to presume all these ballots are fine." All right? So these are the kind 17 of things that happen in the real world when these kind of 18 rules are implemented, is that over time -- "All right. 19 going to try and do my best to make sure that even with 20 these rules, I am being critical; I'm making sure that we 2.1 don't have any fraudulent things." But then they might 22 jeopardize -- they might feel like they're in jeopardy of 23 getting sued or something like that, because -- "Oh, I didn't follow the rules -- the vaque rules that say, 25 'presume everything is good until you're absolutely



1	certain and even if you're absolutely certain, maybe just
2	presume they have a disability, maybe just presume that this
3 .	person is old and can't write their signature.'" Like
4	that's kind of crazy. I mean, most of the situations where
5	we have valid harvesting issues, fraudulent signature
6	issues, stem around folks forging the signatures of the
7	elderly, taking them from senior citizens homes, taking
8	absentee ballots that were just mailed out to them, in like
9	this last election, without their request, sending that form
10	out, filling out the form for an old person, and then
11	sending it back with a fraudulent signature that you did in
12	scribbles so that someone would just approve it.
13	So I have a lot of problems in the this, because
14	again, I think we saw a lot of these fraudulent claims and
15	attempts being made in the last election without the rule.
16	So to try and strengthen it with a formal rule is just going
17	to go down the road to oblivion. So thank you for your
18	time.
19	MR. FRACASSI: The next person I have is Louis
20	Avallore (sic)?
21	MR. LOUIS AVALLONE: It's, Avallone, A-v-a-l-l-o-
22	n-e. And I speak
23	MR. FRACASSI: Avallone; Avallone?
24	MR. LOUIS AVALLONE: Avallone, A-v-a
25	MR. FRACASSI: Avallone (phonetic). Okay. Thank
	Page 34



1	you.
2	MR. LOUIS AVALLONE: l-l-o-n-e. Yeah. So I'm
3	speaking on my concerns and the concerns of the PIME
4	organization, Pure Integrity for Michigan Elections. Give
5	me a second. Okay. So I want to explain logical errors and
6	legal errors with the proposed rule. Rule two states that
7	the proposed rules for signature matching apply exclusively
8	to activities defined by section 761.2. This
9	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Speak up, please.
10	MR. LOUIS AVALLONE: this appears
11	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you.
12	MR. LOUIS AVALLONE: Yeah. This appears to
13	conflict with the stated goals of the proposed the
14	proposed rules, which states that absentee voter absent
15	voter ballot applications and envelopes need to be signature
16	matched. I think it's been overlooked that 761.2 only
17	defines the signature matching activity related to the
18	process processing of absentee ballot applications. This
19	means that as written, the proposed rules would only apply
20	to signature verification for absentee ballot applications
21	and not the envelopes.
22	Next, statutory conflicts. The proposed rules
23	instruct that when performing the verification of a presumed
24	voter's signature, the signature on the ballot app
25	the on the absentee ballot application may be used for
	Page 35



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comparison. This is in contrary to all statutes that require signature matching to be performed, and I list six of them in the documents that I sent to you. In all cases, these statutes specify that the only -- or that only the Master Card signature or it's digital image stored in the QVF may be used to verify a presumed voter's signature. This direct conflict between the instructions and the proposed rules and the statutory requirements implies that the proposed rules are unlawful. So that gets me to statutory violations.

Sections 31(1) and 765a(13) outline that the
Secretary of State has authority and responsibility for
providing rules and guidance for the conduct of elections,
but they must remain complaint with existing election laws.

MCL 168.931(2) states that unless otherwise indicated, all
violations of election laws for which an offense is not
specified are to be considered misdemeanors. 168.680

outlines the oath taken by election inspectors to report all
punishable election law offenses even if there's only reason
to believe a law has been violated.

Taken together, these statutes presume that the Secretary of State is guilty of a misdemeanor should the unlawful instructions from the proposed rules be implemented. Furthermore, election inspectors aware of these statutes are obligated to report such misdemeanors,



1 and the Secretary of State is obligated to investigate them. Finally, the application of the proposed rules at the 3 November 3rd, 2020 elections suggested a misdemeanor, as described above, has already been committed and not reported. Thank you. MR. FRACASSI: The next person I have is Valentin Dumitrescu. 8 MR. VALENTIN DUMITRESCU: Thank you for the 9 I have to express my opposition to this rule, opportunity. 10 Valentin, as in valentine, no "E" at the end, D-u- --11 D, as in David, u-m-i-t-r-e-s-c-u. Instead of making the 12 election more secure, the Secretary of State seems to -- she 13 has a plan to make it less secure and more less secure. 14 think the Arizona audit results couldn't have come to a 15 better time than now that people -- I mean, the media dishonestly reportedly that Biden won Arizona, not informing 17 the people the rest of the audit, which was more than a 18 handry (phonetic) count. 19 The handry (phonetic) count cannot identify 20 fraudulent ballots because the ballot, by design, to protect 21 the security of the vote, is separated either from the name 22 on the voter list or from the envelope it came it. 23 the -- regarding the signature, what this audit found is 2.4 that many signatures were considered valid even if they were 25 blank or scribbles. So we need, in order to protect the



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integrity of the election and to ensure that the people who are voting are the actual people who represent one legal person connected to one legal vote -- we need that signature to be -- not -- to be strictly verified. So that's why I strongly oppose this rule changes.

MR. FRACASSI: Thank you. The next person I have is Adam DeAngeli.

MR. ADAM DEANGELI: Thank you. And on behalf of the more than 2,000 Rescue Michigan members whose petitions we submitted this morning, it really is amazing that the Court of Claims can say that there is no statutory basis for a presumption of validity of a signature, and yet the rule begins with the presumption of validity of a signature. it goes even beyond that. It actually provides a roadmap. It says exactly how one can submit a signature that must be presumed valid. Because even if a signature is said to have multiple and obvious deficiencies, it provides exactly how any one curing factor can require that any signature, no matter how many multiple, obvious, and severe deficiencies must be presumed as valid. It literally provides a foolproof formula for forgery. And what makes this so significant is that the signature match is the only thing we have to ensure that the person who's submitted the ballot is actually the person to whom it was issued.

The bipartisan Commission on Federal Election



1	Reform, chaired by President Jimmy Carter and former
2	Secretary of State James Baker, identified absentee ballots
3 .	as the most significant source of ballot insecurity, which
4	is obvious because the ballots are out in the field, unlike
5	ballots that are collected at the poles on election day.
6	The signature match is what the Secretary of State herself
7	relied on in arguing against voter ID, claiming that the
8	signature verification is all that's necessary. And yet
9	here she comes before us saying that here is exactly how you
10	can have a signature verification standard so lenient and so
11	lax it actually provides exactly how anybody attempting to
12	intercept a ballot and provide a fraudulent signature can do
13	so, and be certain that it would be assumed valid by the
14	pole workers. There is little question that this was done
15	in bad faith, that this was done intentionally to facilitate
16	election fraud. And there is no statutory basis. We will
17	intend to appeal this rule if it goes before JCAR. Thank
18	you for your time.
19	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you.
20	MR. FRACASSI: The next person I have is Ethan
21	Hobson.
22	MR. ETHAN HOBSON: How are you gentleman today?
23	MR. FRACASSI: Good morning.
24	MR. ETHAN HOBSON: Good morning. You need the
25	proper spelling of my name, also?
	Page 39



1 If you don't mind, yes, please. MR. FRACASSI: 2 MR. ETHAN HOBSON: E-t-h-a-n, is the first name, 3 H-o-b, as in boy, s-o-n, is the second name. 4 MR. FRACASSI: Okay. MR. ETHAN HOBSON: I would like to know why this meeting is taking place today and why this meeting didn't take place back in 2020? 8 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hear. 9 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah. 10 MR. ETHAN HOBSON: Jocelyn Benson sold out our 11 elections before the election was even here. Her, along 12 with Priorities USA, a D.C. lobbying group, and also the 13 biggest owner to Joe Biden's campaign, decided to have a 14 lawsuit with our signature matching process, deeming it 15 unconstitutional. This was originally filed in October and the judge found that Priorities USA had no standing in the 17 matter. So Priorities USA came back two months later with a 18 Plaintiff for the case. Our senate and our house, as well, sent an 19 20 attorney over to this matter, and these violations still 2.1 were not brought back to the legislator, and we would all 22 like to know why. These changes were already implemented 23 and given to the clerks and used in the 2020 election. now we get our public hearing, and now the people get a 25 voice. And this (indicating) will be passed around to Page 40



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everybody here, so everybody can read this. And this whole stack of documents will be left to you gentleman at the end of the day so you can go over this entire case of when this lobbying group from D.C. tried to invade our elections, and Secretary Benson complied with it. Before the judge even entered his ruling on this case, she complied with this group, and that's when all these changes came and were implemented in 2020. The biggest being, at the bottom of this statement released by Marc Elias it says,

"Another victory for voting rights. Michigan

Secretary of State revises signature match process as a result of federal lawsuit from Washington D.C. In

October, we sued Michigan on behalf of Priorities USA to block their unconstitutional signature matching process. Under Michigan election law, election officials rejected absentee applications and ballots."

The main one I want to go to on the back here because of time is,

"They requested formal signature matching training. They instruct the clerks to presume that the signature is valid, and a voter's signature is only considered questionable if a difference in multiple, significant, and obvious respects from the signature on file. Slightest similarities should be resolved in favor of the voter whenever possible."



1	Now, that sounds really familiar to what's being presented
2	today from her. The exact wording from Marc Elias and
3	Priorities USA is exactly what we're hearing in these
4	documents today. Thank you, gentlemen.
5	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hear; hear.
6	MR. FRACASSI: The next person I have is
7	Patrice or Patricia Johnson?
8	MS. PATRICE JOHNSON: Patrice.
9	MR. FRACASSI: Patrice?
10	MS. PATRICE JOHNSON: Yes.
11	MR. FRACASSI: Thank you.
12	MS. PATRICE JOHNSON: P-a-t-r-i-c-e, Johnson. I
13	would like to express on behalf of Pure Integrity for
14	Michigan Elections extreme opposition to all three rules.
15	Clearly, I think the speakers that we've had here today,
16	from Kristina Karamo, to Adam DeAngeli, to Louis Avallone
17	have all clearly expressed that the regulations and statutes
18	within Michigan would be violated by instituting these
19	rules. There is a clear intent on the Secretary of State's
20	part to deliberately violate them, as she did before in
21	2020. And as the prior speaker indicated, she took the same
22	rules then and is rolling them over now, and she didn't even
23	generate them themselves herself. But she is aware of
24	the statue the statutes in Michigan, and if she isn't,
25	she certainly has access to attorneys that should be able to
	Page 42



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1
        advise her that these are in clear violation of all the
         intent and statutes within our election laws.
3
        That's it.
                   MR. FRACASSI: Rob Remelius.
                                      Thanks again for letting us
                   MR. ROB REMELIUS:
         speak here today. I just had some questions about this
        particular edict. Is there a problem with votes getting
8
         thrown out too often for mismatched signatures? Is that --
         is that the reason why this is being proposed? Michigan has
10
        had historically weak enforcement of this ballot security
11
         feature, so I'm not sure how this would improve that.
12
                   Is this to make voting easier or safer? Why does
13
         the current Secretary of State want to dilute votes of
14
        Michiganders potentially through voter fraud with this type
15
        of proposal? And if forced in, can these proposed changes
16
         survive judicial challenges, since they contradict the
17
                      Is Jocelyn Benson now in the state
         current law?
18
         legislature?
                      So thank you.
19
                   MR. FRACASSI: Nancy Pomish; Nancy Pomish.
20
                   MS. NANCY POMISH:
                                      Got it. Coming; coming.
2.1
                   MR. FRACASSI: Oh, okay. Sorry. I was looking
22
        over here. I'm sorry.
23
                   MS. NANCY POMISH: Coming; coming.
2.4
         supposed to spell my name; first, last, all of the above?
25
                   MR. FRACASSI: It -- I have it, N-a-n-c-y,
                                Page 43
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1 P-o-m-i-s-h; right? 2 MS. NANCY POMISH: Correct; correct. 3 MR. FRACASSI: Thank you. MS. NANCY POMISH: And with all due respect, I appreciate you guys doing this; girls, he, shes, its, whatever we want to be. And I just found out about this, so I don't have the background that it sounds like most of 8 these people can cite rules and all that. I come from -so -- but I just wanted to put my two-cents in, is that 10 again, I'm vehemently opposed to all these rule changes. I had the pleasure of working the 2020 election, 11 12 the primary and the general. And what I did as a pole 13 worker, I was strictly in the absentee ballot and -- room, 14 where there was -- for those of us -- I didn't know until 15 this year that it was a Democrat and a Republican adjudicating, making sure everything was right, including 17 signatures. And if there was something funky, the clerk who 18 had previously hired in -- or brought in a bunch of people 19 to make sure these signatures were right, that -- through 20 the absentee and the mail-in ballots. And if they weren't, 21 they took painstakingly effort to call these people and say, 22 "Hey, this isn't working." And for the most part, they got 23 the people coming in to validate the signatures. that were not -- they couldn't validate because they were 25 scribbled or they didn't make sense, they were put aside, Page 44



1	and every effort was made to contact these people.
2	I was in a primarily democratic city, and the
3	clerk is a Democrat, and I saw she painstakingly went
4	through the course of doing what is the right thing, and
5	that is making sure that the signatures match. And I think
6	by this Secretary of State doing what she's trying to do
7	I want to understand what is the motive.
8	If we're in the middle of this crisis and we
9	all know it's a crisis, whether you want to believe it or
10	not, you know, if we want ballot integrity, what is this
11	lady trying to do, you know, polarize it even more? You
12	know, the right people do the right thing. Whether you are
13	on the right or the left, most of us want, you know, an
14	election that's not compromised. And I think this is
15	rubbish, and I think this is a way we're going to end up
16	like Venezuela if we do this; period. End of story.
17	MR. FRACASSI: I have William Lethemon.
18	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: I'll spell it.
19	MR. FRACASSI: Thank you.
20	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: It's L-e-t-h-e-m-o-n. Can
21	everybody in the back hear me?
22	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible)
23	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: Thank you.
24	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible)
25	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: I am so sorry for the lack
	Page 45



1	of audio ability today. I can't I'm sitting in the
2	second row, and I can't hear them.
3	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah.
4	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible)
5	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: I've been a pole
6	challenger. I've been a pole worker. I've been on the
7	adjudication of computers, and I was also on the Board of
8	Canvassers for Oakland County.
9	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It's the greatest show on earth.
10	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: It is. And we don't need
11	to lessen the ability to get an accurate vote. In Michigan,
12	what we really need in the absentee voter process is to open
13	up the clerk's office, allowing pole challengers to watch
14	the signature verification process. We are not allowed to
15	do that right now. We need to be able to do that.
16	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes.
17	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: So we need to pass laws to
18	do this. We just want a fair election, that's all we want.
19	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes.
20	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: One vote, one person,
21	that's it, totally. And what we have today is massive
22	fraud. And when Jacqueline (sic) Benson sent out all the
23	applications to all the people that didn't even exist
24	anymore
25	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I got 30.
	Page 46



1	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: You got well, okay. And
2	how many
3	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: And I had an affidavit that I
4	vote in person.
5	MR. FRACASSI: Okay.
6	MR. NOVAK: I we're going to have to stop here.
7	This the purpose of this is to provide public comment on
8	the rules. In order
9	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: Okay.
10	MR. NOVAK: In order you know, just
11	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible)
12	MR. NOVAK: In order for the court transcript to
13	accurately reflect the comments, we can't have, you know,
14	back and forth. So please proceed with your comments.
15	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: Okay. No more back and
16	for I'm sorry. I should have called on the lady. I
17	apologize.
18	MR. NOVAK: Thank you.
19	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: But anyways, what we need
20	is a more secure election where absent I vote absentee
21	because I work the poles. So I go to my clerk's office. I
22	fill out my application. I then make fill out my ballot
23	and mail it in, or actually, I drop it off in their box.
24	And we don't need zucker (phonetic) boxes around town
25	either. We we have to eliminate the zucker (phonetic)
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1 The court then verifies my application to the boxes. ballot, make sure the signatures match. And over the years, 3 people's signatures change. So what you have on file from 15, 20 years ago, whatever the person has electronically -people's signatures change, so we need a current signature on the application as well as the ballot. Thank you very much for your time. 8 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you --9 I have Lisa Captina (sic). MR. FRACASSI: 10 MS. LISA CAPATINA: My name is Lisa Capatina. 11 Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I actually 12 only came to support those speaking against Jocelyn Benson's 13 proposed changes to current election law for the following 14 reason: I decided to speak today because after listening to 15 all of the comments, I felt compelled to support them by my voice, as well. After all the concerns with election 17 integrity and potential fraud after the 2020 election, I 18 decided to work an election for the very first time in my 19 entire life this past August. 20 I wanted to see for myself what were all the 21 concerns everybody was talking about. I decided not to 22 listen to the media narrative or other people's comments but 23 to actually work the process myself. While I was in awe of 2.4 the current voting process in our republic and felt 25 extremely privileged to take part in it, it did become very



1 clear to me that the potential for fraud certainly does 2 If someone truly wanted to commit fraud, there are 3 certainly plenty of opportunities. I am here to strongly oppose any continued changes 5 in our current statutes that the Secretary of State Benson proposes to increase that potential for fraud and lessen citizens' confidence in our election processes as a whole. 8 Secretary of State Benson should instead be working to 9 enhance the confidence and secure elections and not be 10 lessening it. 11 It is my opinion that her proposed changes will 12 definitely work to do that. I implore you not to consider 13 those changes. I actually believe that everyone here and in 14 our state certainly wants to have a secure election, and to 15 support it, and have confidence in it. Jocelyn Benson 16 actually should be the one most concerned with doing it, and 17 not working to actually work against citizens' confidence. 18 Thank you. 19 MR. FRACASSI: I have Kate -- or Katie DeMalleo. 20 MS. KATE DEMALLEO: Close enough. 2.1 MR. FRACASSI: Can I ask you to spell it for me, 22 please? 23 MS. KATE DEMALLEO: You can, but I will not. 2.4 my -- my signature there. 25 MR. FRACASSI: I can't. That's why I'm asking you Page 49



1	to spell it.
2	MS. KATE DEMALLEO: You said you can't?
3	MR. FRACASSI: I can't.
4	MS. KATE DEMALLEO: Well then why the hell did
5	(Off the record interruption)
6	MR. FRACASSI: Okay; okay.
7	MS. KATE DEMALLEO: I was I was anticipating,
8	just coming here to support what I feel are unconstitutional
9	violations of my rights, and I was just going to defend
10	people, be here for physical support. When I see your
11	hypocrisy here, that you want me to validate the spelling of
12	my name 'cause you can't read my signature, and you're
13	asking me to defend no validation of signatures; it's
14	ridiculous.
15	(Off the record interruption)
16	MS. KATE DEMALLEO: And furthermore, Ms. Benson,
17	if you dare to listen to this, I'm ashamed that you're not
18	here to confront your constituents and defend it.
19	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes.
20	MS. KATE DEMALLEO: She must be afraid to listen,
21	or you guys are just sorry, you're lackeys that have to
22	take the heat for her. That's all. I give my time to
23	someone else who's more
24	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: You go right ahead let's have
25	another meeting next week, the next week, yeah. Let's have
	Page 50



1	another
2	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Where's Jocelyn?
3	MR. FRACASSI: The next person I have is Jennifer
4	Biddinger.
5	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Come and knock on my door
6	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible)
7	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I've got a stack two miles high.
8	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Shouldn't she be required to be
9	here?
10	MR. FRACASSI: Okay.
11	MS. JENNIFER BIDDINGER: Good morning. My name is
12	Jennifer Biddinger. I am here today to represent multitudes
13	of mothers and grandmothers across our state. For the most
14	part, we do not live our lives for greed or power. Our
15	desires are related to our families, our liberties and our
16	pursuit of happiness. And for some of us, we live to please
17	our God and Creator. We have become very concerned this
18	past year about the shocking but accurate reports of
19	problems within our election process. The mainstream media
20	and social medias cannot deceive all of us, and we no longer
21	are blinded in our little cocoons.
22	In all due respect, it does not take a
23	professional to see the flaws in these proposed rules from
24	Secretary of State Benson. She is flagrantly acknowledging
25	her desire to make the security of our elections a joke.
	Page 51





25

1	We, The People, want to make sure our elections are true and
2	fair. The proposed rules for mail-in ballots would make it
3 .	an open season for fraud, with little or no validation of a
4	legal voter. The proposed rules are illogical and
5	incomplete, not to mention the blatant disregard for current
6	laws. You (indicating); you; you; you, must stop this from
7	proceeding. We must work on exposing and fixing the
8	problems, not try to cover them up or create more
9	opportunities for fraud.
10	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Right.
11	MS. JENNIFER BIDDINGER: These rules do not
12	provide uniform standards for city and township clerks. On
13	the contrary, it makes it vague and virtually impossible for
14	an election official to eliminate fraudulent signatures. We
15	need to strive for strong rules and accuracy and
16	transparency.
17	Please stop this mockery of our election process.
18	The truth needs to prevail, not the desires of a greedy and
19	corrupt oligarchy. As our representatives, we ask that you
20	defend our constitutions, seek truth, and rebuild our faith
21	in our elections.
22	Finally, please stand for all the mothers

Finally, please stand for all the mothers

everywhere, and our children's future, and for all the men

who have bravely fought for our freedoms in this country, of

the Land of the Free.



1	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I'm going to cry.
2	MS. JENNIFER BIDDINGER: God bless you with
3	courage and wisdom. Thank you.
4	MR. FRACASSI: Are there any remaining individuals
5	who have not had a chance to speak on Rule Set 061
6	MR. ROBERTS: Yeah.
7	MR. FRACASSI: that would wish to speak now. I
8	will call you up. If you are not signed in, I will need you
9	to sign in when you are done speaking, please.
10	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: All right; all right. Yeah, my
11	name is Ryan Roberts. Again, I just got a few questions. I
12	spoke with a township clerk last night. She was very upset
13	that she wasn't informed about this. Like I said, she likes
14	to be informed. She's a part of a lot of associations and
15	she thinks that she should have been informed. So you know,
16	it probably would be a lot more people here, too, if it was
17	more publicized. But just like the clerk said, they
18	probably trying to do this stuff under the rug, without them
19	noticing.
20	But I'm also wondering, in the RIS form, it asks
21	for the people to list the burdens that this might possibly
22	bring, and they said it wasn't it wasn't going to bring
23	no burdens. So we done heard all these burdens placed on
24	the clerks and on the candidates when it come to the vetting
25	and all this stuff, but why weren't they listed in the RIS
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2.4

forms? There's a lot of stuff not listed in them RIS forms, and those are supposed to provide clarity as to what these rules are going to do, that Jocelyn is proposing.

So why aren't they filled out with detail and providing the accuracy that they're supposed to provide? They -- the burdens are supposed to be listed on the forms. What do we do when our Secretary of State or our chief election officer is corrupt? What do we do? You know what I'm saying? I -- I request that Jocelyn Benson step down or resign, because she is so crooked and corrupt. Elections been being stole for a long time; it's not new. It's not nothing new.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible)

MR. RYAN ROBERTS: So all of you representatives and legislators and public officials to sit and act like it's impossible or are we just conspiracy theorists, or this is crazy and absurd, it's -- it just shows that your-all complicit, and you-all little kids -- I don't know if you-all know what's really going on in the political world, but it's evil people in power, and Jocelyn Benson work for one, his name is George Soros.

These people want to take over our country. They want to take over our country. So while you sit there on a computer and act like you not interested, and while you-all twiddling your fingers, acting like you-all don't know why



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1	we so ticked off, it's because our country is being stolen.
2	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Right on
3 .	MS. LISA CAPATINA: Look it. Can you not see the
4	hypocrisy? Look at the detail that you are insisting upon
5	for us to just sit here and speak. "Repeat your name.
6	Spell your name"
7	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Yeah.
8	MS. LISA CAPATINA: over and over and over
9	again
10	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Get their names. What's you-
11	all names?
12	MS. LISA CAPATINA: (inaudible) votes if a
13	scribble is okay today, what's next? a blink? I mean,
14	come on.
15	MR. FRACASSI: I ma'am
16	MS. LISA CAPATINA: And we would love if somebody
17	could pick up the phone and call your boss and have her come
18	down and address us personally.
19	(Off the record interruption)
20	MR. FRACASSI: Okay. Thank you for your comments.
21	Move on. Thank you for your comment.
22	(Off the record interruption)
23	MR. FRACASSI: I would like to move on at this
24	time. Thank you for your comments. Thank you for coming
25	here. I would like to move on to the next rule set at this
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1	time, please.
2	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Uh-huh; yeah. We ticked off.
3	We got a right to be ticked off.
4	MR. FRACASSI: I do need you to sign in.
5	MS. LISA CAPATINA: I already signed in.
6	MR. FRACASSI: I don't need I need
7	MS. LISA CAPATINA: She already has my name.
8	MR. FRACASSI: I need the individual that just
9	spoke to sign in. I have to have that in order
10	(Off the record interruption)
11	MR. FRACASSI: Not for this rule set, he did not.
12	(Off the record interruption)
13	MR. FRACASSI: Would you like
14	(Off the record interruption)
15	MR. FRACASSI: Thank you; thank you; thank you for
16	speaking; thank you for speaking.
17	(Off the record interruption)
18	MR. FRACASSI: We have an individual that would
19	like to speak. I would like to allow the individual to
20	speak, please. Thank you.
21	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Don't treat me like a number.
22	MS. EVELYN ARCHER: Thank you so much. Evelyn
23	Archer, again, A-r-c-h-e-r. Could you folks please thank
24	you for holding this hearing. Could you please tell us the
25	name of your body, as well as your names, and could you
	Page 56



1	spell them so that I can take them down?
2	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah.
3	MR. FRACASSI: Do you have public comment that you
4	would like to provide for this rule set?
5	MS. EVELYN ARCHER: Well, that that's my
6	question, because many of us don't know actually what body
7	we're speaking before. So we're exchanging our ideas.
8	Could you at least exchange the name of your body to whom
9	we're speaking? Are you state elections? I don't really
10	know.
11	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Can we start with this gentleman
12	here?
13	MR. FRACASSI: So we have I would like you
14	we have already introduced ourselves. We are with the
15	Department of State.
16	MS. EVELYN ARCHER: Okay.
17	MR. FRACASSI: We are here to hear public
18	testimony on these rule sets. So if I would ask that if
19	you have any public testimony that you would like to
20	provide, please provide it.
21	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible) give your name?
22	MR. FRACASSI: We've already given our
23	MS. EVELYN ARCHER: Thank you.
24	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Could you sign your names for
25	us, please?
	Dago 57





1	MR. NOVAK: Want to call the next one?
2	MR. FRACASSI: Yes. We're going to move on to the
3	next rule set.
4	(Off the record interruption)
5	MR. FRACASSI: I would like to move on to the
6	public comment on the next rule set. We are going to move
7	on to the public comment on Rule Set 062. It is the online
8	absent voter application form. I am going to again,
9	testimony is limited to two minutes per person, and I will
10	call names in order of which I have them on the sheet in
11	front of me. The first person I have is Kristina Karamo.
12	And go ahead when you are ready.
13	MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: I guess you guys can
14	obviously see people are ticked off, because our elections
15	are our only manner as to which we, the governed, give our
16	consent; that's it.
17	I want to start off again, my complaint objection
18	to this rule, with the quote I started with from the last
19	one, which is a direct quote from Jocelyn Benson.
20	"We've always had identification requirements in
21	Michigan. It's called a signature. It's one of the
22	hardest things to fake. While you can fake an ID, it's
23	harder to fake a signature. So that's the most secure
24	way of protecting the vote."
25	And that quote in itself is stupid, because we all know that
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3

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2.1

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2.4

25

faking a signature versus getting a fake ID -- come on. when am I referencing this rule -- this quote with this rule, because now she wants people to submit absentee ballot applications online and use their on-file signature with Then that means that instead of their registration form. looking at three signatures, now we're knocking it down to two signatures. And then this rule works in perfect tandem with Rule 061, that weakens the signature verification process. Now we're only going to be looking at two signatures. And Jocelyn Benson knows that the qualified voter file is wildly inaccurate. So that means you're creating a situation where someone can request a ballot illegally in someone else's name. And to sit and pretend that that's a ridiculous proposition -- we know people cheat in elections all the time. We currently have a clerk in Southfield who was indicted on election crime, still is a clerk in Southfield, and sign running for reelection.

So this is a massive problem, and we're not going to stand for it. So for her to submit this rule in tandem with the other rule, it is obvious that she has politicized the election process to disenfranchise the people of Michigan, to nullify legal votes with illegal ones. There is no reason for a person that claims that signature verification is the most important way to assure security in our elections to then remove one of the signatures from the



1 verification process, moving us down to two signatures, and 2 then opening a situations where people could illegally 3 request ballots in other people's names. It's completely 4 unacceptable. 5 MR. FRACASSI: The next person is Garrett Wheat. UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Not one person in support, none 7 of them approves; not one person. We can see how much We, 8 The People, matter. (Inaudible) It's not Gretchen's state. 9 It's our state. 10 MR. FRACASSI: Go ahead whenever you're ready. 11 Okay. Thank you. Again, I'm MR. GARRETT WHEAT: 12 Garrett Wheat with Senator Ruth Johnson, Chair of the Senate 13 Elections Committee and former Secretary of State. 14 here to oppose this rule. We find this rule to be an 15 absolute abuse of the administrative rule making process. 16 If you want to change the law, that is something that is 17 done by law makers, by the legislature, and it is not the 18 prerogative of the a department to change law through the administrative rule making process. 19 20 This online application and the rule that is 2.1 proposed directly contradicts Michigan election law. 22 states that the online absent voter application must provide 23 an opportunity for a voter to use the voter's stored digital 2.4 signature on file with the Secretary of State on the 25 application. Michigan election law states that an applicant Page 60



1 for an absent voter ballot shall sign the application, a 2 clerk or assistant clerk shall not deliver an absent voter 3 ballot application to someone who does not sign the application. The statutory language does not say, "The voter shall sign it, or they can answer a few questions online and 7 the Secretary of State will put their signature on it for 8 them." That is not the statutory language. When we did an 9 analogous thing with online voter registration, we went 10 through the legislative process, we had a bill pass, we had 11 it signed into law by the governor. That is the appropriate 12 process for this type of change. And I also would just 13 note, it is ironic to us that the information in the 14 proposed rule, that you would request to affix this 15 signature, is a complete driver's license or state ID number 16 and the last four of the Social Security number. Yet when 17 we pass legislation for voter ID through the Michigan senate 18 recently, which would have added the exact same information 19 to the absentee ballot application to provide better 20 identity verification, the Secretary of State opposed those 2.1 bills. Thank you. 2.2

MR. FRACASSI: Matthew Rees. I will circle back to him. Gabriel Rees. Okay. Brian Hendergraff (sic).

MR. BRIAN PENDERGRAFF: B-r-i-a-n,

23

2.4

P-e-n-d-e-r-g-r-a-f-f, as in Frank. Electronic signature



_	
1	verification scares the hell out me. There is so much fraud
2	in the internet. I mean, corporations, companies,
3	governments, personal email accounts are getting hacked all
4	the time, and I don't think there is anything that would
5	stop the Secretary of State's office from getting hacked,
6	and verifications being messed with and stolen.
7	There's nothing simpler than two handwritten
8	signatures or three being verified by a person. That's the
9	most secure way that we have to verify signatures. I think
10	the electronic stuff is just ripe for fraud. Thank you.
11	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you, Brian.
12	MR. FRACASSI: Louis Avallone.
13	MR. LOUIS AVALLONE: I prepared a document for you
14	guys. I sent it to you by email, and I'm just going to try
15	to paraphrase it here. I didn't put together these
16	thoughts. More or less, what I would like to explain, at
17	least my understanding, is that section 759 describes the
18	signature requirements for a non-overseas or absent uniform
19	voter, and only 759a applies to overseas or absent voters.
20	And the only people that are authorized to have electronic
21	transmittal signatures or a absentee ballot application are
22	overseas or absentee ballot folks. So to suggest that
23	people that are not in that classification can access online
24	information is, again, an unlawful rule being made.
25	The second thing I would like to mention is that
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1
         -- give me a second here.
                                    I've got to reference.
        have the section referenced here, but there is a -- let's
3
              What one is it?
         see.
                   Rule 3 states that the online absent voter ballot
        application must provide an opportunity for a voter to use a
        voter's stored sign- -- excuse me -- digital signature on
         file with the Secretary of State, and that the stored
8
        digital signature means the image of the registered voter's
         signature captured by the Department of State and maintained
10
        by the Department of State's motor vehicle database.
11
        would like to point out that MCL168.509(gg) strictly
12
        prohibits the Secretary of State or any other elected
13
        official from disclosing the signature of a voter as
14
        captured per MCL168.509(hh).
15
                   So my interpretation to that is it doesn't matter
        who you're disclosing the signature to. If you're
17
        disclosing a signature of someone back to that person even,
18
         it would be in violation of the statute 509(gg).
19
        mentioned earlier, that indicates that there is -- there
20
        will be election laws violated by putting these rules into
21
        process, and they will have to be reported as violations by
22
        elections inspectors.
23
                   MR. FRACASSI:
                                  Polly McNichol.
2.4
                   MS. POLLY MCNICHOL: Again, Polly, P-o-l-l-y,
25
        McNichol, like the road. And thanks for sitting up there.
```



1	You guys are the lightening rod for our Secretary of State.
2	If she were here, I think it would be directed right at her.
3 .	In 2020, 47 percent of Americans experienced financial
4	identity theft, per cybercrime. So we all know it's not
5	safe to put your information online.
6	I mean, all of us know that, because anything
7	online is open to tampering by anyone with the motivation,
8	whether it's a college kid in a forensic computer
9	forensic class to our enemies of the United States; all can
10	tamper with anything. Nothing is secure. And the use of
11	the internet in our elections has already put our nation at
12	great risk. So increasing the use of the internet to allow
13	absentee ballot applications, it's well, it's nuts. It's
14	reckless, at best, and in reality, it will invite wholesale
15	election fraud, so please don't consider it.
16	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes. Thank you, Polly.
17	MR. FRACASSI: I have Rob Remelius.
18	MR. ROB REMELIUS: Thank you, again for letting us
19	comment. All right. For this last one, I'm just trying to
20	understand how anybody would think that this is a secure way
21	to vote absentee, especially given all the problems that
22	we've had with some of the voting machines around the
23	country in the last election that we know of, in the last
24	election.
25	Also, it directly contradicts the current statute,
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1	which requires that "an applicant for an absent bal
2	voter ballot shall sign the application." And again, my
3 .	question is, is Jocelyn Benson in the state legislature now?
4	Because that is a statute; that's a law. And last time I
5	checked, Secretaries of State were to carry out the laws
6	under their purview and not to make new laws. So that's my
7	only question about this one. Thank you very much.
8	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible)
9	MR. FRACASSI: Lillian (sic) Lethemon.
10	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: Can I just preface this?
11	Do you have a business card that we could have?
12	MR. FRACASSI: I actually don't have any on me
13	right now.
14	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: Does anyone have a business
15	card? We honestly don't know where you're from, what part
16	of government you're representing. We're here testifying,
17	but we don't know who we're testifying for.
18	MR. FRACASSI: So we are all we all work for
19	the Department of State, and
20	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: From federal or state?
21	MR. FRACASSI: The Michigan Department of State.
22	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: Michigan Department of
23	State? Okay.
24	MR. FRACASSI: Correct. And so we are here on
25	behalf of the Rules, listening to public comment, so we
	Page 65



1	can
2	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: But none of you have
3	business cards? I find that hard to believe.
4	MR. FRACASSI: Do you have a comment that you
5	would wish to provide on this rule?
6	(Off the record interruption)
7	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: Anyways, for my
8	presentation I apologize again for the audio. I can't
9	hear. I'm old. My hearing is not great, and I'm in the
10	second row, and I can't hear. Okay. The first thing I
11	would like to state is any change to election laws has to be
12	done by our state legislature, not by our Secretary of
13	State.
14	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hear; hear.
15	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: That's the first thing.
16	And how she's going to amend around, I don't know why. This
17	process would take control away from our local clerks.
18	There is a process already for local clerks to send out
19	online applications for absentee voting; there is a process
20	already.
21	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Please pay attention, please.
22	He's talking.
23	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: I'm sorry?
24	(Off the record interruption)
25	MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: So anyways, this takes the
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control away from our clerks. There's already a process that they have. This process would weaken our voting system, not enhance it. The only thing this is going to enhance is fraud. That's the only thing it's going to provide. So -- and take away the safeguards.

After the 2020 election, there is so many people that said, "I'm not even going to bother to vote. What difference does it make? You've got zucker boxes; you've got absentee ballots coming in in truckloads from out of state and everything else. So I don't want to get into that. But we need a more robust process to ensure our elections, not to weaken them. Thank you.

MR. FRACASSI: Matthew Rees. All right. How about Gabriel Rees? Okay.

MS. JAKI LOVRINCE: I would like to speak on this -- of this issue to the counsel, if I may. My name is Jaki Lovrince. Thank for allowing me to speak freely. If you can't speak freely, you're simply not free. My conclusion from what I've read recently of -- about house bills that are being represented to our legislator is simply a simple issue. Many, many decades we've had the results overnight. What I am reading in these bills, that because of our new election laws that Ms. Benson is proposing, it's going to go on for days or maybe weeks before we get a result.



1 Fix that problem. We've been doing it for decades 2 and centuries; it can be done again. There is other 3 solutions. Again, if I have to reference to my dominion, 4 and all the illegals that are coming, and laws that are being portrayed at 16-years-old voting age, I'm not I did not vote for dominion or an electronic interested. 7 voting system. Thank you. 8 MR. FRACASSI: I have one more person who would wish -- oh, sorry. 9 I'm sorry. 10 MS. PATRICE JOHNSON: I would just to speak, if I It's Patrice Johnson, and I didn't sign up, but --11 12 and this will just take a second. But my understanding is 13 that these rules have been submitted, and that the 14 committee -- the JCAR committee has a set number of days, 15 but they can't strike them down. They can return them for 16 270 days, and then if the Secretary of State chooses to 17 proceed, we will end up in a system of the legislature 18 litigating against the Secretary of State. So I would ask you to please change these requests 19 20 now so that you don't put the state through this. It's a 2.1 clear violation of law. It's going to lead to trouble. 22 There was no -- there's no logic behind it other than some 23 type of mal-intent (phonetic), so just look at the statutes, 2.4 honor them, and rescind these rules. That's all. 25 you.



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MR. FRACASSI: Thank you. I have one person -one more person who has signed up to speak on Rule 060,
which is disqualification from ballot based upon contents of
affidavit of identity. William Lethemon.

MR. WILLIAM LETHEMON: Sorry. That's me again. Election law is very complicated. I've been to my city clerk's office. I've talked to the representatives at the office, and I asked them questions. I don't really get real firm, definitive answers. Now, if I were a candidate and I went to my clerk's office, because that's where you go to fill out the application to run for an office, and they tell you information incorrectly, not deliberately just incorrectly, and you submit it to the Secretary of State, you can't change it. With that being said, they're going to disqualify you in a future election. This is -- I don't know why they're doing this. And there is -- it just doesn't make any sense to me that somebody told you something in error or you made a mistake, and you can't correct it, and now you can't run for an office. due process. You're disqualified before you even get started. So that's my comment for this. Thank you. need due process.

MR. FRACASSI: Thank you. So at this time, I have no other people that have signed up to speak. Do you wish to give comment again?



1	MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: I do. I have one I
2	have I have a question regarding the affidavit of
3	identity requirement. So one of the logic one of the
4	forms of logic that is used in support of this rule is that
5	it would help affirm identity. Now, the Secretary of State
б	is keeper of the records, and one of the Secretary of
7	State's responsibility is to affirm our identity, so it's
8	really an unnecessary requirement.
9	So I do have a question for you guys, because part
10	of public comment shouldn't be just us rambling. We want
11	answers. So the other two rules, it's obvious that
12	Secretary Benson is trying to inject our system with illegal
13	ballots; it's obvious why she's doing that. But for the
14	other rule, why? Why put this unnecessary burden? Why
15	submit this rule and claim it's to help establish identity
16	when the Secretary of State already has access to all of our
17	birth certificates, death records? She is the one who
18	controls whether or not I have an ID. So she already knows
19	we are who say we are. So if someone can tell me why, for
20	Rule 060?
21	MR. FRACASSI: So the rationale for why we have
22	proposed this rule is all outlined in the regulatory impact
23	statement and the request for rule making, which is all
24	available online.
25	MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: I've read it.
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MR. FRACASSI: So I would refer to that stuff to provide you the information -- the answers to your questions as to why we're putting this forth. I do have somebody else that is -- do you have any other comments that you would like to make on any of the rules?

MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: Yeah, I do. But see, that answer isn't sufficient, because I've read it, and there is no state or federal law requiring you to do so. And part of the logic is because it helps us establish identity and there is no existence guidance on there. Just because there's no existing guidance on something doesn't mean you're required to make a rule regarding it when it does not serve the will of the people. This actually disenfranchises millions of people -- not millions -- excuse me -- thousands of people who want to run for office, especially people in low-income and middle-income communities will be disenfranchised the worse, because they lack the resources to hire all the necessary people to comb through all these ridiculous rules.

So my question, again, is why the rule? It does not help establish identity. That's bogus, because the Secretary of State already does that. It's part of her job description. She already has access to all the records, so why put that burden on the clerks? Why? The answer in the RS -- RIS form is not sufficient.



1	MR. FRACASSI: So I would refer you to that, as
2	well. I have taken your comments, and we have your comments
3	in the record, and we will take them into consideration as
4	we move forth. I do have another person that wishes
5	MS. KRISTINA KARAMO: Thank you.
6	MR. FRACASSI: to speak.
7	(Off the record interruption)
8	MR. FRACASSI: Mr. Valentin, you had indicated you
9	signed up, and I think I inadvertently
10	MR. VALENTIN DUMITRESCU: (inaudible) say "no" to
11	speak? Because I said I thought I said, "yes," to
12	comment on
13	MR. FRACASSI: I think I accidentally I'm
14	sorry. So is it for Rule 062; correct?
15	(Off the record interruption)
16	MR. FRACASSI: Can I let him speak first, and then
17	get back to you?
18	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes.
19	MR. VALENTIN DUMITRESCU: So I'm Valentin
20	Dumitrescu. I don't think I have to spell my name.
21	MR. FRACASSI: And just for the record, the court
22	reporter's sake, this is on Rule Set 062.
23	MR. VALENTIN DUMITRESCU: 062, yes. The absentee
24	ballot is a great opportunity for fraud, and a normal
25	election has a person who knows for good reasons good
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reasons; out of state, out of the country -- requests -this initiative requests the ballot and signs it in ink,
with a hand. This is a normal election. Now, this rule
will just trash this normal election rule and will make it
even more available for people to submit for multiple
ballots.

And as a matter of fact, I already show that 34,448 ballots were either two, three or four copy duplicate, most -- majority two copy duplicate. If you divide by two, it's 17,000. It's 1.5 more than the difference between the two candidates, Biden and Trump. So we need the absen- -- so we need to eliminate the -- this rule is to be rejected, and I oppose it, so that people go back to the normal way of a secure way to make sure that they vote by taking the initiative, asking for a ballot, either in person at the clerk office, or through mail, with a handwritten, ink signature.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes.

MR. FRACASSI: Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Just a really brief comment I wanted to make -- to point out the fact that not one person here today, as far as I can recall -- I might be wrong -- but not one person has spoken in favor of any of these rules. So I believe that that should be -- that should be a defacto reason right there just to withdraw the rule. With



1	this much public opposition, I don't know how the Secretary
2	can proceed with such a flawed rule. If you had even one
3	person here in favor of it, maybe it would be we could
4	have more of a debate. It this there's no debate
5	here. This thing should be withdrawn. Thank you.
6	MR. FRACASSI: So the next person I have that has
7	signed up to speak is Kim Cousino. I might be
8	mispronouncing that last name. So I'm going to ask I
9	have two that you wish to testify on; correct?
10	MS. KIM COUSINO: Yes.
11	MR. FRACASSI: So I'm going to ask first, if we
12	could speak on Rule Set 061, which is the signature
13	matching, and then we can we'll reset the time and we'll
14	switch to Rule Set 062, which is the online voter absent
15	voter ballot application. So if we could start with the
16	first one, just for the court reporter, just to be clear.
17	MS. KIM COUSINO: Okay.
18	MR. FRACASSI: And so whenever you're ready, go
19	ahead.
20	MS. KIM COUSINO: It's Cousino (phonetic). Thank
21	you.
22	MR. FRACASSI: Thank you.
23	MS. KIM COUSINO: I'm speaking in opposition to
24	the rules for signature matching standards for absentee
25	voter ballot applications and the envelopes. In my opinion,
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these rules are of the lowest of standards. We can do
better, and we have to do better. On Wednesday, September
29th, I attended a virtual session with CISA. The topic of
the presentation was "Election Security, Building Trust
Through Secure Practices." The main topic was "Building
Public Trust in Elections, Encounter Mis- and Disinformation
Through Related Communications and Transparency."

As the clerk of a township who verifies these signatures, I do believe in the relevant facts, and the facts are that all signatures would be presumed valid. Signatures with differences that aren't multiple, significant, and obvious are valid. Signatures with all of these deficiencies may still be accepted if one redeeming factor is determined, whether or not it negates the multiple significant and obvious deficiencies. The most confusing factor to consider while verifying the validity of a signature is the voter's primary language. How would any language contribute to differing characteristics in a voter's signature? I have asked the Bureau of Elections this question and I'm still awaiting the answer.

The hypocrisy here is palpable. On one hand, state government officials are boasting about the secure election practices, every signature is deemed valid only after a rigorous matching process. And then on the other hand, our state government's directives are to presume all



1 signatures are valid. The Board of Elections are supposed to provide us 3 clerks examples of signatures with redeeming qualities and questionable signatures. I contacted the Bureau of Elections and asked where I can view the examples of these signatures. I was informed they already exist with the updated date of April 2nd, 2021. These guidelines are 8 terrible. 9 The regulatory impact statement states 10 different -- states that they looked at with their 11 guidelines and they noted Colorado. I looked up Colorado's 12 signature verification guide and it's 20 pages long compared 13 to the four pages here today. Based on the material 14 provided by the State of Colorado, I would assume that they 15 went above and beyond in order to provide in-depth training and guidelines to their election officials. Why isn't the 17 State of Michigan offering the same courtesy to its election 18 officials responsible for verifying thousands of signatures 19 each election? 20 There is a senate bill introduced, and it is in 2.1 the elections Committee. The bill reads, 22 "Establish and require signature verification 23 training for all county, city, and township clerks, and 2.4 for all precinct inspectors that complies with the 25 rules promulgated by Secretary of State under Page 76



subsection 3, for an objective signature verification 1 2 process." 3

Subsection 3 states,

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"The objective signature verification process must not include a presumption regarding the validity of any signature that is to be verified."

Secretary Benson should be working with the legislature to establish such a law and produce sufficient training and material to clerks and election inspectors. There is no mention of training election officials in the proposed Instead it appears the intention to bypass legislature entirely and quietly pass the rules using this Administrative Procedures Act.

There are notifications sent daily through email on the Secretary's State (sic) on opinions on proposed rules, along with the Attorney General and the Governor. They consistently trumpet their support or opposition to legislature and rules, even in other states. Why are they not shining as much light on the rules here today if they will, in fact, benefit our electoral process? I don't know about others here, but I am not a forensic handwriting analysist (phonetic) and will no -- be no closer to becoming one with the seven examples of signatures provided by the Bureau of Elections and directed to assume all signatures are valid, no matter the amount of the deficiencies.



1	As one of many clerks in Michigan responsible for
2	verifying signatures, I request these rules be taken back to
3 .	the drawing board, and that more stringent standards be
4	applied, and proper training be provided to clerks and
5	election inspectors. Evil is everywhere in our world today,
6	and we cannot, in good faith, presume it is not involved in
7	our election process.
8	MR. FRACASSI: Thank you. I would like to switch
9	to now to the online absent voter ballot application,
10	that's Rule Set 062. We do have a timer, just so you
11	probably heard it. I neglected to say
12	MS. KIM COUSINO: Oh, okay. Sorry.
13	MR. FRACASSI: try and keep it to two minutes
14	as much as possible.
15	MS. KIM COUSINO: Okay.
16	MR. FRACASSI: You are able to also submit written
17	comments. I know you came late, so that's why I just want
18	to
19	MS. KIM COUSINO: Thank you.
20	MR. FRACASSI: to go over it. I should have
21	done that beforehand. You can also submit written comments
22	to: elections@Michigan.gov, if you would like, as well, and
23	those have to be received by 5:00 o'clock today. So if you
24	would also like to submit written after the hearing, please
25	feel free.



1	MS. KIM COUSINO: Okay.
2	MR. FRACASSI: So I would like to turn it to you
3	now. This is your public comment for online absent voter
4	ballot application, Rule set 062.
5	MS. KIM COUSINO: Okay. According to an AARP
6	article published February the 5th, 2021, titled, "Pandemic
7	proves to be a fertile ground for identity thieves," based
8	on the FTC reporting, the number of identity theft cases
9	more than doubled in 2020 from 2019. The FTC has an
10	interactive map that breaks down fraud by state, year, and
11	quarter.
12	In Michigan, in all of 2020, there were 93,387
13	total number of fraud, identity theft, and other reports
14	made. Of those, there were over 12,000 imposter scams. Two
15	quarters into 2021, we have already bypassed the number of
16	imposter scams reported at over 13,000. According to the
17	regulatory impact statement and cost benefit analysis, the
18	proposed rules presented would codify current practices
19	established in 2020 as a result of the pandemic. It will
20	allow a voter to submit an application through a portal
21	online that captures the voter's signature on their driver's
22	license and applies it to the application.
23	Now, when we receive these applications, we do go
24	through the signature verification. In this case, 100
25	percent of the signatures would match, because the
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QVF signature is what is printed on the application. There would be no doubt, room, for a -- fraud to come in and take somebody's identity, and unbeknownst to them, apply for an absentee ballot online.

The rules to protect health and safety and welfare and promote regulatory environment in Michigan, that is the last burdensome alternative, because it provides additional methods for obtaining ballots in attempts to remove or lessen existing barriers. For example, current practices require a voter to download and print the absentee voter ballot application. After completion, the form is mailed to the voter's local clerk. By allowing submission online, certain barriers, such as printing and mailing, are limited. This is the answer to RIS question number eight.

The argument here as posed is meritless.

(inaudible) of voters are expected to complete an FPCA, which requires downloading, printing, physically signing, and either scanning or mailing back to your local clerk. The same downloading and printing process applies to the MOVE ballots that are electronically sent to our service men.

I had a specific voter in 2020 who overcame these barriers while stationed in Iraq. If they can do it, I'm sure anybody here in Michigan can do the same. Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Right on.



1 MR. FRACASSI: Thank you. 2 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: A couple things --3 MR. NOVAK: Have you signed in, sir? -- to speak? I will. I definitely want you UNKNOWN SPEAKER: guys to know that I was the one that said this stuff. I'll definitely give that to you. First of all, Senator McBroom, who I'm speaking with right now, is not happy at 8 all that you guys won't identify yourselves by name. 9 maybe by the end of the meeting we can get that? The second 10 part of that being, according to the Secretary of State's website -- today, we're having the meeting about people 11 12 applying for absentee voter ballots online. 13 So why is it already on their website that voters 14 can request an absentee ballot in multiple ways? You can 15 complete an online application at, "Michigan.gov/vote." So why is that already a thing if we're having the meeting 17 today about it? So since we're having the meeting today 18 about it, and it's already been implemented, along with some 19 previous things -- you know -- thank you. Maybe a few 20 seconds back at the end -- but the importance of this today 21 is because under the United States Code 52, subsection 22 20511, they discuss election fraud as defined as knowingly 23 and willfully depriving, defrauding, or attempting to 2.4 deprive or defraud the residents of a state of a fair and 25 impartially conducted election by the procurement or



1 submission of voter registration applications that are known 2 by the person to be false -- "materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent under the laws of the State." 3 The laws previously, and this one now with the online application process, are not listed in our election laws as a way that you can apply for an absentee voter ballot, or a way that you can submit a ballot at all. 8 that means she's already been in violation of the state law, 9 willfully, knowingly; already in violation of the law. 10 So to me, United States Code 52, dealing with 11 election fraud, would already apply to Secretary Benson, 12 which shall be defined in accordance with Title 18 in which 13 fines shall be paid into the general fund of the Treasury, 14 miscellaneous receipts pursuant to section 3302 of Title 31, 15 notwithstanding any other law, or in prison not more than 16 five years, or both. Her accountability needs to be seen, 17 it needs to be upheld, and I (inaudible) names, first and last, by the end of the meeting, that would be really 18 19 appreciated by all of us. 20 MR. NOVAK: Which rule were you speaking on, 2.1 specifically? 2.2 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: That would be the online 23 application process. 2.4 Okay. Yeah, is that the form -- okay. MR. NOVAK: 25 Yeah. That's the form right there. Page 82



1	(Off the record interruption)
2	MR. FRACASSI: I think we do have somebody else
3	that just signed up, as well.
4	(Off the record interruption)
5	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Ryan Roberts, here again. I
6	drove four hours to make sure our voices are heard all
7	across the state. I wish I could ask, why would anybody
8	want to weaken the election system? But I know the answer.
9	I did my research. I've been researching this stuff for 14
10	years. The deep state, the cabal, corruption you known
11	what I'm saying? So we know why Jocelyn want to weaken the
12	election. She's a criminal. She's unlawful.
13	Why is there no media here? Why wasn't the clerks
14	notified? Because she want to do criminalistic activities
15	under the radar, not letting people know. I don't know if
16	you-all know you-all working for criminals. You know? Is
17	one of you-all names Mr. Fracassi? Fracasy (phonetic)?
18	Fracassi? However you say it. Is that one of you-all?
19	MR. FRACASSI: Yes.
20	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: That's you?
21	MR. FRACASSI: Yes.
22	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Okay. You didn't fill out them
23	RIS forms correctly, Mr. Fracassi. You need to step down,
24	too. You know what I'm saying? Jocelyn Benson, your-all
25	boss, she's corrupt. The Bureau of Elections, you-all
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1	scared to give you-all names out, because you-all know you-
2	all supporting criminals or you're all complicit to the
3	criminal activity. You know what I'm saying? So why is the
4	form not filled out? Why is it filled out deceitfully, Mr.
5	Fracassi? Everybody write their name down. Mr. Fracassi,
6	why didn't you compare it to other standards in other states
7	and other hello? Mr. Fracassi?
8	MR. FRACASSI: I am listening to you. Please
9	continue
10	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Okay. Why didn't you fill out
11	the form correctly? I think it should be voided just
12	because you didn't put in the proper information that's
13	needed to know what's going on with these rules. Did you
14	fill out the other ones? Because they all should be null
15	and void, because you are purposely keeping information from
16	these forms that's supposed to be in these forms so we can
17	make proper assessments and conclusions as to what's behind
18	these rules. Actually, it's corruption, and you complicit,
19	too, because you filled out the forms, Mr. Fracassi.
20	(Off the record interruption)
21	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Can I get you-all name, or are
22	you deaf, mute
23	MR. FRACASSI: Okay. So we're going to move on
24	now.
25	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Hello; hello.
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1 MR. FRACASSI: We're going to move on now. 2 you. 3 MR. NOVAK: We've got another speaker. MR. RYAN ROBERTS: No; no. We, The people, hold the power. MR. FRACASSI: Yes; yes. We're going to move on now. We have another speaker. MR. RYAN ROBERTS: We, The People, hold the power. 8 You-all can't have a civilized conversation --9 10 MR. FRACASSI: Sir; sir --11 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: -- a two-way conversation? We 12 got to have our names, address --13 MR. FRACASSI: We are -- have another speaker; we 14 have another speaker, sir. 15 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: -- but you-all don't have to provide -- you-all names? 17 MR. FRACASSI: Sir, we have another speaker. 18 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: We've got to find it out 19 ourselves? 20 MR. FRACASSI: Sir, we have another speaker behind 21 you that would like to speak. 22 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: We all saying the same stuff. 23 MR. FRACASSI: Sir, we have another person that 2.4 would like to speak. 25 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: And he's also (inaudible), for Page 85



1 these rules. You-all going to hear the same -- you-all not even listening. Well, you-all not even listening. 3 MR. FRACASSI: Sir, we have another person that 4 would like to speak, that I would like to call up. MR. RYAN ROBERTS: You corrupt -- all you-all are --(Off the record interruption) 8 MR. NOVAK: Call the next person. 9 MR. FRACASSI: I would like to call up Lauren 10 Pendergraff at this time. 11 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Mr. Fracassi, you need to learn 12 how to fill out forms correctly. I can't even stand to be 13 in the presence of (inaudible) smart preachers. You-all 14 want us to be nice and politically correct --15 MR. FRACASSI: Okay. Sir, we have a person that would like to speak. 17 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: (Inaudible) --18 MR. FRACASSI: Sir, we have a person that would 19 like to speak. Please let her speak. 20 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: You-all are destroying our 2.1 country. 22 MR. FRACASSI: Please let her speak. 23 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: You-all are destroying our 2.4 country. 25 MR. FRACASSI: Sir; sir, I -- thank you. You've Page 86



1	had your chance to speak. Please let her speak.
2	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: (inaudible) our country. It's
3	hard for me to sit here
4	MR. FRACASSI: I I thank you for your comments.
5	You have given your comments. I have heard your comments.
6	You are not letting this individual speak.
7	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: (inaudible) destroying our
8	country.
9	MR. FRACASSI: Please let this individual speak.
10	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Sorry. I'm sorry, ma'am. I'm
11	sorry. It's hard; it's hard.
12	MS. LAUREN PENDERGRAFF: I know. I know it's
13	hard.
14	MR. RYAN ROBERTS: We all frustrated with these
15	people.
16	MS. LAUREN PENDERGRAFF: My name is Lauren
17	Pendergraff, L-a-u-r-e-n, P-e-n-d-e-r-g-r-a-f-f. It's very
18	obvious that we are all in vehement opposition to these
19	three measures, and that there is a lot of emotion here. I
20	would just like to my husband and I looked over a very
21	extensive article, and this is pertaining to the last
22	measure, the 062 that has to do with digital signatures
23	versus manual signatures and the potential for fraud. I
24	would just like to read one paragraph out of this article,
25	and this is what can happen if there if fraud does
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1	happen. It says,
2	"Handwritten signatures are extremely simple and
3	easy to understand. The forensics techniques used to
4	detect fraud are easily explained to lawyer, judges,
5	and juries. Digital signatures are fiendishly complex,
6	involving arcane number theory, the workings of
7	computer operating systems, communication protocols,
8	certificate chain processing, certificate policies, and
9	so on.
10	There are very few people on this plant, if any,
11	who completely understand every process involved in
12	generating and verifying a digital signature. The
13	potential for confused lawyers, judges, and juries is
14	extreme."
15	So not only if fraud were to take place, it could be it's
16	almost impossible to prove. So I would just like to leave
17	you with that. Thank you.
18	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you.
19	MR. NOVAK: Okay. We have one last person signed
20	up to speak, and then we will be closing the hearing. I
21	just wanted to point out, for those of you who didn't show
22	up here when we opened the hearing. I introduced myself as
23	Doug Novak. I'm the regulatory affairs officer. This
24	(indicating) is Adam Fracassi, from the Michigan Department
25	of State, the subject matter expert from the Bureau of
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1 Elections. And we are -- again, here to hear your public comment, and Adam will call the last person. 3 MR. FRACASSI: I -- Lisa Capatina. 4 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible) MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Can we get a statement from Adam (inaudible) --MR. FRACASSI: No, we are going to -- we are going 8 to listen to Ms. Capatina speak, please. 9 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: Can we get a statement 10 (inaudible) --11 MR. FRACASSI: We are going to have -- Ms. 12 Capatina is going to come up and speak. We are going to let 13 Ms. Capatina come to provide her public comment. 14 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: (inaudible) 15 MR. FRACASSI: Sir; sir. Ms. Capatina has not gotten to speak. You have -- we have listened to your 17 public comment. (inaudible) 18 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: 19 MR. FRACASSI: We have -- it is her turn to speak. 20 Let her speak. 2.1 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (inaudible) 22 MR. RYAN ROBERTS: She can speak. I -- he can 23 speak, too; right? 24 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: This is a public --25 MR. FRACASSI: Thank you. Page 89



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MS. LISA CAPATINA: My name Lisa Capatina, and I would like to reiterate again my opposition to all three suggestions that Secretary of State Benson would like to move forward. I am also going to reiterate that I'm embarrassed that it took until I was the age of almost 60 to actually pay attention to politics. I was seeking my education. I was working in public health and raising my family, and I just let the process roll. After the last 18 months, I'm awake, and I realize that I do need to use my voice because silence will just allow everything to move forward at status quo. I am really trying to exercise and educate myself.

I've attended hearings, most of them via Zoom, but I've watched other people speak. I've watched them be disrespected. I feel that I don't really have a voice, even though I am here speaking today, based on some of the comments that were made about things that have already moved forward. And so I appreciate, because I was a little late, that you were able to identify yourself and tell us where you are from, but I really would like to know what the process is when we leave today.

Do all these comments just go into a computer database, or is there a separate ad hoc committee, or a re-group with the committee? Because the person who really needed to hear what we had to say was Secretary of State



1	Benson, and she's not here. So what happens to our voice?
2	What happens to our comments? If you could at least just
3	allude to that, I would be very grateful. Thank you.
4	MR. NOVAK: We I'm sorry. So we
5	MR. RONALD PIOTROWSKI: (inaudible) I only need a
6	moment.
7	MR. NOVAK: Which rule set would you
8	MR. RONALD PIOTROWSKI: Well, actually all three.
9	I spoke in opposition. I have an addendum to my comments.
10	I've sat here and listened for over two hours, to all these
11	lovely people in this room, many of whom
12	MR. NOVAK: Your name again, sir?
13	MR. RONALD PIOTROWSKI: I just want to say
14	MR. NOVAK: Your name, again, so we know who
15	MR. RONALD PIOTROWSKI: My name is Ronald
16	Piotrowski.
17	MR. NOVAK: Okay.
18	MR. RONALD PIOTROWSKI: R-o-n-a-l-d P-i-o-t-r-o-w-
19	s-k-i. All these people that were here today, speaking to
20	you, you can see their passion, you can see their emotion,
21	you can see how upset we, the public, are at what is going
22	on in our country, and what is going on with our only legal
23	avenue, the right to vote. And that's all we want, is a
24	fair election and the right to vote. So we all came here,
25	and we prepared commentary, and we are citing laws and
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1 We're calling all types of referential information. rules. I don't know for sure what good it does. 3 it does some. My question is -- we thank you, and we appreciate the opportunity to voice these concerns to you. What I don't have the confidence in -- do you guys really listen to the public? Are you listening to what these good people are telling you? We are all so upset that we can 8 barely hold our emotions in about what is going on in the 9 State of Michigan and across the entire country. 10 need people like you to take this message back to the people 11 that make these silly rules, and break them, and then do 12 things the way they want to in order to get an outcome that 13 they prefer, and walk all over voter rights. It's just not 14 correct. It's wrong. It's criminal. 15 I mean, what are we do to? We have no other avenue but our voice in a hearing like this, and our vote. 17 And you want to take that vote and make it such that 18 fraudulent representation can take my vote and skew it. 19 vote may not have counted. It might be somebody who stole 20 my vote, my ballot, and put it in. So I beg and I pray that 2.1 you people are listening to the message that is delivered. 22 Not one person spoke in support of any one of these issues 23 today. That speaks volumes to me. 2.4 So what I would like to do is ask you to take this 25 back to the people who need to know and share it with them, Page 92



1	and let them see how passionate the public is. They need to
2	pay attention, and they need to follow the rule of law.
3	That being said, if you choose not to do that, I would like
4	to simply say let's take one moment of silence for the death
5	of voter rights in the State of Michigan if you don't take
6	this message back properly.
7	UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you, Ron.
8	MR. NOVAK: Thank you; thank you, and thank all of
9	you who came for comments. Additional comments regarding
10	the proposed rules that you may wish to share with us can be
11	submitted in writing to, again, as I stated in the
12	beginning: elections@Michigan.gov; again, it's:
13	elections@Michigan.gov. The record will remain open until
14	5:00 o'clock today. It is 11:07, and I declare this hearing
15	closed. Thank you.
16	(Hearing concluded at 11:07 a.m.)
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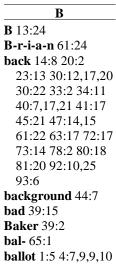
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