



EPIC-MRA PRESS RELEASE

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Nearly 7-in-10 Michigan voters favor including sexual orientation and gender identity in the Elliot Larson Civil Rights Act

600 sample Statewide Michigan May Survey – 4% error rate

This statewide survey was conducted among active and likely November 2018 general election voters. Legislation was introduced yesterday in Michigan that would do what the following question proposes:

All respondents heard the following question:

“The Elliot Larson Civil Rights Act in Michigan provides civil rights protections against discrimination based on religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status or marital status. Would you favor or oppose legislation to amend this law to include protection against discrimination based on a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity? [IF FAVOR/OPOSE, ASK: “Would that be strongly or somewhat?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]”

- 48% Strongly favor
- 20% Somewhat favor
- 68% TOTAL FAVOR**
- 25% TOTAL OPOSE**
- 8% Somewhat oppose
- 17% Strongly oppose
- 7% Undecided/Refused

Michigan voters solidly support the proposal. The overall results are just about the same as the results of a question posed to Michigan voters in May of 2013, which was almost identical to the one included in the current survey. The one difference is that this question includes “sexual orientation or gender identity,” and the 2013 survey did not include “gender identity.”

Democrats favor the proposed legislation by 86 to 11 percent, Independent voters favor it by 67 to 21 percent, and Republican voters also favor the proposal by a narrow 51 to 42 percent majority. More specifically, Republican men narrowly oppose it by a 48 to 44 percent plurality, while Republican women solidly support it by a 59 to 35 percent majority, as illustrated in the table below:

- Educational
- Political
- Industrial
- Consumer
- Market
- Research
- Analysis

Partisan Breakdown	All				Dem		Ind		Gop	
	All	Dems	Ind	Gop	Men	Wom	Men	Wom	Men	Wom
Favor	68	86	67	51	82	88	66	68	44	59
Oppose	25	11	21	42	13	10	21	22	48	35
Unsure	7	3	12	7	5	3	13	10	8	6

Tea Party supporters favor the proposal by a 50 to 43 percent bare majority, while Tea Party opponents favor it by a 79 to 16 percent solidly majority, and voters who are undecided about the Tea Party favor the legislation by a 71 to 20 percent majority.

Conservatives favor the legislation by a narrow 47 to 43 percent plurality, with 76 percent of moderates and 89 percent of liberals favoring the proposal,

Clearly, legislators who oppose this legislation are acting against a very strong grain of public opinion that believes sexual orientation and gender identify should be included in the protections of the Elliot Larson Civil Rights Act.

Catholics are most supportive at 75 percent, followed by respondents with no religious preference at 73 percent, with Protestants and voters with other religious preferences expressing support by a 65 percent majority.

An 81 percent majority of voters age 18-34 favor the legislation, as do 68 percent of voters age 65 and over, 67 percent of voters age 35-49, and 63 percent of voters age 50-64.

A 70 percent majority of voters with school age children favor the proposal, as do 68 percent of respondents without children.

A 72 percent majority of union members favors the legislation, as do 76 percent of respondents who say someone else in the household is a union member, with 66 percent of households with no union members also expressing support.

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