

October 3, 2021

Michigan House of Representatives
State Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Representatives,

Today I am returning several election-related bills to you without approval.

Enrolled House Bills 4837, 4838, and 4492 attempt to suppress the vote or perpetuate the “Big Lie”: the calculated disinformation campaign to discredit the 2020 election. I will have no part in any effort that grants an ounce of credence to this deception, so injurious to our democracy.

The 2020 election was free, secure, and accurate. The results were certified and officially audited by trusted local election officials, as required by law. Judges appointed by both Republicans and Democrats rejected more than 60 lawsuits challenging the outcome.

HB 4837 implies that outside parties had access to the state’s qualified voter file. They did not. HB 4838 implies that electronic poll books were connected to the internet and vulnerable to tampering. They never were. And HB 4492 would make it more difficult for seniors and persons living in large apartment complexes to vote. While HB 4528 is worth further consideration, it must have the necessary funding to accomplish its purpose.

I am laser focused on kitchen-table issues that get things done for Michiganders, like fixing the roads, ensuring clean water, and providing good-paying jobs. We can and should work together on election policy, as well – but only in ways that strengthen our democracy. I am ready to join hands with anyone who shares these goals.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Whitmer
Governor