



IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 22, 2006

Contact: Jennifer Gratz
517-256-7737

Michigan Daily: 77% Support Ballot Language Banning Race, Gender Preferences

Student newspaper poll shows vast mainstream support

LANSING – More than three-quarters of the respondents to a poll sponsored by the Michigan Daily, student newspaper at the University of Michigan, say they support a proposed change to the state constitution prohibiting the use of race and gender special preferences in university admissions, government employment and state contracting.

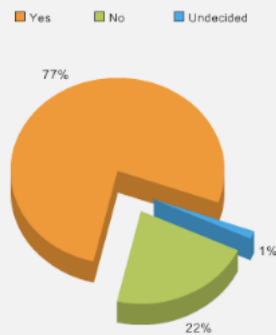
According to the online poll conducted by the Daily, 77 percent of respondents, as of 10:30 a.m., answered Yes to the question: “Under the final language, would you vote for MCRI, the ballot initiative that would end some affirmative action programs in Michigan – including the University’s race-based admissions policies?”

“When people read, in plain English, what the proposal will do they understand immediately it would end race and gender special preferences, and the overwhelming majority of Michigan voters support that,” said Jennifer Gratz, executive director of the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative. “MCRI believes civil rights belong to everyone regardless of race or gender and the vast mainstream majority in Michigan agrees.”

MICHIGAN DAILY POLL

Current Question

Under the final language, would you vote for MCRI, the ballot initiative that would end some affirmative action programs in Michigan -- including the University's race-based admissions policies?



This Michigan Daily poll is not scientific and reflects the opinions of only those Internet users who have chosen to participate. The results cannot be assumed to represent the opinions of Internet users in general, nor the public as a whole.

1 - 1 of 1

On Friday, the Michigan Board of State Canvassers approved ballot language that will allow voters in November to determine whether race and gender special preferences should be used in university admissions, government jobs and state contracts. This approval came a year after MCRI submitted more than 500,000 signatures – the most ever of any proposed constitutional amendment – and after the Michigan Court of Appeals ordered state canvassers to adopt the ballot language or face contempt of court charges for their refusal to comply with state law.

The Michigan Civil Rights Initiative Committee (MCRI), a Michigan-based Ballot Question Committee, is dedicated to giving the people of Michigan the opportunity to end preferential treatment based on race, gender, ethnicity, or national origin by State or local governments. MCRI will make Michigan a place of equal opportunity for all, not a State that uses discrimination as a tool to create "diversity." Achieving "diversity" should never be an excuse to discriminate.

- - ### - -

Paid for with regulated funds by the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative Committee
PO Box 1398, Southgate, MI 48195 734-730-4842 www.michigancivilrights.org