

The Republican-led Michigan Legislature is now completing the latest budget proposal for 2020. One of the line items is for the \$4.6 million needed for the Citizens Redistricting Committee mandated by the passing of Proposal 2 and the redrawing of our gerrymandered voting districts. The funding could come from the General Fund like lots of other programs but the Republican-led legislature has chosen to pull it from the Secretary of State(SOS) budget. The SOS offices in Michigan are already overburdened and crowded and slashing their budget could result in longer lines and waiting periods.

The SOS is also charged with implementing the eight voting policies mandated by Proposal 3; including [straight-ticket voting](#), [automatic voter registration](#), [same-day voter registration](#), and [no-excuse absentee voting](#). Under an already stressed system \$4.6 million removed from the SOS's budget is going to seriously impact the ability of the Secretary of State to implement these changes and continue to serve the public for their vehicle needs. A cut budget is a clear message the GOP-held legislature doesn't care that the people overwhelmingly voted for Proposal 2 and 3. They want to score political points by cutting the budget out from under Democrat Attorney General Dana Nessel.

Call the Republican leadership in Lansing and demand they find another way to finance the Proposal 2 Citizens Redistricting Commission and keep the Secretary of States budget intact.

Jim Stamas(R) Senate Appropriations Committee Chair - (517) 373-7946

Ruth Johnson(R) Election Committee Chair - (517) 373-1636

Mike Shirkey(R) - Senate Majority Leader - (517) - 373-5932

Lee Chatfield(R) - House Majority Leader (517) -373-2629

Shane Hernandez(R) - House Appropriations Committee Chair - (517)-373-0835

Script for Calling Republican Leadership in the Michigan Legislature:

Hi, I'm calling to urge Senator/Representative * _____ to keep the Secretary Of State 2020 budget intact and fund the Citizens Redistricting Commission from the General Fund or other source. The SOS's offices are already overburdened. I also have a concern that the Proposal 3 voting policies scheduled to be implemented by the SOS office, could be affected by a slashed budget. Find another source for the \$4.6 million. Thank you.

References

<https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2019/05/14/redistricting-money-would-transferr-ed-legislature-under-bill/3668687002/>

<https://www.bridgemi.com/public-sector/heres-how-michigans-redistricting-commission-would-w-ork>

<https://thinkprogress.org/republicans-are-undermining-michigans-redistricting-effort-secretary-of-state-says-944a99601ec2/>