

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*News from Progress Michigan*

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### **New Poll: Michiganders Concerned About Project 2025**

*Polling digs into public opinion about campaign finance, MI Supreme Court, and more*

MICHIGAN - On Tuesday, Progress Michigan released the latest edition of Lake Effect, a monthly poll that tracks public opinion about a variety of issues and political figures. This month's edition investigates how Michiganders feel about campaign finance laws, Project 2025, and universal background checks.

"Project 2025 is a dangerous, authoritarian playbook drawn up by a corporate-backed, right-wing think tank that threatens freedom and communities across the country—and it turns out the people of Michigan agree," **said Sam Ingot, executive director of Progress Michigan.** "Michiganders are also deeply concerned about the corrupting influence of corporate money in politics, and they want real action to address it. Meanwhile, people across the state are feeling good about the Biden administration's recent move to require background checks for all firearm purchases, because we know that evidence-based policies like this will make us all safer. And, while Michigan Supreme Court elections' place on the ballot can sometimes lead to voter roll off, Michiganders understand that the court is a big deal that affects all of our lives."

Additional results are available below. Some key takeaways include:

- 67% of respondents support banning political contributions from regulated monopolies and corporations with state contracts. When respondents were given more information about how utility companies in particular impact the political process, that number jumped to 76%.
- 90% of those polled believe that voting for the Michigan Supreme Court is important. Only 6% said they view these elections as unimportant.
- 69% of respondents support recent action taken by the Biden administration to require background checks for all firearm purchases, while only 26% oppose the policy.
- Initially, a staggering 65% of those polled said they were unsure whether they approved or disapproved of Project 2025. But when given basic information about MAGA Republicans' Project 2025 agenda, 59% of said they oppose the agenda, while just 28% support it and 13% are unsure.

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## Michigan Survey Results

**Q1** When thinking about the upcoming 2024 election in November, do you consider voting for the Michigan State Supreme Court very important, somewhat important, or not important at all?

*Very important*..... 75%  
*Somewhat important*..... 15%  
*Not important at all*..... 6%  
*Not sure* ..... 4%

**Q2** Some recent decisions made by the Michigan State Supreme Court include ruling that the 2022 reproductive freedom ballot initiative would go to voters after Republican attempts to block it and ruling the state's anti-discrimination laws also cover sexual orientation, which expanded legal protections for the LGBTQ community. This year they are also weighing in on the 2018 ballot initiative that would have raised the state's minimum wage to \$12 if not for Republican lawmakers stopping it from going to the ballot. Having heard this, let me ask you again: do you consider voting for the Michigan State Supreme Court in 2024 very important, somewhat important, or not important at all?

*Very important*..... 78%  
*Somewhat important*..... 13%  
*Not important at all*..... 4%  
*Not sure* ..... 5%

**Q3** Have you or anyone you know had their student loans forgiven under the Biden administration?

*Yes*..... 13%  
*No* ..... 76%  
*Not sure* ..... 10%

**Q4** Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the actions President Biden has taken to address climate change?

*Strongly support*..... 33%  
*Somewhat support*..... 14%  
*Somewhat oppose* ..... 10%  
*Strongly oppose*..... 34%  
*Not sure* ..... 9%

**Q5** The Biden administration has set a goal to cut U.S. carbon pollution in half by 2030, amended the Clean Air Act to empower strong protections against carbon pollution, passed the Inflation Reduction Act-the most consequential climate legislation in history, increased funding for the manufacturing transition to clean energy, and launched the American Climate Corps to train tens of thousands of young Americans in jobs that tackle pressing climate challenges. Having heard this, let me ask you again: do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the actions President Biden has taken to address climate change?

*Strongly support*..... 35%  
*Somewhat support*..... 15%  
*Somewhat oppose* ..... 8%  
*Strongly oppose*..... 38%  
*Not sure* ..... 5%





**Q6** President Biden recently signed new legislation into law that will require universal background checks for all gun sales. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this?

*Strongly support*..... 55%  
*Somewhat support*..... 14%  
*Somewhat oppose* ..... 7%  
*Strongly oppose* ..... 19%  
*Not sure* ..... 5%

**Q7** Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose Michigan lawmakers banning political contributions from regulated monopolies and corporations with state contracts?

*Strongly support*..... 56%  
*Somewhat support*..... 11%  
*Somewhat oppose* ..... 7%  
*Strongly oppose* ..... 10%  
*Not sure* ..... 16%

**Q8** Those who support Michigan lawmakers banning political contributions from regulated monopolies and corporations with state contracts say that regulated monopolies like DTE and Consumers Energy, or corporations that want big state contracts, directly profit from outsized influence over our lawmakers. They argue that the reason Michiganders pay the highest rates in the Midwest for the worst power outages is because power companies have used their big money to drown out the voice of the everyday Michigander. Those against the ban argue their political spending lets them advocate for their clients. Having heard this, let me ask you again: do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose Michigan lawmakers banning political contributions from regulated monopolies and corporations with state contracts?

*Strongly support*..... 65%  
*Somewhat support*..... 11%  
*Somewhat oppose* ..... 8%  
*Strongly oppose* ..... 8%  
*Not sure* ..... 9%

**Q9** If a candidate for elected office publicly committed to supporting a ban on political contributions from regulated monopolies and corporations with state contracts, would that make you more likely to vote for them, less likely to vote for them, or would it not make a difference?

*More likely*..... 54%  
*Less likely* ..... 8%  
*It wouldn't make a difference* ..... 24%  
*Not sure* ..... 14%





**Q10** When voting for Michigan Supreme Court Justice candidates, do you fill out the bubble for a straight party ticket on the ballot, research individual candidates and fill out the bubbles on the ballot for individual candidates, fill out the bubbles for individual candidates based on which political party recommended them, or do you not usually vote for Michigan Supreme Court Justice candidates?

<i>Fill out the bubble for a straight party ticket on the ballot</i> .....	22%
<i>Research individual candidates and fill out the bubbles on the ballot for individual candidates</i> .....	63%
<i>Fill out the bubbles for individual candidates based on which political party recommended them</i> .....	7%
<i>Don't usually vote for Michigan Supreme Court Justice candidates</i> .....	3%
<i>Not sure</i> .....	5%

**Q11** While many Michiganders believe that filling out the bubble for a straight party ticket on the ballot covers the Michigan Supreme Court Justice races, the state Supreme Court Justice candidates are actually on a nonpartisan section of the ballot and not included in a straight party ticket vote. If a voter fills out the bubble for straight party ticket on the ballot and does not fill out individual bubbles for state Supreme Court Justice, their vote is not counted for the state Supreme Court Justice races. After hearing this, how will you vote for the 2024 Michigan Supreme Court Justice candidates: by researching individual candidates and filling out the bubbles on the ballot for individual candidates, filling out the bubbles for individual candidates based on which political party recommended them, or will you probably not vote for Michigan state Supreme Court Justice candidates?

<i>Will research individual candidates and fill out the bubbles on the ballot for individual candidates</i> .....	69%
<i>Will fill out the bubbles for individual candidates based on which political party recommended them</i> .....	22%
<i>Will probably not vote for Michigan Supreme Court Justice candidates</i> .....	3%
<i>Not sure</i> .....	6%

**Q12** Do you believe the 2020 presidential election results were legitimate or illegitimate?

<i>Believe the 2020 presidential election results were legitimate</i> .....	53%
<i>Believe they were illegitimate</i> .....	26%
<i>Not sure</i> .....	21%

**Q13** Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the legislative agenda called Project 2025?

<i>Strongly support</i> .....	6%
<i>Somewhat support</i> .....	3%
<i>Somewhat oppose</i> .....	2%
<i>Strongly oppose</i> .....	24%
<i>Not sure</i> .....	65%





**Q14** Project 2025 is a MAGA Republican policy agenda that includes a national abortion ban, restricting access to and education on birth control, institutionalizing Christian nationalism at the federal level, giving the president personal control over the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, eliminating environmental protections, stopping all progress in fighting climate change, and eliminating all federal protections for the LGBTQ+ community. After hearing this, do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the legislative agenda called Project 2025?

<i>Strongly support</i> .....	16%
<i>Somewhat support</i> .....	12%
<i>Somewhat oppose</i> .....	8%
<i>Strongly oppose</i> .....	51%
<i>Not sure</i> .....	13%

**Q15** Do you think a hot dog is a sandwich?

<i>Yes</i> .....	11%
<i>No</i> .....	40%
<i>Don't care</i> .....	42%
<i>Not sure</i> .....	7%

**Q16** In the 2020 election for President, did you vote for Republican Donald Trump, Democrat Joe Biden, someone else, or did you not vote in the election?

<i>Donald Trump</i> .....	45%
<i>Joe Biden</i> .....	48%
<i>Someone else / Did not vote</i> .....	7%

**Q17** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2. If you are gender non-binary, press 3.

<i>Woman</i> .....	52%
<i>Man</i> .....	46%
<i>Gender non-binary</i> .....	2%

**Q18** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If an independent, press 3.

<i>Democrat</i> .....	32%
<i>Republican</i> .....	31%
<i>Independent</i> .....	36%

**Q19** If you are Hispanic or Latino, press 1. If Arab-American, press 2. If white, press 3. If African-American, press 4. If Asian-American or Pacific Islander, press 5. If other, press 6.

<i>Hispanic or Latino</i> .....	3%
<i>Arab-American</i> .....	2%
<i>White</i> .....	77%
<i>African-American</i> .....	13%
<i>Asian-American or Pacific Islander</i> .....	1%
<i>Other</i> .....	4%

**Q20** If you are 18-45 years old, press 1. If 46-65, press 2. If older than 65, press 3.

<i>18 to 45</i> .....	34%
<i>46 to 65</i> .....	39%
<i>Older than 65</i> .....	27%

**Q21** What is the highest level of education you have received: high school graduate or less, some college but did not finish, 2-year college degree, 4-year college degree, or post-graduate degree?

<i>High school graduate or less</i> .....	23%
<i>Some college but did not finish</i> .....	21%
<i>2-year college degree</i> .....	15%
<i>4-year college degree</i> .....	20%
<i>Post-graduate degree</i> .....	13%
<i>Don't care to say</i> .....	8%

**Q22** Are you or is anyone in your household a current or former member of a labor union?

<i>Yes</i> .....	37%
<i>No</i> .....	63%



**Q23 Mode**

*Landline* ..... 39%  
*Text* ..... 61%

**Q24 Media Market**

*Detroit* ..... 49%  
*Flint* ..... 11%  
*Grand Rapids* ..... 20%  
*Lansing* ..... 7%  
*Marquette* ..... 2%  
*Traverse City* ..... 7%  
*Other* ..... 4%