



March 11, 2015

**RE: Testimony of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network to the House Committee on Elections on House Bills 4270, 4271, 4272, 4273, 4274, 4275 and 4276**

Chairwoman Lyons and Members of the Committee:

I would like to make a minor suggestion for your consideration along with this package of bills. The suggestion is to restore uniformity to regular reporting by independent and political action committees (PACs), as prescribed in Section 33 (sub-sections 3 & 4) of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act.

Presently, the House and Senate caucus PACs file an annual report that closes books on December 31<sup>st</sup> each year, and is reported by January 31<sup>st</sup>, one month later. All other PACs file a February quarterly report that closes books on February 10<sup>th</sup> and is filed by February 15<sup>th</sup>.

It appears that the reporting schedules were separated so the February report would be timed as a pre-election report for February elections. That rationale will be eliminated if all February elections are eliminated. Synchronizing reporting by replacing February quarterly reports with annual reports for all PACs would make schedules uniform, as they had been prior to the implementation of quarterly reporting for PACs, and more timely for non-caucus PACs. This would make using campaign finance data simpler.

Thank you for your consideration.

Richard L Robinson

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard L. Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Executive Director

Michigan Campaign Finance Network