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## Press Release

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SAGINAW, Mich.- The Saginaw County Clerk's Office is seeking to increase voter education by sharing the following information regarding the upcoming February 27<sup>th</sup> Presidential Primary. The Presidential Primary is an election which takes place once every four years. While there is no political party registration requirement in Michigan Election Law, the February Presidential Primary Election does require voters to select the political party primary they wish to participate in before being issued a ballot. The ballot given to voters will only have candidates of the specific political party that corresponds to the voter's choice. Voters who do not wish to cast a vote in the Presidential Primary for either political party, but still want to vote in any local special elections, have the option of selecting a ballot containing only the local contests. It's important to note that in accordance with Michigan law, *who* you vote for will remain confidential, but the selection of either the democratic or republican ballot is public information.

We also want voters to know that this is the first election in which voters will have the opportunity to utilize their constitutional right to nine (9) days of early in-person voting. Early voting will take place at the Saginaw County Early Vote Center located at 618 Cass St. Saginaw, MI, 48602, adjacent to the courthouse. The Center will open Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> and be available through Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 5pm, and from 11am to 7pm on the Wednesday before the election. The Early Vote Center allows voters to insert their ballot into a tabulator prior to Election Day, however no results will be tabulated or released prior to 8pm on Election Day.

Finally, voters should know they can now bring their completed absentee ballot to their polling location or the Early Vote Center to be tabulated. The voter will need to check in at their polling place or the Early Vote Center and once verified, may approach the tabulator to insert their absentee ballot. This is a new law in Michigan which provides voters the chance to review their absentee ballot at their leisure at home, yet still have the opportunity to run their ballot through a tabulator.

More information on Saginaw County specific elections can be found at [www.SaginawCountyVotes.com](http://www.SaginawCountyVotes.com). All Michigan voters can also visit [www.Michigan.gov/vote](http://www.Michigan.gov/vote) to check their registration status, find their polling location, and preview or track your absentee ballot.