



STATE OF MICHIGAN
JOCELYN BENSON, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

January 17, 2024

Michigan Fair Elections
4891 Dexter Trail
Stockbridge, MI 49285

Jeffery Schaeper
2897 Santia Drive
Troy, MI 48085

Re: Statutory Notice of Violations of 52 USC 21083 in the State of Michigan

Dear Mr. Schaeper:

The Department of State (Department) received your complaint alleging that Grand Valley State University (GVSU) is in violation of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). This letter serves as the Department's response to your complaint.

Help America Vote Act

As a condition of receiving grant funding under HAVA, states are required to establish a state-based administrative complaint procedure to remedy alleged violations of HAVA. 52 USC 21112. The State of Michigan created an administrative complaint process, approved by the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), that allows individuals who believe that an "election authority" has or will violate HAVA to file a complaint with the Department.

Grand Valley State University

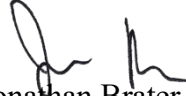
GVSU is an institution of higher education established in the Michigan Constitution and reaffirmed by the legislature. Const 1963, art 8, § 4, MCL 390.841. GVSU is not granted any "election authority" as it pertains to federal elections in the Michigan Constitution, by statute, or by administrative rule.

Conclusion

The Department, in coordination with the EAC, established complaint procedures for violations and potential violations of HAVA by election authorities in the State of Michigan. The Department has reviewed your complaint and determined that there is insufficient evidence to support a determination that GVSU is an "election authority" for purposes of HAVA. GVSU has

not been granted any specific “election authority” that would make it subject to the HAVA complaint process.¹ Therefore, the Department is dismissing your complaint without prejudice.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Brater, Director
Michigan Bureau of Elections

¹ Your complaint alleges that HAVA prohibits GVSU from engaging in voter registration drives or get out the vote activities. HAVA does not include any general prohibition on these activities. Rather, certain HAVA grant funds may not be used for these activities. You have not alleged that GVSU has used HAVA funds for these activities, nor is the Department aware of GVSU doing so. [HAVCP Q&A 12.15.23.pdf \(eac.gov\)](#).