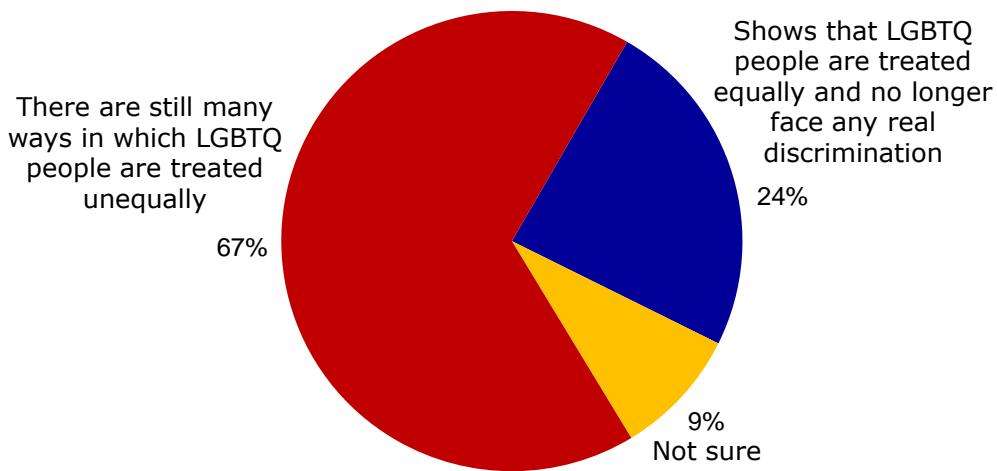


TO: All Interested Parties
FROM: Hart Research Associates
DATE: December 14, 2017
RE: Key Findings from Michigan Survey on LGBTQ Equality

From November 9 to 16, 2017, Hart Research conducted a statewide survey among voters in Michigan. A total of 400 voters were interviewed by telephone; the survey's margin of error is ± 5 percentage points for the full sample and is higher for subgroups of the sample. This memorandum highlights the key findings that emerge from this research.

- **Michigan voters know that marriage is not the final word on LGBTQ equality.** As outlined below, a substantial majority of Michigan voters support marriage equality for same-sex couples. But they also know that being able to marry does not preclude discrimination against LGBTQ people in other areas. Two in three (67%) voters say that there are still many ways in which LGBTQ people are treated unequally.

Two years ago the U.S. Supreme Court made it legal for same-sex couples to get married in all 50 states: Which statement about this comes closer to your point of view?



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■ **Support for pro-LGBTQ policy proposals is very high.** Large majorities of Michiganites support every pro-LGBTQ position we tested in the survey; granting family and medical leave to LGBTQ workers is especially popular at 73% support. Fewer than 30% of voters take an anti-LGBTQ position on any issue.

Favor/Oppose LGBTQ Policies		Favor %	Oppose %
Giving LGBTQ employees access to paid family and medical leave—for the birth or adoption of a child, or to care for a sick family member—without fear of losing a paycheck or their job		73	13
Making it against the law to discriminate against LGBTQ people in employment, including in hiring and firing decisions		63	22
Allowing LGBTQ people to legally adopt children		59	25
Making it against the law to discriminate against LGBTQ people in housing		59	27
Allowing same-sex couples to get legally married		57	27

■ **At the same time, majorities of Michigan voters oppose two major Trump administration anti-LGBTQ policies.** Voters oppose efforts to impinge upon LGBTQ equality as much as they favor proactive policies to protect it. Each of the major LGBTQ-related policies the Trump administration has proposed receives major pushback from Michigan's voters.

Favor/Oppose Trump Administration LGBTQ Policies		Favor %	Oppose %
Allowing business owners to deny services to LGBTQ people if they say doing so would violate their religious beliefs		28	52
Banning transgender people from serving in the U.S. armed forces		21	56

■ **A federal Equality Act and a group of state-specific protections receive similarly high levels of support.** Fifty-nine percent (59%) of Michigan voters support a federal Equality Act that would make it against the law to deny services to LGBTQ people and would ban discrimination against LGBTQ people in employment and housing, versus just 21% who oppose this.

At the same time, 57% also favor several state-specific protections for LGBTQ people in Michigan, including:

- ✓ Making it against the law to discriminated against LGBTQ people in private employment, housing, and places of public accommodation;
- ✓ Banning so-called conversion therapy; and
- ✓ Prohibiting discrimination against LGBTQ people prospective parents and kids in foster care and adoption.

Only 23% oppose these state protections. And, notably, *strong* supporters (41%) outnumber strong opponents (11%) by four to one.

- **Right-leaning voters endorse most of these pro-LGBTQ positions.** It is not solely liberals who take the side of LGBTQ equality on these issues. Republican voters are more likely to adopt a pro-LGBTQ position than an anti-LGBTQ position on each of these issues, except for marriage equality and public accommodations, for which they take the opposite view. In particular, majorities of Republicans favor family and medical leave protections (61%) and prohibiting discrimination in employment (54%).
- **Michigan voters take a very negative view of anti-LGBTQ elected officials.** Early in the survey, even before respondents have heard the types of LGBTQ protections in question, nearly half (47%) of voters say that if an elected official opposed LGBTQ equality it would make them feel less favorable toward that official; just 7% say they would feel more favorable toward the official, a margin of 40 percentage points on the negative side.