

Detroit Free Press

Michigan Press Association joins opposition to Proposal 2

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LANSING -- The Michigan Press Association joined the opposition to Proposal 2 Tuesday, citing the potential for the constitutional amendment for collective bargaining to override Michigan's Sunshine laws.

The MPA, in a joint statement with the free market think tank the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, said adoption of the amendment could allow school districts and other government agencies to withhold information from the public on grounds that the release would violate a collective bargaining agreement.

That information could include issues vital to the public interest, including possible criminal behavior by government employees, the statement said.

"Proposal 2 offers a change to the constitution that could have chilling effects on citizens' right to know," said Jim Young, MPA president and publisher of the Oceana's Herald-Journal.

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