

U.S. SENATE CANDIDATES MEET FOR SECOND DEBATE – *Abdul El-Sayed* and *Mike Rogers* met in Southfield for their second and final debate on Wednesday.

The bigger picture: The debate had the two going after each other throughout the hour debate, arguing each other's proposed policies will result in rising costs throughout the state. This debate did not feature the multitude of verbal attacks that filled the previous debate between the two. However, there were still intense exchanges and attacks on healthcare, border security, the economy, honesty, and about which candidate was "bought."

To read more, please click [here](#).

10% OF VOTERS ALREADY CAST BALLOTS – With under two weeks to go before the November 3 general election, nearly 780,000 Michigan voters have already returned their absentee ballots or voted at an early voting site.

The bigger picture: The active voter turnout rate has reached 10.7% two weeks ahead of Election Day, with over 2.1 million ballots requested. The 10.7% active voter turnout rate is a 17% increase from the 2022 midterms two weeks out. The Department of State recommends that voters who have not turned in their ballots hand-deliver their absentee ballots to their clerk's office to avoid any mail delays.

To read more, please click [here](#).

NEW MEMBER PROFILES – As introduced in a previous edition of *This Week in Lansing, MHSA* will be continuing to introduce new legislative members in *This Week in Lansing*.

This feature is intended to introduce those that are expected to come to Lansing in 2027 given the safe seats they are running for. This is highlighting only new members in the *House* and *Senate*, so no incumbents will be highlighted. For the final edition of new member profiles, we will be highlighting the *80th* and *84th House Districts*.

To read more, please click [here](#).

ODDS AND ENDS

- *David Votta* has been hired as the permanent state librarian after temporarily running the Library of Michigan. *Mr. Votta* will be starting the new role on October 25 and will be tasked with supporting libraries across the state, preserving access to Michigan's history, and assisting residents and officials to access information. *Mr. Votta* has held the interim position since January.