Voters urged to head to the polls this August

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LANSING (WKZO) -- A child advocacy group called the Michigan Sandbox Party is working to convince everyone to vote in this August's elections. Matt Gillard, President of the Sandbox Party, says that many people don't realize how important primary elections are, and that's why he's encouraging all eligible voters to do their part this August fifth and go to the polls. Due to gerrymandered districts that guarantee victories in certain districts to certain parties, he says that who wins the primary usually is who wins the final race.

"The way these districts have been drawn, particularly our state legislative districts, the decisions that are made in August are the ones which are relevant," Gillard told WKZO. "Almost 80 percent of our legislative districts will be decided in the August primary. We have such a low turnout, which I think leaves a lot of people out of the process."

The Sandbox Party advocates on behalf of programs that benefit children. The deadline to register to vote in the August fifth primary is Monday, seventh of July.

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