

Olds Plaza Building, 10th Floor Lansing, Michigan 48909 Phone: 517/373-6466

OPEN PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

House Bill 4329

Sponsor: Rep. Kirk Profit

Committee: Local Government

Complete to 4-21-95

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4329 AS INTRODUCED 2-7-95

Currently, under the Michigan Election Law, an elector must declare a party preference within 30 days of a presidential primary election to be eligible to vote in that election. An elector's party preference or non-party preference declaration is filed in the elector's precinct registration file, the master registration files, and the precinct registration list. House Bill 4329 would amend the election law to eliminate the party preference requirements (thus establishing an open presidential primary) and would delete references to party preferences of voters from various sections of the act. The bill would also require that, within 90 days after the effective date of the bill, electors' declarations for party preference be removed from the above files and from any precinct registration lists. Clerks would be required to send out corrected voter identification cards containing no reference to party preference.

(Section 620a of the election law says a political party must follow the state law regarding the selection of delegates to national conventions if it is required to do so by state or national political party rule. Otherwise, a requirement of the election law regarding delegate selection does not apply to a political party if it conflicts with a rule of the political party.)

MCL 168.495 et al.