HOUSE BILL No. 5650

(As amended March 7, 2006)

(As amended, March 23, 2006)

February 8, 2006, Introduced by Rep. Ward and referred to the Committee on House Oversight, Elections, and Ethics.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled

"Michigan election law,"

by amending section 477 (MCL 168.477), as amended by 1999 PA 219.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 477. (1) The board of state canvassers [<<STATE DIRECTOR
- 2 OF ELECTIONS >>] shall make an official declaration of the sufficiency
- 3 or insufficiency of a petition under this chapter at least 2 months
- 4 before the election at which the proposal is to be submitted. **THE**
- 5 [<<STATE DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS >>] SHALL DECLARE THE PETITION SUFFICIENT
- 6 UNLESS [<<HE OR SHE>>] DETERMINES THAT THE PETITION IS NOT IN PROPER FORM
- 7 OR THAT THE NUMBER OF VALID SIGNATURES IS LESS THAN THE MINIMUM
- 8 NUMBER REQUIRED. IN DETERMINING THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE FORM OF THE

House Bill No. 5650 as amended March 7, 2006 (1 of 2) as amended March 23, 2006 >>] SHALL NOT PETITION, THE [<<STATE DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS 1 CONSIDER THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL AFFIXED TO THE PETITION. If the board of 2 state canvassers [<<STATE DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS >>1 3 declares that the petition is sufficient, the secretary of state shall send copies of 4 the statement of purpose of the proposal -as approved by the board 5 of state canvassers under section 474 to the several daily and 6 7 weekly newspapers published in this state, with the request that the newspapers give as wide publicity as possible to the proposed 8 amendment or other question. Publication of any matter by any 9 10 newspaper under this section shall be without expense or cost to 11 the THIS state. - of Michigan. 12 (2) For the purposes of the second paragraph of section 9 of article II of the state constitution of 1963, a law that is the 13 subject of the referendum continues to be effective until the 14 referendum is properly invoked, which occurs when the board of 15 state canvassers [<<STATE DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS</pre> 16 >> makes <<its HIS OR HER>> 17] official declaration of the sufficiency of the referendum petition. The board of state canvassers [<<STATE DIRECTOR OF 18 19 ELECTIONS >>] shall complete the canvass of a referendum petition 20 within 60 days after the petition is filed with the secretary of 21 state, except that 1 15-day extension may be granted by the 22 secretary of state if necessary to complete the canvass. [<<Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take</pre> 23 effect unless all of the following bills of the 93rd Legislature 24 are enacted into law: (a) Senate Bill No. 973. 25

26 (b) Senate Bill No. 974.

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- (c) Senate Bill No. 975.
- (d) Senate Bill No. 976.
- (e) House Bill No. 5648.
- (f) House Bill No. 5649.

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