168.21 Secretary of state; chief election officer, powers and duties.
   Sec. 21. The secretary of state shall be the chief election officer of the state and shall have supervisory
   control over local election officials in the performance of their duties under the provisions of this act.
   
   Popular name: Election Code

168.22 Board of state canvassers; continuation as provided in former act; duties;
   membership.
   Sec. 22. (1) A board of state canvassers is continued as previously provided for in section 1 of former Act
   No. 239 of the Public Acts of 1955. This section and sections 22a to 22g are subject to section 7 of article II
   of the state constitution of 1963.
   (2) The board of state canvassers has the duties prescribed in section 841. The board of state canvassers
   shall perform other duties as prescribed in this act.
   (3) A member of the board of state canvassers on the effective date of this section continues to be a
   member of the board of state canvassers for the remainder of the term to which he or she was appointed.
   Subject to this subsection, the board of state canvassers consists of the 4 members appointed by the governor
   by and with the advice and consent of the senate. The board of state canvassers shall consist of 2 members
   from each major political party appointed in the manner provided in section 22a.
   
   Compiler's note: Former MCL 168.22, which provided for composition of board of state canvassers, was repealed by Act 37 of
   Popular name: Election Code

168.22a Board of state canvassers; submission of nominees to governor; appointment;
   vacancy; failure to submit nominees; appointee declining to serve.
   Sec. 22a. (1) On or before the tenth day of January in an odd numbered year, the state central committee of
   each major political party shall submit to the governor the names of 3 individuals as nominees for each
   position that is up for reappointment that the major political party is entitled to on the board of state
   canvassers. On or before the twentieth day of January in an odd numbered year, the governor shall appoint 1
   individual from the 3 individuals nominated to each position of the political party on the board of state
   canvassers.
   (2) If a vacancy in the office of a member of the board of state canvassers occurs other than the expiration
   of a term, the state central committee of the appropriate major political party shall submit to the governor the
   names of 3 individuals as nominees for the vacant position on or before the tenth day following the date of the
   vacancy. On or before the thirtieth day following the date of the vacancy, the governor shall appoint 1
   individual from the 3 individuals nominated to the vacant position. A member appointed to the board of state
   canvassers under this subsection shall serve for the remainder of the vacant term.
   (3) If the state central committee of a major political party fails to submit the names of nominees within the
   prescribed period of time in subsection (1) or (2), the governor shall appoint to the board of state canvassers
   an individual who was formerly elected as a state officer as a member of the appropriate major political party
   and who is currently affiliated with that political party. If a person appointed by the governor under
   subsection (1) or (2) declines to serve, the governor shall do 1 of the following:
   (a) Appoint another individual from the 3 individuals nominated by the major political party under
   subsection (1) or (2) to that position on the board of state canvassers.
   (b) Appoint an individual who was formerly elected as a state officer as a member of the appropriate major
   political party and who is currently affiliated with that political party to that position on the board of state
   canvassers.
   
   Popular name: Election Code

168.22b Board of state canvassers; term of office.
   Sec. 22b. The term of office of a member of the board of state canvassers appointed under section 22a(1) is
4 years, which term begins on the February 1 immediately following appointment. A member of the state board of canvassers shall hold office until his or her successor is appointed and qualified.


Popular name: Election Code

168.22c Board of state canvassers; qualifications; oath.

Sec. 22c. A member of the board of state canvassers shall be a qualified and registered elector of this state. Before taking office, a member of the board of state canvassers shall take and subscribe to the constitutional oath of office prescribed in section 1 of article XI of the state constitution of 1963.


Popular name: Election Code

168.22d Board of state canvassers; meetings; quorum; election of chairperson and vice-chairperson.

Sec. 22d. (1) The board of state canvassers shall meet as necessary to conduct the business of the board. The board of state canvassers shall conduct its meetings pursuant to this act and the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(2) Three members of the board of state canvassers constitute a quorum of the board. However, an action of the board of state canvassers shall only be effective upon concurrence of at least 1 member of each major political party appointed to the board.

(3) In February of each odd numbered year, the board of state canvassers shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from its members.


Popular name: Election Code

168.22e Board of state canvassers; approval of statement of purpose; notice of meeting; person to address meeting.

Sec. 22e. (1) The board of state canvassers shall meet to consider and approve a statement of the purpose of a proposed constitutional amendment or other ballot question prepared pursuant to section 32. The board of state canvassers shall give not less than 3 full business days’ notice to the public of a meeting held under this subsection. The board of state canvassers shall also give not less than 3 full business days’ notice to all of the following:

(a) The legally or generally recognized sponsor of the proposed constitutional amendment or other ballot question, if any.

(b) The legislative sponsor of the proposed constitutional amendment or ballot question, if any.

(c) The senate majority leader.

(d) The speaker of the house of representatives.

(e) The minority leaders of the senate and the house of representatives.

(f) A legislator who does not receive notice under subdivisions (c), (d), or (e).

(2) The board of state canvassers shall publicly request and allow a person described in subsection (1)(a) or (b), or a representative of that person, to address a meeting held under this section.


Popular name: Election Code

168.22f Board of state canvassers; expenses and compensation of members.

Sec. 22f. A member of the board of state canvassers is entitled to actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her official duties. A member of the board of state canvassers shall receive $75.00 for each day’s actual physical attendance at a meeting of the board of state canvassers. A member of the board of state canvassers shall not receive any other compensation for the performance of those duties.


Popular name: Election Code

168.22g Expenses for services performed by office of secretary of state.

Sec. 22g. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, if authorized jointly by the board of state canvassers and the secretary of state, all expenses incurred for services performed by the office of the secretary of state for the board of state canvassers shall be charged against funds appropriated to the board of state canvassers and credited to the secretary of state.

168.23 Board of county election commissioners; membership; quorum; officers; absence or disqualification of member; appointment of county officer; board member involved in recall of officer.

Sec. 23. (1) The chief or only judge of probate of the county or probate court district, the county clerk, and the county treasurer shall constitute a board of county election commissioners for each county. The chief or only judge of probate of the county or probate court district and the county clerk shall act respectively as chairperson and secretary of the board. In the absence or disqualification of the county clerk from any meeting of the board of county election commissioners, the board may select 1 of the county clerk's deputies to act in the county clerk's place. In the absence or disqualification of any member of the board of county election commissioners other than the county clerk, the members of the board who are present shall appoint the county prosecuting attorney, county sheriff, or register of deeds in the absent or disqualified member's place, and the appointed county officer, on being notified, shall attend without delay and act as a member of the board.

(2) If a member of the board is involved in the recall of an officer, either by assisting in the preparation of the petition for recall or by being an officer whose recall is sought, then the member of the board is disqualified with respect to any determination under section 952 and must be replaced as provided in this section.


Compiler's note: Enacting section 2 of Act 417 of 2012 provides:
"Enacting section 2. As provided in section 5 of 1846 RS 1, MCL 8.5, this act is severable."

Enacting section 3 of Act 417 of 2012 provides:
"Enacting section 3. The legislature recognizes the importance of the electoral process, and it is the intent of the legislature that this amendatory act uphold each of the following:
(a) Section 4 of article II of the state constitution of 1963.
(b) Section 8 of article II of the state constitution of 1963.
(c) Section 26 of article V of the state constitution of 1963."

Popular name: Election Code


Compiler's note: The repealed section provided for election of board of county canvassers, clerk, compensation, disqualification.

Popular name: Election Code

168.24a Board of county canvassers; establishment; powers and duties; conduct of recounts; school district election; costs; abolition of boards of canvassers; appointment and terms of members; applicability of section.

Sec. 24a. (1) A 4-member board of county canvassers is established in every county in this state. All of the powers granted to and duties required by law to be performed by all boards of canvassers established by law, other than the board of state canvassers, are granted to and required to be performed by the board of county canvassers.

(2) The board of county canvassers shall conduct all recounts of elections in cities, townships, villages, school districts, metropolitan districts, or any other districts and be vested with all of the powers and required to perform all the duties in connection with any recount.

(3) If a city, village, metropolitan district, or any other district, other than a school district, lies in more than 1 county, and a duty is to be performed by the board of county canvassers, the board of county canvassers in the county in which the greatest number of registered voters of the city, village, metropolitan district or other district resides at the close of registration for the election involved shall perform the duty.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a school district lies in more than 1 county, the board of county canvassers for each county in which a portion of the school district lies shall canvass that portion of a school district election that is held in that county. If a school district election precinct lies in more than 1 county, the board of county canvassers of the county in which the largest number of registered electors of that precinct reside shall canvass the results of that precinct. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding 2 sentences, unless the school district election is conducted on the same date as another election in the county, a board of county canvassers that is not responsible for certifying the results of the school district election is not required to meet to canvass the school district election and the board of county canvassers responsible for certifying the results of the school district election shall canvass that portion of the school district election held in that county. Upon completion of the canvass, the clerk of the board of county canvassers shall certifying the results of the school district election.
canvassers shall transmit the canvassed results to the county clerk of the county in which the largest number of registered electors of that school district reside. Upon receipt of the canvassed results, the county clerk of the county in which the largest number of registered electors of that school district reside shall make a statement of returns and certify the results of the school district election to the secretary of the school board. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions of this subsection, if a city or village that lies in more than 1 county conducts an election on the same date as a school district that lies within the city or village that is conducting an election, that portion of the school district election held within that city or village shall be canvassed by the canvassing board responsible for canvassing the city or village election.

(5) The cost of canvass of school, metropolitan district, city, township, and village elections shall be borne by the school district, metropolitan district, city, township, or village holding the election, and upon presentation of a bill for the costs incurred by the board of county canvassers, the school district, metropolitan district, city, township, or village shall reimburse the county treasurer.

(6) All boards of canvassers provided for in law including boards of school canvassers, the duties of which are by this act required to be performed by boards of county canvassers, are abolished.

(7) Members of the board of county canvassers shall be appointed for terms of 4 years beginning on November 1 following their appointment. Of the members first appointed, 1 member of each of the political parties represented on the board of county canvassers shall be appointed for a term of 4 years and 1 for a term of 2 years. The county clerk shall notify members of the board of county canvassers of their appointment within 5 days of being appointed.

This section applies to all elections, any charter provision to the contrary notwithstanding.


Compiler's note: Section 3 of Act 65 of 1968 provides:
“This act shall take effect on July 1, 1968, except in any county with a population of 400,000 or more it shall take effect on July 1, 1970.”

Popular name: Election Code

168.24b Board of county canvassers; members, eligibility, oath of office, holding other office prohibited.

Sec. 24b. Members of the board shall be qualified electors of the county and shall take and subscribe to the constitutional oath of office.

No person holding an elective public office shall be eligible for membership on the board of county canvassers. If any member of the board of county canvassers, during his term of office, becomes a candidate for any elective public office, his office shall be vacant.


Popular name: Election Code

168.24c Board of county canvassers; members; selection; procedure; vacancy.

Sec. 24c. (1) Selection of the members of the board of county canvassers shall be made from each of the 2 political parties casting the greatest number of votes for secretary of state at the preceding general November election in that county. A political party shall not be represented by more than 2 members on the board of county canvassers at any 1 time.

(2) The county committee of each political party, not later than September 1, 1963 and not later than September 1 of each odd numbered year thereafter, shall submit to the county clerk the names of 3 interested persons for each position to which the party is entitled. In a county having 2 or more congressional districts within its boundaries, the chairpersons of the congressional district committees shall act as the county committee for the purposes of this section and section 24d and shall select 1 of their number to act as chairperson for these purposes.

(3) The county board of commissioners, within 10 days after convening for their annual meeting, shall elect by ballot to each position 1 of the 3 nominees for the position, and the board shall appoint the person to the position. Before electing a nominee to the board of county canvassers under this subsection, the county board of commissioners may request that a nominee provide any of the following in order to determine whether the nominee is qualified for and interested in the position on the board of county canvassers:

(a) A letter signed by the nominee indicating an interest in serving on the board of county canvassers and indicating an intent to discharge the duties of the position on the board of county canvassers to the best of his or her ability.

(b) Prior election experience including canvassing elections.
(c) Information on whether the nominee has been convicted of a felony or election crime.

(4) Failure of the county board of commissioners to appoint 1 of the nominees for a position on the board of county canvassers within 10 days after convening for their annual meeting shall result in a vacancy existing in the position, which shall be filled as provided in section 24d for the filling of vacancies on the board of county canvassers.


**Popular name:** Election Code

### 168.24d Board of county canvassers; vacancy.

Sec. 24d. (1) If a vacancy occurs in the membership of the board of county canvassers, the county clerk shall immediately give notice of the vacancy to the chairperson of the county committee of the political party entitled to fill the vacancy.

(2) The county committee of the political party entitled to fill a vacancy on the board of county canvassers, within 10 days after receiving information concerning the vacancy, shall nominate 3 interested persons for the position and submit the list of nominees to the county clerk.

(3) The county clerk, within 10 days from receipt of the list of nominees, shall appoint 1 of the nominees to the board of county canvassers. Before appointing a nominee to the board of county canvassers under this subsection, the county clerk may request that a nominee provide any of the following in order to determine whether the nominee is qualified for and interested in the position on the board of county canvassers:

(a) A letter signed by the nominee indicating an interest in serving on the board of county canvassers and indicating an intent to discharge the duties of the position on the board of county canvassers to the best of his or her ability.

(b) Prior election experience including canvassing elections.

(c) Information on whether the nominee has been convicted of a felony or election crime.

(4) A person appointed to fill a vacancy on the board of county canvassers shall serve for the balance of the unexpired term.


**Popular name:** Election Code

### 168.24e Board of county canvassers; meetings; election of officers; quorum, action; clerk; assistants, compensation.

Sec. 24e. (1) The board shall meet as necessary to transact their business, and during the month of January in each even numbered year elect 1 of their members chairperson and 1 as vice-chairperson. Any 3 members constitute a quorum, but no action becomes effective unless 1 member from each political party represented concurs in the action.

(2) The county clerk is the clerk of the board of county canvassers. The county clerk may employ any assistants as are necessary to adequately perform the duties of the board. The payment for the assistants must be in amounts authorized by the county clerk and must be paid from an appropriation made for that purpose by the county board of commissioners before the canvass.


**Popular name:** Election Code


**Compiler's note:** The repealed section pertained to payments for meetings and reimbursement of expenses for members of the board of county canvassers in certain counties.

**Popular name:** Election Code


**Compiler's note:** The repealed section pertained to compensation and expenses of board of state canvassers.

**Popular name:** Election Code


**Compiler's note:** The repealed section pertained to payments for meetings, recounts, and reimbursement of expenses for members of the board of county canvassers in certain counties.

**Popular name:** Election Code

### 168.24j Ballot container; examination by board of county canvassers; approval; procurement; use of disapproved container.
Sec. 24j. (1) A ballot container includes a ballot box, transfer case, or other container used to secure ballots, including optical scan ballots and electronic voting systems and data.

(2) A manufacturer or distributor of ballot containers shall submit a nonmetal ballot container to the secretary of state for approval under the requirements of subsection (3) before the ballot container is sold to a county, city, township, village, or school district for use at an election.

(3) A ballot container shall not be approved unless it meets both of the following requirements:
   (a) It is made of metal, plastic, fiberglass, or other material, that provides resistance to tampering.
   (b) It is capable of being sealed with a metal seal.

(4) Before June 1 of 2002, and every fourth year after 2002, a county board of canvassers shall examine each ballot container to be used in any election conducted under this act. The board shall designate on the ballot container that the ballot container does or does not meet the requirements under subsection (3). A ballot container that has not been approved by the board shall not be used to store voted ballots.

(5) A city, village, or township clerk may procure ballot containers as provided in section 669 and as approved under this section.

(6) A clerk who uses or permits the use of a ballot container that has not been approved under this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.


Popular name: Election Code

168.25 Board of city election commissioners; membership, quorum, chairman; absences, appointment of acting member.

Sec. 25. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, unless otherwise provided by a charter adopted by a majority vote of the people voting on the adoption thereof, the city clerk, the city attorney and the city assessor shall constitute the board of city election commissioners for each city, 2 of whom shall be a quorum for the transaction of business. The city clerk shall act as chairman of the board. Should only 1 of said officers be in attendance on the day appointed for a meeting of the board, the officer in attendance shall appoint a qualified and registered elector of said city to act in the absentee's stead, during the period of nonattendance.


Popular name: Election Code

168.26 Board of township election commissioners; membership, quorum, chairman; absences, appointment of acting member.

Sec. 26. Unless otherwise provided by charter, the supervisor, clerk and township treasurer shall constitute the board of township election commissioners for each township, 2 of whom shall be a quorum for the transaction of business. The township clerk shall act as chairman of the board. Should only 1 of said officers be in attendance on the day appointed for a meeting of the board, the officer in attendance shall appoint a qualified and registered elector of the township to act in the absentee's stead during the period of nonattendance.


Popular name: Election Code

168.27 Board of village election commissioners; membership, quorum, chairman; absences, appointment of acting member.

Sec. 27. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, unless otherwise provided by a charter adopted by a majority vote of the people voting on the adoption thereof, the president, clerk and treasurer shall constitute the board of village election commissioners for each village, 2 of whom shall be a quorum for the transaction of business. The village clerk shall act as chairman of the board. Should only 1 of said officers be in attendance on the day appointed for a meeting of the board, the village assessor shall act in the absentee's stead during the period of nonattendance.


Popular name: Election Code

168.28 Boards of election commissioners and boards of canvassers; compensation.

Sec. 28. Members of the various boards of election commissioners and any other person charged with duties in connection with the conduct of primaries, elections, canvassing of returns, and recounts must receive
compensation as is determined by the legislative body of this state, the county, the city, the township, or the
village, as applicable. The county board of commissioners shall consult with the county clerk to determine the
compensation for the board of county canvassers and any assistants employed by the county board of
canvassers.


Popular name: Election Code

168.29 Appointment of assistants by clerk of county, township, city, or village;
discrimination prohibited; authority, duties, oath, and compensation of assistants;
instruction.

Sec. 29. (1) The clerk of each county, township, city, and village may appoint a number of assistants as
may be necessary to carry out the general provisions of the election law. The clerk of a county, township, city,
or village shall consider an application for the appointment of an assistant without regard to age,
socioeconomic status, sex, race, national origin, religion, political affiliation, or any disability the applicant
may have.

(2) Assistants appointed under this section shall possess only the authority conferred upon them by the
county, township, city, or village clerk appointing them, and shall perform only those duties that are assigned
to them by the clerk. Before an assistant enters upon the discharge of his or her duties, the assistant shall take
and subscribe to the oath of office as provided in section 1 of article XI of the state constitution of 1963,
which shall be filed in the office of the county, township, city, or village clerk who appointed the assistant and
shall be properly instructed by the county, township, city, or village clerk in the duties the assistant is assigned
to perform. An assistant may receive compensation as may be fixed by a township board or the legislative
body of a county, city, or village.


Popular name: Election Code

168.30 Providing clerk with permanent postal mailing address and electronic mailing
address.

Sec. 30. Not later than 30 days after the effective date of this section, each county, township, city, or
village shall provide its clerk with a permanent postal mailing address and each county shall provide its clerk
with an electronic mailing address. Each clerk shall notify the secretary of state in writing of any address
required to be provided under this section. Not later than 3 business days after a change in the postal mailing
address of the office of a county, township, city, or village clerk, or the electronic mailing address of a county
clerk, the clerk shall notify the secretary of state in writing of the new address.


Popular name: Election Code


Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to powers, duties of, and membership on, board of city or township canvassers.

Popular name: Election Code


Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to qualifications of, and appointment of members to, board of city or township
canvassers.

Popular name: Election Code


Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to selection of members for board of city or township canvassers.

Popular name: Election Code


Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to meetings of, and election of officers to, board of city or township canvassers.

Popular name: Election Code


Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to compensation and expenses of members of board of city or township canvassers.
Popular name: Election Code


Compiler's note: The repealed section pertained to combination of governmental units for board of canvassers, expenses, and withdrawal.

Popular name: Election Code

168.30g Board of county canvassers; absences, appointment of temporary members, qualifications, length of service.

Sec. 30g. If a board of county canvassers created under this act is required to perform its statutory duties and because of illness or absence of members of the board of county canvassers a quorum is not present, the clerk of the county may appoint a sufficient number of temporary members to constitute a quorum. The appointment shall be made by the county clerk from party recommendations on file, if available. The appointments shall be of the same political party as the ill or absent members of the board of county canvassers. A temporary appointee to the board of county canvassers must possess all of the qualifications required for regular membership on that board of county canvassers. Temporary appointees shall serve only until the business on hand has been transacted.


Compiler's note: Section 3 of Act 65 of 1968 provides: “This act shall take effect on July 1, 1968, except in any county with a population of 400,000 or more it shall take effect on July 1, 1970.”

Popular name: Election Code