

# Administrative Rule Analysis



## USE OF ELECTRONIC POLL BOOK

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**Rule Set No.: 2025-014 ST**  
**Submitted to JCAR on: 07/28/2025**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

**Department: Department of State**  
**Agency: Bureau of Elections**  
**Enabling Statute: Administrative Procedures Act, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 et seq.**

**Analysis Complete to: 09/10/2025**

## BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF PROPOSED RULES

Current law under MCL 168.668b of the Michigan Election Law provides guidance and restrictions on use of the electronic pollbook. The electronic pollbook (EPB) is used for processing voters, generating precinct reports, and recording voter history at in-person polling places. The contents of the EPB are unique to each precinct. The law requires voting jurisdictions to download the EPB the day before the election and neither provides for, nor prohibits, a live connection of the EPB to the internet.

2023 PA 81 amended Michigan Election Law to provide for early voting nine days before election day. The act established and provided guidelines for the new “early voting poll book”. The act permitted the secretary of state to “develop, acquire, or approve new technology for the early voting poll book to efficiently and securely implement, administer, and conduct early voting”. Since voters return absentee ballots by mail, register to vote, and also have the option of voting at different early voting sites, the early voting poll book was made as a web-based application with a secure live connection to the Qualified Voter File (QVF) to track voter records in real time and reduce or prevent confusion over voter records and voters casting more than one ballot.

The rule would clarify that jurisdictions would be permitted to access the EPB on election day via a live secure connection to the QVF like they can during the early voting period before election if the jurisdiction has “a secure live connection to the qualified voter file software”.

The rule also clarifies jurisdictions’ responsibilities regarding production of reports, uploading EPBs to the QVF, and data retention regarding use of a secure live connected EPB.

## FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED RULES

The rule would allow for more efficiencies for the state and local clerks by greatly reducing the need to verify the accuracy of voter records by enabling live cross checking of information. These efficiencies could lead to potential cost savings if the efficiencies result in any reduction in paid staff hours at either the state or local levels.

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