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OPEN PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

House Bill 4435

Sponsor: Rep. Ken Sikkema

Committee: Local Government

Complete to 4-21-95

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4435 AS INTRODUCED 2-16-95

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 and then can only vote for a candidate of that party. 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 4435 would amend the election law to eliminate the party preference requirements (thus establishing an open presidential primary) and would delete references to the party preferences of voters from various sections of the act, including such references on registration documents.

(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 would not apply to a political party if it conflicted with a rule of the political party.)

MCL 168.495 et al.

House Bills 4435 (4-21-95)