

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
96TH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012**

**Introduced by Senator Hansen**

# **ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 810**

AN ACT to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled “An act to reorganize, consolidate, and add to the election laws; to provide for election officials and prescribe their powers and duties; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state departments, state agencies, and state and local officials and employees; to provide for the nomination and election of candidates for public office; to provide for the resignation, removal, and recall of certain public officers; to provide for the filling of vacancies in public office; to provide for and regulate primaries and elections; to provide for the purity of elections; to guard against the abuse of the elective franchise; to define violations of this act; to provide appropriations; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to repeal certain acts and all other acts inconsistent with this act,” by amending sections 4, 381, 523, 642, 642a, 699, 759, 759a, 761, 813, and 829 (MCL 168.4, 168.381, 168.523, 168.642, 168.642a, 168.699, 168.759, 168.759a, 168.761, 168.813, and 168.829), section 4 as amended by 2010 PA 181, section 381 as amended by 2012 PA 276, sections 523, 699, and 761 as amended by 2005 PA 71, sections 642 and 642a as amended by 2011 PA 233, section 759 as amended by 1995 PA 261, section 759a as amended by 2012 PA 279, and sections 813 and 829 as added by 2004 PA 92, and by adding sections 38 and 497c; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

Sec. 4. As used in this act:

(a) “School board” means the governing body of a school district, including the board of trustees of a community college.

(b) “School board member” means an individual holding the office of school board member under the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1 to 380.1852, or the office of board of trustees member under the community college act of 1966, 1966 PA 331, MCL 389.1 to 389.195. School board member includes a school board member of an intermediate school district if that intermediate school district has adopted sections 615 to 617 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.615 to 380.617.

(c) “School district” means a school district, a local act school district, or an intermediate school district, as those terms are defined in the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1 to 380.1852, or a community college district under the community college act of 1966, 1966 PA 331, MCL 389.1 to 389.195.

(d) “School district election coordinating committee” means 1 of the following:

(i) For a school district whose entire territory lies within a single city or township, a committee composed of the secretary of the school board or his or her designee, the city or township election commission, and the school district election coordinator.

(ii) For a school district that has territory in more than 1 city or township, a committee composed of the secretary of the school board or his or her designee, the school district election coordinator, and the clerk of each city or township in which school district territory is located.

(e) "School district election coordinator" means 1 of the following:

(i) For a school district whose entire territory lies within a single city or township, the city or township clerk.

(ii) For a school district that has territory in more than 1 city or township, the county clerk of the county in which the largest number of registered school district electors reside.

(f) "Special election" means an election to elect an individual to, or nominate an individual for, a partial term in office or to submit a ballot question to the electors.

(g) "Special primary" means a primary called by competent authority for the nomination of candidates to be voted for at a special election.

(h) "Uniform voting system" means the voting system that is used at all elections in every election precinct throughout the state.

(i) "Village" is defined in section 9.

Sec. 38. (1) The secretary of state shall develop a poster that explains ballot coaching and that indicates that ballot coaching is prohibited.

(2) The secretary of state shall provide to each residential care facility in this state at least 1 poster as described in subsection (1).

(3) For the period beginning 45 days before each election and continuing through election day, the owner, operator, or facility director of a residential care facility shall display the poster provided by the secretary of state in a public area in the residential care facility.

(4) As used in this section:

(a) "Home for the aged" means that term as defined in section 20106 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.20106.

(b) "Nursing home" means that term as defined in section 20109 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.20109.

(c) "Residential care facility" means both of the following:

(i) Home for the aged.

(ii) Nursing home.

Sec. 381. (1) Except as provided in this section and sections 383, 641, 642, 642a, and 644g, the qualifications, nomination, election, appointment, term of office, and removal from office of a village officer shall be as determined by the charter provisions governing the village.

(2) If the membership of the village council of a village governed by the general law village act, 1895 PA 3, MCL 61.1 to 74.25, is reduced to less than a quorum of 4 and a special election for the purpose of filling all vacancies in the office of trustee is called under section 13 of chapter II of the general law village act, 1895 PA 3, MCL 62.13, temporary appointments of trustees shall be made as provided in this subsection. The board of county election commissioners of the county in which the largest portion of the population of the village is situated shall make temporary appointment of the number of trustees required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the village council. A trustee appointed under this subsection shall hold the office only until the trustee's successor is elected and qualified. A trustee who is temporarily appointed under this subsection shall not vote on the appointment of himself or herself to an elective or appointive village office.

(3) Notwithstanding another provision of law or charter to the contrary, an appointment to an elective or appointive village office made by a quorum constituted by temporary appointments under this subsection expires upon the election and qualification of trustees under the special election called to fill the vacancies in the office of trustee.

(4) Filing for a village office shall be with the township clerk if the township is conducting the election or if the village is located in more than 1 township with the township in which the largest number of the registered electors of the village reside. Until December 31, 2013, nominating petitions for village offices shall be filed with the appropriate township clerk by 4 p.m. on the twelfth Tuesday before the general November election. Beginning January 1, 2014, nominating petitions for village offices shall be filed with the appropriate township clerk by 4 p.m. on the fifteenth Tuesday before the general November election. After a nominating petition is filed for a candidate for a village office, the candidate is not permitted to withdraw unless a written withdrawal notice, signed by the candidate, is filed with the appropriate township clerk not later than 4 p.m. of the third day after the last day for filing the nominating petition.

Sec. 497c. (1) Beginning on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section, a person who applies in person to register to vote at a department of state office, a designated voter registration agency, the office of a county clerk, or the office of the clerk of the city or township in which the applicant resides shall identify himself or herself by presenting an official state identification card issued to that person under 1972 PA 222, MCL 28.291 to 28.300, an operator's or chauffeur's license issued to that person under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, or other generally recognized picture identification card.

(2) If a person who applies in person to register to vote as provided in subsection (1) does not have an official state identification card, an operator's or chauffeur's license, or other generally recognized picture identification card as required under subsection (1), the person may sign an affidavit to that effect and be allowed to register to vote.

Sec. 523. (1) At each election, before being given a ballot, each registered elector offering to vote shall identify himself or herself by presenting an official state identification card issued to that individual under 1972 PA 222, MCL 28.291 to 28.300, an operator's or chauffeur's license issued to that individual under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, or other generally recognized picture identification card and by executing an application, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, in the presence of an election official which includes all of the following:

(a) The name of the elector.

(b) The elector's address of residence.

(c) The elector's date of birth.

(d) An affirmative statement by the elector that is included in the signature statement indicating that he or she is a citizen of the United States.

(e) The elector's signature or mark.

(2) If an elector's signature contained in the qualified voter file is available in the polling place, the election official shall compare the signature upon the application with the digitized signature provided by the qualified voter file. If an elector's signature is not contained in the qualified voter file, the election official shall process the application in the same manner as applications are processed when a voter registration list is used in the polling place. If voter registration lists are used in the precinct, the election inspector shall determine if the name on the application to vote appears on the voter registration list. If the name appears on the voter registration list, the elector shall provide further identification or other information stated upon the voter registration list. If the signature or an item of information does not correspond, the vote of the person shall be challenged, and the same procedure shall be followed as provided in this act for the challenging of an elector. If the elector does not have an official state identification card, operator's or chauffeur's license, or other generally recognized picture identification card as required under this subsection, the individual shall sign an affidavit to that effect before an election inspector and be allowed to vote as otherwise provided in this act. However, an elector being allowed to vote without the identification required under this subsection is subject to challenge as provided in section 727.

(3) If, upon a comparison of the signature or other identification as required in this section, it is found that the applicant is entitled to vote, the election officer having charge of the registration list shall approve the application and write his or her initials on the application, after which the number on the ballot issued shall be noted on the application. The application shall serve as 1 of the 2 poll lists required to be kept as a record of a person who has voted. The application shall be filed with the township, city, or village clerk. If voter registration cards are used in the precinct, the date of the election shall be noted by 1 of the election officials upon the precinct registration card of each elector voting at an election. If voter registration lists are used in the precinct, the election official shall clearly indicate upon the list each elector voting at that election. The clerk of a city, village, or township shall maintain a record of voting participation for each registered elector.

Sec. 642. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section and section 642a, on the effective date of this act, a city shall hold its regular election or regular primary election as follows:

(a) A city shall hold its regular election for a city office at the odd year general election.

(b) A city shall hold its regular election primary at the odd year primary election.

(c) A city that holds its regular election for a city office annually or in the even year on the November regular election date shall continue holding elections on that schedule.

(d) A city that holds its regular election primary for a city office annually or in the even year on the August regular primary election date shall continue holding primary elections on that schedule.

(2) If, on September 1, 2004, a city holds its regular election at other than a regular November election date, the city council may choose to hold the regular election on the May regular election date by adopting a resolution in compliance with this section. Except as provided in section 642a, if a city council adopts the resolution in compliance with this section to hold its regular election on the May regular election date, after December 31, 2004, the city's regular election is on the May regular election date. If a city's regular election is held on the May regular election date, the city's regular election primary shall be held on the February regular election date immediately before its regular election.

(3) If, on September 1, 2004, a city holds its regular election annually or in the even year on the November regular election date, the city council may choose to hold the regular election at the odd year general election by adopting a resolution in compliance with this section. Except as provided in section 642a, if a city council adopts the resolution in compliance with this section to hold its regular election at the odd year general election, after December 31, 2004, the city's regular election is at the odd year election. If a city's regular election is held at the odd year general election, the city's regular election primary shall be held at the odd year primary election.

(4) If, on September 1, 2004, a city holds its regular election annually on the November regular election date, the city council may choose to hold the regular election at the even year general election by adopting a resolution in compliance with this section. Except as provided in section 642a, if a city council adopts the resolution in compliance with this section to hold its regular election at the even year general election, after December 31, 2004, the city's regular election is at the even year election. If a city's regular election is held at the even year general election, the city's regular election primary shall be held at the even year primary election.

(5) Except as otherwise provided in section 642a, on September 1, 2004, a village shall hold its regular election as follows:

(a) A village shall hold its regular election for a village office at the general election and the appropriate township clerk shall conduct the election.

(b) A village shall not hold a regular primary election.

(6) A resolution permitted under this section or section 642a is valid only if a city council adopts the resolution in compliance with all of the following:

(a) The resolution is adopted before 1 of the following:

(i) If the resolution is permitted under subsection (2), (3), or (4), January 1, 2005.

(ii) If the resolution is permitted under section 642a(1), (2), or (4), January 1 of the year in which the change in the date of the election takes effect.

(b) Before adopting the resolution, the council holds at least 1 public hearing on the resolution. The public hearing may be held on the same day and immediately before considering the adoption of the resolution.

(c) The council gives notice of each public hearing on the resolution in a manner designed to reach the largest number of the jurisdiction's qualified electors in a timely fashion.

(d) The council votes on the resolution and, on a record roll call vote, a majority of the council's board members, elected or appointed, and serving, adopt the resolution.

(e) The council files the resolution with the secretary of state.

Sec. 642a. (1) After December 31, 2004, a city council that adopted a resolution so that its regular election is held on the May regular election date may change its regular election to the odd year general election by adopting a resolution in compliance with section 642. If a city council adopts the resolution in compliance with section 642 to hold its regular election at the odd year general election, after December 31 of the year in which the resolution is adopted, the city's regular election is at the odd year general election.

(2) After December 31, 2004, a city council that holds its regular election for city offices annually or in the even year on the November regular election date may change its regular election schedule to the odd year general election and the odd year primary election by adopting a resolution in compliance with section 642. If a city council adopts the resolution in compliance with section 642, the city's regular election is at the odd year general election and its primary is at the odd year primary election.

(3) After December 31, 2010, a city that adopted a resolution so that its regular election primary is held at the September election shall hold its regular election primary at the odd year primary election.

(4) After December 31, 2011, a city that holds its regular election for city offices annually or in the odd year on the November regular election date may change its regular election schedule to the even year general election and the even year primary election by adopting a resolution in compliance with section 642. If a city council adopts the resolution in compliance with section 642, after December 31 of the year in which the resolution is adopted, the city's regular election is at the even year general election and its primary is at the even year primary election.

(5) After December 31, 2012, a village that adopted a resolution so that its regular election is held at the September election shall hold its regular election at the general November election.

Sec. 699. At any regular election, the names of the several nonpartisan offices to be voted for shall be placed on a separate portion of the ballot containing no party designation in the following order: justices of the supreme court, judges of the court of appeals, judges of the circuit court, judges of the probate court, judges of the district court, community college board of trustees member, intermediate school district board member, city officers, the following village officers in substantially the following order in the year in which elections for the offices are held: president, clerk, treasurer, and trustees, and in a year in which an election for the office is held, local school district board member, metropolitan district officer, and district library board member.

Sec. 759. (1) At any time during the 75 days before a primary or special primary, but not later than 2 p.m. of the Saturday immediately before the primary or special primary, an elector who qualifies to vote as an absent voter, as defined in section 758, may apply for an absent voter ballot. The elector shall apply in person or by mail with the clerk

of the township, city, or village in which the elector is registered. An application received before a primary or special primary may be for either that primary only, or for that primary and the election that follows.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (1), at anytime during the 75 days before an election, but not later than 2 p.m. of the Saturday before the election, an elector who qualifies to vote as an absent voter, as defined in section 758, may apply for an absent voter ballot. The elector shall apply in person or by mail with the clerk of the township, city, or village in which the voter is registered.

(3) An application for an absent voter ballot under this section may be made in any of the following ways:

- (a) By a written request signed by the voter stating the statutory grounds for making the application.
- (b) On an absent voter ballot application form provided for that purpose by the clerk of the city, township, or village.
- (c) On a federal postcard application.

(4) An applicant for an absent voter ballot shall sign the application. A clerk or assistant clerk shall not deliver an absent voter ballot to an applicant who does not sign the application. A person shall not be in possession of a signed absent voter ballot application except for the applicant; a member of the applicant's immediate family; a person residing in the applicant's household; a person whose job normally includes the handling of mail, but only during the course of his or her employment; a registered elector requested by the applicant to return the application; or a clerk, assistant of the clerk, or other authorized election official. A registered elector who is requested by the applicant to return his or her absent voter ballot application shall sign the certificate on the absent voter ballot application.

(5) The clerk of a city, township, or village shall have absent voter ballot application forms available in the clerk's office at all times and shall furnish an absent voter ballot application form to anyone upon a verbal or written request. The absent voter ballot application shall be in substantially the following form:

"Application for absent voter ballot for:

[ ] The primary or special primary election to be held on \_\_\_\_\_ (Date).

[ ] The election to be held on \_\_\_\_\_ (Date).

(Check applicable election or elections)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a United States citizen and a qualified and registered elector of the \_\_\_\_\_ precinct of the township of \_\_\_\_\_ or village of \_\_\_\_\_ or of the \_\_\_\_\_ ward of the city of \_\_\_\_\_, in the county of \_\_\_\_\_ and state of Michigan, apply for an official ballot, or ballots, to be voted by me at the election or elections as requested in this application.

The statutory grounds on which I base my request are:

[ ] I expect to be absent from the community in which I am registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day.

[ ] I am physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another.

[ ] I cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of my religion.

[ ] I have been appointed an election precinct inspector in a precinct other than the precinct where I reside.

[ ] I am 60 years of age or older.

[ ] I cannot attend the polls because I am confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

(Check applicable reason)

Send absent voter ballot to me at:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street No. or R.R.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Post Office) (State) (Zip Code)

My registered address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street No. or R.R.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Post Office) (State) (Zip Code)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I am a United States citizen and that the statements in this absent voter ballot application are true.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

WARNING

You must be a United States citizen to vote. If you are not a United States citizen, you will not be issued an absent voter ballot.

A person making a false statement in this absent voter ballot application is guilty of a misdemeanor. It is a violation of Michigan election law for a person other than those listed in the instructions to return, offer to return, agree to return, or solicit to return your absent voter ballot application to the clerk. An assistant authorized by the clerk who receives absent voter ballot applications at a location other than the clerk's office must have credentials signed by the clerk. Ask to see his or her credentials before entrusting your application with a person claiming to have the clerk's authorization to return your application.

Certificate of Authorized Registered  
Elector Returning Absent Voter  
Ballot Application

I certify that my name is ..... , my address is ..... , and my date of birth is ..... ; that I am delivering the absent voter ballot application of ..... at his or her request; that I did not solicit or request to return the application; that I have not made any markings on the application; that I have not altered the application in any way; that I have not influenced the applicant; and that I am aware that a false statement in this certificate is a violation of Michigan election law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)"

(6) The following instructions for an applicant for an absent voter ballot shall be included with each application furnished an applicant:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS FOR ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Step 1. After completely filling out the application, sign and date the application in the place designated. Your signature must appear on the application or you will not receive an absent voter ballot.

Step 2. Deliver the application by 1 of the following methods:

(a) Place the application in an envelope addressed to the appropriate clerk and place the necessary postage upon the return envelope and deposit it in the United States mail or with another public postal service, express mail service, parcel post service, or common carrier.

(b) Deliver the application personally to the clerk's office, to the clerk, or to an authorized assistant of the clerk.

(c) In either (a) or (b), a member of the immediate family of the voter including a father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, or grandchild or a person residing in the voter's household may mail or deliver the application to the clerk for the applicant.

(d) If an applicant cannot return the application in any of the above methods, the applicant may select any registered elector to return the application. The person returning the application must sign and return the certificate at the bottom of the application.

(7) A person who prints and distributes absent voter ballot applications shall print on the application the warning, certificate of authorized registered elector returning absent voter ballot application, and instructions required by this section.

(8) A person who makes a false statement in an absent voter ballot application is guilty of a misdemeanor. A person who forges a signature on an absent voter ballot application is guilty of a felony. A person who is not authorized in this act and who both distributes absent voter ballot applications to absent voters and returns those absent voter ballot applications to a clerk or assistant of the clerk is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 759a. (1) An absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter who is not registered, but possessed the qualifications of an elector under section 492, may apply for registration by using the federal postcard application. The department of state, bureau of elections, is responsible for disseminating information on the procedures for registering and voting to an absent uniformed services voter and an overseas voter.

(2) Upon the request of an absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter, the clerk of a county, city, township, or village shall electronically transmit a blank voter registration application or blank absent voter ballot application to the voter. The clerk of a county, city, township, or village shall accept a completed voter registration application or completed absent voter ballot application electronically transmitted by an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter. A voter registration application or absent voter ballot application submitted by an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter shall contain the signature of the voter.

(3) A spouse or dependent of an overseas voter who is a citizen of the United States, is accompanying that overseas voter, and is not a qualified and registered elector anywhere else in the United States, may apply for an absent voter ballot even though the spouse or dependent is not a qualified elector of a city or township of this state.

(4) An absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter, whether or not registered to vote, may apply for an absent voter ballot. Upon receipt of an application for an absent voter ballot under this section that complies with this act, a county, city, village, or township clerk shall forward to the applicant the absent voter ballots requested, the forms necessary for registration, and instructions for completing the forms. If the ballots are not yet available at the time of

receipt of the application, the clerk shall immediately forward to the applicant the registration forms and instructions, and forward the ballots as soon as they are available. If a federal postcard application or an application from the official United States department of defense website is filed, the clerk shall accept the federal postcard application or the application from the official United States department of defense website as the registration application and shall not send any additional registration forms to the applicant. If the ballots and registration forms are received before the close of the polls on election day and if the registration complies with the requirements of this act, the absent voter ballots shall be delivered to the proper election board to be tabulated. If the registration does not comply with the requirements of this act, the clerk shall retain the absent voter ballots until the expiration of the time that the voted ballots must be kept and shall then destroy the ballots without opening the envelope. The clerk may retain registration forms completed under this section in a separate file. The address in this state shown on a registration form is the residence of the registrant.

(5) Not later than 45 days before an election, a county, city, township, or village clerk shall electronically transmit or mail as appropriate an absent voter ballot to each absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter who applied for an absent voter ballot 45 days or more before the election.

(6) Upon the request of an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter, the clerk of a county, city, township, or village shall electronically transmit an absent voter ballot to the voter. The voter shall print the absent voter ballot and return the voted ballot by mail to the appropriate clerk.

(7) The secretary of state shall prescribe electronic absent voter ballot formats and electronic absent voter ballot transmission methods. Each county, city, township, or village clerk shall employ the prescribed electronic ballot formats to fulfill an absent voter ballot request received from an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter who wishes to receive his or her absent voter ballot through an electronic transmission. The secretary of state shall establish procedures to implement the requirements in this section and for the processing of a marked absent voter ballot returned by an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter who obtained his or her absent voter ballot through an electronic transmission.

(8) The secretary of state shall modify the printed statement provided under section 761(4) and the absent voter ballot instructions provided under section 764a as appropriate to accommodate the procedures developed for electronically transmitting an absent voter ballot to an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter. A statement shall be included in the certificate signed by the absent voter who obtained his or her absent voter ballot through an electronic transmission that the secrecy of the absent voter ballot may be compromised during the duplication process. The absent voter ballot instructions provided to an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter shall include the proper procedures for returning the absent voter ballot to the appropriate clerk.

(9) The size of a precinct shall not be determined by registration forms completed under this section.

(10) An absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter who submits an absent voter ballot application is eligible to vote as an absent voter in any local, state, or federal election occurring in the calendar year in which the election is held for that ballot requested if the absent voter ballot application is received by the county, city, village, or township clerk not later than 2 p.m. of the Saturday before the election. A county, city, or township clerk receiving an absent voter ballot application from an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter shall transmit to a village clerk and the school district election coordinators, where applicable, the necessary information to enable the village clerk and school district election coordinators to forward an absent voter ballot for each applicable election in that calendar year to the absent voter. A village clerk receiving an absent voter ballot application from an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter shall transmit to the township clerk and the school district election coordinators, where applicable, the necessary information to enable the city or township clerk and school district election coordinators to forward an absent voter ballot for each applicable election in that calendar year to the absent voter. If the local elections official rejects a voter registration application or absent voter ballot application submitted by an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter, the election official shall notify the voter of the rejection.

(11) An electronic mail address provided by an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter for the purposes of this section is confidential and exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(12) Under the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act, the state director of elections shall approve a ballot form and registration procedures for absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters.

(13) An absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter may use the federal write-in absentee ballot, in accordance with the provisions of the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act, at a regular election or special election to vote for a local, state, or federal office or on a ballot question. An absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter who uses the federal write-in absentee ballot shall return his or her voted federal write-in absentee ballot by mail to the appropriate clerk. The state bureau of elections shall do both of the following:

(a) Make the ballot format for each election available to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters by electronic mail or on an internet website maintained by the department of state.

(b) Make the ballot information, including the offices, names of candidates, and ballot proposals, for each election available to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters on an internet website maintained by the department of state.

(14) The clerk of a city, village, or township shall submit to the county clerk of the county in which that city, village, or township is located a written statement no later than 45 days before each election indicating whether absent voter ballots were issued to absent uniformed services voters or overseas voters in compliance with this section and the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act. The city, village, or township clerk shall provide to the county clerk a written explanation describing remedial actions taken by the city, village, or township clerk if the city, village, or township clerk fails to comply with this section and the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act. Not later than 42 days before each election, each county clerk shall submit to the state bureau of elections a written report compiled from the written statements submitted by the city, village, and township clerks. The written report shall identify the cities, villages, and townships that complied with the 45-day deadline under this subsection, the cities, villages, and townships that did not comply with the 45-day deadline under this subsection, but provided a written explanation, and those cities, villages, and townships that did not comply with the 45-day deadline under this subsection and that did not provide a written explanation. The state bureau of elections may require the clerk of a city, village, or township that did not comply with the 45-day deadline under this subsection, but provided a written explanation, to provide additional information. The state bureau of elections shall require the clerk of a city, village, or township that did not comply with the 45-day deadline and that did not provide a written explanation to file a written explanation, describing the remedial actions taken by the city, village, or township clerk, within 1 business day after the state bureau of elections notifies the clerk of that city, village, or township.

(15) For a presidential primary election, the secretary of state shall prescribe procedures for contacting an elector who is an absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter, as described in this section, and who is eligible to receive an absent voter ballot or who applies for an absent voter ballot for the presidential primary election, offering the elector the opportunity to select a political party ballot for the presidential primary election.

(16) The secretary of state shall order a city, village, or township clerk to extend the ballot receipt deadline for any absentee voter ballots under this section that were not transmitted to an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter in compliance with subsection (5). The extension shall equal the total number of days beyond the deadline as provided in subsection (5) that the city, village, or township clerk transmitted the requested absentee voter ballots. These absentee voter ballots received during the extension time shall be counted and tabulated for the final results of the election provided that the absentee voter ballots are executed and sent by the close of the polls on election day. The election may be formally certified before the end of the extension time if the number of outstanding absentee voter ballots under this subsection will not alter the outcome of the election.

(17) As used in this section:

(a) “Absent uniformed services voter” means any of the following:

(i) A member of a uniformed service on active duty who, by reason of being on active duty, is absent from the place of residence where the member is otherwise qualified to vote.

(ii) A member of the merchant marine who, by reason of service in the merchant marine, is absent from the place of residence where the member is otherwise qualified to vote.

(iii) A spouse or dependent of a member referred to in subparagraph (i) or (ii) who, by reason of the active duty or service of the member, is absent from the place of residence where the spouse or dependent is otherwise qualified to vote.

(b) “Member of the merchant marine” means an individual, other than a member of a uniformed service or an individual employed, enrolled, or maintained on the Great Lakes or the inland waterways, who is either of the following:

(i) Employed as an officer or crew member of a vessel documented under the laws of the United States, a vessel owned by the United States, or a vessel of foreign-flag registry under charter to or control of the United States.

(ii) Enrolled with the United States for employment or training for employment, or maintained by the United States for emergency relief service, as an officer or crew member of a vessel documented under the laws of the United States, a vessel owned by the United States, or a vessel of foreign-flag registry under charter to or control of the United States.

(c) “Overseas voter” means any of the following:

(i) An absent uniformed services voter who, by reason of active duty or service, is absent from the United States on the date of an election.

(ii) A person who resides outside of the United States and is qualified to vote in the last place in which the person was domiciled before leaving the United States.

(iii) A person who resides outside of the United States and who, but for such residence outside of the United States, would be qualified to vote in the last place in which he or she was domiciled before leaving the United States.

(d) “Uniformed services” means the army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, the commissioned corps of the public health service, the commissioned corps of the national oceanic and atmospheric administration, a reserve

component of a uniformed service, or the Michigan national guard as defined in section 105 of the Michigan military act, 1967 PA 150, MCL 32.505.

Sec. 761. (1) If the clerk of a city, township, or village receives an application for an absent voter ballot from a person registered to vote in that city, township, or village and if the signature on the application agrees with the signature for the person contained in the qualified voter file or on the registration card as required in subsection (2), the clerk immediately upon receipt of the application or, if the application is received before the printing of the absent voter ballots, as soon as the ballots are received by the clerk, shall forward by mail, postage prepaid, or shall deliver personally 1 of the ballots or set of ballots if there is more than 1 kind of ballot to be voted to the applicant. Subject to the identification requirement in subsection (6), absent voter ballots may be delivered to an applicant in person at the office of the clerk.

(2) The qualified voter file shall be used to determine the genuineness of a signature on an application for an absent voter ballot. Signature comparisons shall be made with the digitized signature in the qualified voter file. If the qualified voter file does not contain a digitized signature of an elector, or is not accessible to the clerk, the city or township clerk shall compare the signature appearing on the application for an absent voter ballot to the signature contained on the master card.

(3) Notwithstanding section 759, providing that no absent voter applications shall be received by the clerk after 2 p.m. on the Saturday before the election, and subject to the identification requirement in subsection (6), a person qualified to vote as an absent voter may apply in person at the clerk's office before 4 p.m. on a day before the election except Sunday or a legal holiday to vote as an absent voter. The applicant shall receive his or her absent voter ballot and vote the ballot in the clerk's office. All other absent voter ballots, except ballots delivered pursuant to an emergency absent voter ballot application under section 759b, shall be mailed or delivered to the registration address of the applicant unless the application requests delivery to an address outside the city, village, or township or to a hospital or similar institution, in which case the absent voter ballots shall be mailed or delivered to the address given in the application. However, a clerk may mail or deliver an absent voter ballot, upon request of the absent voter, to a post office box if the post office box is where the absent voter normally receives personal mail and the absent voter does not receive mail at his or her registration address.

(4) Absent voter ballots shall be issued in the same order in which applications are received by the clerk of a city, township, or village, as nearly as may be, and each ballot issued shall bear the lowest number of each kind available for this purpose. However, this provision does not prohibit a clerk from immediately issuing an absent voter ballot to an absent voter who applies in person in the clerk's office for absent voter ballots. The clerk shall enclose with the ballot or ballots a return envelope properly addressed to the clerk and bearing upon the back of the envelope a printed statement in substantially the following form:

TO BE COMPLETED  
BY THE CLERK

Name of Voter	Street Address or R.R.	
City, Township or Village	County	
Ward	Precinct	Date of Election

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE ABSENT VOTER

I assert that I am a United States citizen and a qualified and registered elector of the city, township, or village named above. I am voting as an absent voter in conformity with state election law. Unless otherwise indicated below, I personally marked the ballot enclosed in this envelope without exhibiting it to any other person.

I further assert that this absent voter ballot is being returned to the clerk or an assistant of the clerk by me personally; by public postal service, express mail service, parcel post service, or other common carrier; by a member of my immediate family; or by a person residing in my household.

DATE:SIGN HERE: X

Signature of Absent Voter

The above form must be signed or your vote will not be counted.

AN ABSENT VOTER WHO KNOWINGLY MAKES A FALSE STATEMENT IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR.

TO BE COMPLETED ONLY IF VOTER IS ASSISTED IN VOTING  
BY ANOTHER PERSON

I assisted the above named absent voter who is disabled or otherwise unable to mark the ballot in marking his or her absent voter ballot pursuant to his or her directions. The absent voter ballot was inserted in the return envelope without being exhibited to any other person.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person  
Assisting Voter

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address  
or R.R.

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, Twp., or  
Village

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Person Assisting Voter

A PERSON WHO ASSISTS AN ABSENT VOTER AND WHO KNOWINGLY MAKES A FALSE STATEMENT IS GUILTY OF A FELONY.

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WARNING

PERSONS WHO CAN LEGALLY BE IN POSSESSION OF AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT ISSUED TO AN ABSENT VOTER ARE LIMITED TO THE ABSENT VOTER; A PERSON WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE ABSENT VOTER'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY OR RESIDES IN THE ABSENT VOTER'S HOUSEHOLD AND WHO HAS BEEN ASKED BY THE ABSENT VOTER TO RETURN THE BALLOT; A PERSON WHOSE JOB IT IS TO HANDLE MAIL BEFORE, DURING, OR AFTER BEING TRANSPORTED BY A PUBLIC POSTAL SERVICE, EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE, PARCEL POST SERVICE, OR COMMON CARRIER, BUT ONLY DURING THE NORMAL COURSE OF HIS OR HER EMPLOYMENT; AND THE CLERK, ASSISTANTS OF THE CLERK, AND OTHER AUTHORIZED ELECTION OFFICIALS OF THE CITY, TOWNSHIP, VILLAGE, OR SCHOOL DISTRICT. ANY OTHER PERSON IN POSSESSION OF AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT IS GUILTY OF A FELONY.

(5) An absent voter who knowingly makes a false statement on the absent voter ballot return envelope is guilty of a misdemeanor. A person who assists an absent voter and who knowingly makes a false statement on the absent voter ballot return envelope is guilty of a felony.

(6) If an elector obtains his or her absent voter ballot in person from the clerk of the city, township, or village in which he or she is registered, the clerk of the city, township, or village shall not provide an absent voter ballot to that elector until the elector identifies himself or herself to the clerk by presenting an official state identification card issued to that elector under 1972 PA 222, MCL 28.291 to 28.300, an operator's or chauffeur's license issued to that elector under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, or other generally recognized picture identification card. If an elector does not have an official state identification card, operator's or chauffeur's license, or other generally recognized picture identification card, the elector may sign an affidavit to that effect before the clerk of the city, township, or village and be allowed to obtain his or her absent voter ballot in person from the clerk. The clerk of the city, village, or township shall indicate to each elector who obtains his or her absent voter ballot in person from the clerk that the elector may sign an affidavit indicating that the elector does not have an official state identification card, operator's or chauffeur's license, or other generally recognized picture identification card in order to obtain his or her absent voter ballot in person from the clerk. However, if an elector obtains his or her absent voter ballot in person from the clerk and votes by absent voter ballot without providing the identification required under this subsection, the absent voter ballot of that elector shall be prepared as a challenged ballot as provided in section 727 and shall be counted as any other ballot is counted unless determined otherwise by a court of law under section 747 or 748 or any other applicable law.

Sec. 813. (1) Within 6 days after an election, for each provisional ballot that was placed in a provisional ballot return envelope, the city or township clerk shall determine whether the individual voting the provisional ballot was eligible to vote a ballot and whether to tabulate the provisional ballot. In making this determination, the city or township clerk shall not open the provisional ballot return envelope. A provisional ballot shall only be tabulated if a valid voter registration record for the elector is located or if the identity and residence of the elector is established using a Michigan operator's license, chauffeur's license, personal identification card, other government issued photo identification card, or a photo identification card issued by an institution of higher education in this state described in section 6 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963 or a junior college or community college established under section 7 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963 along with a document to establish the voter's current residence address as provided in section 523a(5). Before the provisional ballot is tabulated, election officials shall process the ballot as a challenged ballot under sections 745 and 746.

(2) Within 7 days after an election, but sooner if practicable, the city or township clerk shall transmit the results of provisional ballots tabulated after the election to the board of county canvassers. The results shall be transmitted in a form prescribed by the secretary of state.

(3) Within 7 days after an election, the city or township clerk shall transmit to the county clerk a provisional ballot report for each precinct in the jurisdiction. The report shall include for each precinct the number of provisional ballots issued, the number of provisional ballots tabulated on election day, the number of provisional ballots forwarded to the clerk to be determined after the election, the number of provisional ballots tabulated by the clerk after election day, and any additional information concerning provisional ballots as required by the secretary of state.

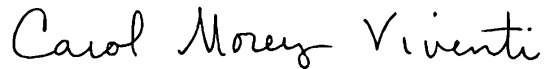
(4) Within 7 days after an election, the city or township clerk shall transmit to the county clerk an affidavit report that includes the number of affidavits signed by voters under section 523(2). The affidavit report shall be transmitted to the county clerk in a form prescribed by the secretary of state.

Sec. 829. (1) The board of county canvassers shall include the results of the tabulated provisional ballots in the canvass of the election following procedures prescribed by the secretary of state designed to maintain the secrecy of the ballot.

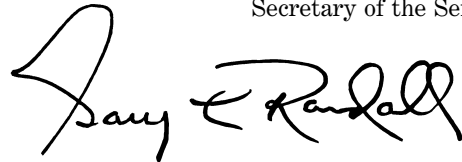
(2) Within 14 days after a primary or election, the county clerk shall transmit a county provisional ballot report to the secretary of state. The county provisional ballot report shall be in a manner prescribed by the secretary of state. After the secretary of state receives a county provisional ballot report, the county provisional ballot report shall be immediately available for public inspection.

(3) Within 14 days after an election, the county clerk shall transmit a county affidavit report to the secretary of state. The county affidavit report shall include the number of affidavits signed by voters under section 523(2). The county affidavit report shall be transmitted in a form prescribed by the secretary of state. After the secretary of state receives the county affidavit report from the county clerk, the county affidavit report shall immediately be available for public inspection.

Enacting section 1. Section 500f of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.500f, is repealed.



Secretary of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved .....

.....  
Governor