



Senate Fiscal Agency  
P.O. Box 30036  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

## BILL ANALYSIS



Telephone: (517) 373-5383  
Fax: (517) 373-1986

Senate Bill 279 (Substitute S-1 as reported)  
Sponsor: Senator Ruth A. Johnson  
Committee: Elections

**CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Michigan Election Law to do the following:

- Allow a challenger to serve in more than one absent voter counting board (AVCB) if the entity that designated him or her as a challenger indicated in which AVCBs the challenger would serve.
- Specify that, if more than one challenger served at an AVCB, only one of the challengers would have the authority to initiate a challenge at any given time.
- Allow two challengers to be designated for the initial 2,999 absentee ballots that were assigned to be counted at a combined AVCB, and one additional challenger for every 2,999 absentee ballots over the initial 2,999 ballots assigned to that AVCB.
- Prohibit a political party, incorporated organization, or organized committee of interested citizens from designating more than one challenger for every three election inspectors that were appointed to an AVCB.
- Allow a challenger or challengers to be replaced at an AVCB if that AVCB continued to work after the polls closed on election day.
- Require a challenger designated to replace another challenger at an AVCB to meet the qualifications prescribed by the Law to be a challenger.

MCL 168.730 et al.

Legislative Analyst: Dana Adams

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Date Completed: 12-9-21

Fiscal Analyst: Joe Carrasco