

Legislative Analysis



ALLOW COUNTY CLERKS TO REMOVE DECEASED VOTERS FROM QVF

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4491 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Andrew Fink
Committee: Elections and Ethics
Complete to 3-23-21

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

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4491 would amend the Michigan Election Code to allow county clerks to update the qualified voter file (QVF) to cancel the registration of deceased electors in their counties.

The QVF was mandated by 1994 PA 441 and implemented January 1, 1998. It lists all individuals who are registered to vote in Michigan, including their names, current addresses, address histories, and other identifying information. The QVF is especially important in Michigan's highly decentralized election system, where voter records are managed by over 1,700 local officials.

Under current law, county clerks forward a list of voters who have died to city and township clerks at least on a monthly basis, and those local clerks are responsible for canceling the voter registration of all deceased voters.

The bill would allow county clerks to use this list to update the QVF themselves.

MLC 168.509o and 168.510

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4491 would have no fiscal impact on the state or local units of government.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.