

HOUSE BILL NO. 5513

November 03, 2021, Introduced by Reps. O'Neal, Koleszar, Puri, Breen, Kuppa, Morse, Lasinski, Stone, Hope, Cynthia Johnson, Haadsma, Sabo, Steckloff, Scott, Cavanagh, Sowerby, Hood, Tate, Yancey and Anthony and referred to the Committee on Elections and Ethics.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending sections 759a, 764a, and 765 (MCL 168.759a, 168.764a,
and 168.765), section 759a as amended by 2012 PA 523 and sections
764a and 765 as amended by 2020 PA 177.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 759a. (1) An absent uniformed services voter or an
2 overseas voter who is not registered, but possessed the
3 qualifications of an elector under section 492, may apply for

1 registration by using the federal postcard application. The
2 department of state, bureau of elections, is responsible for
3 disseminating information on the procedures for registering and
4 voting to an absent uniformed services voter and an overseas voter.

5 (2) Upon the request of an absent uniformed services voter or
6 an overseas voter, the clerk of a county, city, township, or
7 village shall electronically transmit a blank voter registration
8 application or blank absent voter ballot application to the voter.
9 The clerk of a county, city, township, or village shall accept a
10 completed voter registration application or completed absent voter
11 ballot application electronically transmitted by an absent
12 uniformed services voter or overseas voter. A voter registration
13 application or absent voter ballot application submitted by an
14 absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter ~~shall~~**must**
15 contain the signature of the voter.

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

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

1 application, the clerk shall immediately forward to the applicant
2 the registration forms and instructions ~~7~~ and forward the ballots
3 as soon as they are available. If a federal postcard application or
4 an application from the official United States ~~department~~
5 **Department** of ~~defense~~**Defense** website is filed, the clerk shall
6 accept the federal postcard application or the application from the
7 official United States ~~department~~**Department** of ~~defense~~**Defense**
8 website as the registration application and shall not send any
9 additional registration forms to the applicant. If the ballots and
10 registration forms are received before the close of the polls on
11 election day and if the registration complies with the requirements
12 of this act, the absent voter ballots ~~shall~~**must** be delivered to
13 the proper election board to be **counted and** tabulated. **If the**
14 **absent voter ballot return envelope containing a marked absent**
15 **voter ballot is postmarked before or on election day and the absent**
16 **voter ballot is received by the city or township clerk within 72**
17 **hours after the close of the polls on election day, the city or**
18 **township clerk shall count and tabulate that absent voter ballot.**
19 **Not later than the fourth day after election day, each city and**
20 **township clerk shall transmit the results of the absent voter**
21 **ballots tabulated after the election to the board of county**
22 **canvassers of the county in which that city or township is located.**
23 If the registration does not comply with the requirements of this
24 act, the clerk shall retain the absent voter ballots until the
25 expiration of the time that the voted ballots must be kept and
26 shall then destroy the ballots without opening the envelope. The
27 clerk may retain registration forms completed under this section in
28 a separate file. The address in this state shown on a registration
29 form is the residence of the registrant.

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

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

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

23 (8) The secretary of state shall modify the printed statement
24 provided under section 761(4) and the absent voter ballot
25 instructions provided under section 764a as appropriate to
26 accommodate the procedures developed for electronically
27 transmitting an absent voter ballot to an absent uniformed services
28 voter or overseas voter. A statement ~~shall~~**must** be included in the
29 certificate signed by the absent voter who obtained his or her

1 absent voter ballot through an electronic transmission that the
2 secrecy of the absent voter ballot may be compromised during the
3 duplication process. The absent voter ballot instructions provided
4 to an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter ~~shall~~**must**
5 include the proper procedures for returning the absent voter ballot
6 to the appropriate clerk.

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

9 (10) An absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter
10 who submits an absent voter ballot application is eligible to vote
11 as an absent voter in any local, state, or federal election
12 occurring in the calendar year in which the election is held for
13 that ballot requested if the absent voter ballot application is
14 received by the county, city, village, or township clerk not later
15 than 2 p.m. of the Saturday before the election. A county, city, or
16 township clerk receiving an absent voter ballot application from an
17 absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter shall transmit to
18 a village clerk and the school district election coordinators,
19 where applicable, the necessary information to enable the village
20 clerk and school district election coordinators to forward an
21 absent voter ballot for each applicable election in that calendar
22 year to the absent voter. A village clerk receiving an absent voter
23 ballot application from an absent uniformed services voter or
24 overseas voter shall transmit to the township clerk and the school
25 district election coordinators, where applicable, the necessary
26 information to enable the city or township clerk and school
27 district election coordinators to forward an absent voter ballot
28 for each applicable election in that calendar year to the absent
29 voter. If the local elections official rejects a voter registration

1 application or absent voter ballot application submitted by an
2 absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter, the election
3 official shall notify the voter of the rejection.

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

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

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

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

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

29 (14) The clerk of a city, village, or township shall submit to

1 the county clerk of the county in which that city, village, or
2 township is located a written statement no later than 45 days
3 before each election indicating whether absent voter ballots were
4 issued to absent uniformed services voters or overseas voters in
5 compliance with this section and the uniformed and overseas
6 citizens absentee voting act. The city, village, or township clerk
7 shall provide to the county clerk a written explanation describing
8 remedial actions taken by the city, village, or township clerk if
9 the city, village, or township clerk fails to comply with this
10 section and the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting
11 act. Not later than 42 days before each election, each county clerk
12 shall submit to the state bureau of elections a written report
13 compiled from the written statements submitted by the city,
14 village, and township clerks. The written report ~~shall~~**must**
15 identify the cities, villages, and townships that complied with the
16 45-day deadline under this subsection, the cities, villages, and
17 townships that did not comply with the 45-day deadline under this
18 subsection, but provided a written explanation, and those cities,
19 villages, and townships that did not comply with the 45-day
20 deadline under this subsection and that did not provide a written
21 explanation. The state bureau of elections may require the clerk of
22 a city, village, or township that did not comply with the 45-day
23 deadline under this subsection, but provided a written explanation,
24 to provide additional information. The state bureau of elections
25 shall require the clerk of a city, village, or township that did
26 not comply with the 45-day deadline and that did not provide a
27 written explanation to file a written explanation, describing the
28 remedial actions taken by the city, village, or township clerk,
29 within 1 business day after the state bureau of elections notifies

1 the clerk of that city, village, or township.

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

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

25 (17) As used in this section:

26 (a) "Absent uniformed services voter" means any of the
27 following:

28 (i) A member of a uniformed service on active duty who, by
29 reason of being on active duty, is absent from the place of

1 residence where the member is otherwise qualified to vote.

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

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

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

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

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

23 (c) "Overseas voter" means any of the following:

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

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

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

5 (d) "Uniformed services" means the ~~army, navy, air force,~~
6 ~~marine corps, coast guard,~~ **Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps,**
7 **Coast Guard,** the ~~commissioned corps~~ **Commissioned Corps** of the
8 ~~public health service,~~ **Public Health Service,** the ~~commissioned~~
9 ~~corps~~ **Commissioned Corps** of the ~~national oceanic~~ **National Oceanic**
10 and ~~atmospheric administration,~~ **Atmospheric Administration,** a
11 reserve component of a uniformed service, or the Michigan ~~national~~
12 ~~guard~~ **National Guard** as **that term is** defined in section 105 of the
13 Michigan military act, 1967 PA 150, MCL 32.505.

14 Sec. 764a. The following instructions for an absent voter must
15 be included with each ballot or set of ballots furnished an absent
16 voter:

17 INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSENT VOTERS

18 Step 1. Enclosed you will find voting instructions as to the
19 method of voting. Read these carefully and then vote the ballot.

20 Step 2. After voting a ballot, place the ballot in the secrecy
21 sleeve, if any. If a secrecy sleeve is not provided, refold the
22 ballot to conceal your votes.

23 Step 3. Place the ballot or ballots in the return envelope and
24 securely seal the envelope.

25 Step 4. Sign and date the return envelope in the place
26 designated. Your signature must appear on the return envelope or
27 the ballot will not be counted. If you are disabled or otherwise
28 unable to mark the ballot and required assistance in voting your
29 absent voter ballot, have the individual who assisted you complete

1 the section on the return envelope entitled "TO BE COMPLETED ONLY
2 IF VOTER IS ASSISTED IN VOTING BY ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL".

3 Step 5. Deliver the return envelope by 1 of the following
4 methods:

5 (a) Place the necessary postage upon the return envelope and
6 deposit it in the United States mail or with another public postal
7 service, express mail service, parcel post service, or common
8 carrier.

9 (b) Deliver the envelope personally to the office of the
10 clerk, to the clerk, or to an authorized assistant of the clerk, or
11 to a secure drop box located in the city or township.

12 (c) In either (a) or (b), a member of the immediate family of
13 the voter including a father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law,
14 sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, or
15 grandchild or an individual residing in the voter's household may
16 mail or deliver a ballot to the clerk for the voter.

17 (d) You may request by telephone that the clerk who issued the
18 ballot provide assistance in returning the ballot. The clerk is
19 required to provide assistance if you are unable to return your
20 absent voter ballot as specified in (a), (b), or (c) above, if it
21 is before 5 p.m. on the Friday immediately preceding the election,
22 and if you are asking the clerk to pick up the absent voter ballot
23 within the jurisdictional limits of the city, township, or village
24 in which you are registered. Your absent voter ballot will then be
25 picked up by the clerk or an election assistant sent by the clerk.
26 All individuals authorized to pick up absent voter ballots are
27 required to carry credentials issued by the clerk. If using this
28 absent voter ballot return method, do not give your ballot to
29 anyone until you have checked their credentials.

1 Step 6. The **absent voter ballot return envelope containing a**
 2 **marked absent voter** ballot must **be postmarked before or on election**
 3 **day and must** reach the clerk or an authorized assistant of the
 4 clerk ~~before the close of the polls~~ **within 72 hours after the close**
 5 **of the polls** on election day. ~~An~~ **If the return envelope containing**
 6 **an absent voter ballot is postmarked after election day or is**
 7 received by the clerk or assistant of the clerk ~~after the close of~~
 8 ~~the polls~~ **more than 72 hours after the close of the polls** on
 9 election day, **the absent voter ballot** will not be counted.

10 WARNING

11 All of the following actions are violations of the Michigan
 12 election law and are illegal in this state:

13 (1) To vote an absent voter ballot at a meeting or gathering
 14 at which other individuals are voting absent voter ballots.

15 (2) For an individual who is assisting an absent voter in
 16 marking the ballot to suggest or in any manner attempt to influence
 17 the absent voter on how he or she should vote.

18 (3) For an individual who is present and knows that an
 19 individual is voting an absent voter ballot to suggest or in any
 20 manner attempt to influence the absent voter on how he or she
 21 should vote.

22 (4) For an individual other than those listed in these
 23 instructions to return, offer to return, agree to return, or
 24 solicit to return an absent voter ballot to the clerk.

25 (5) For an individual other than the absent voter; an
 26 individual listed in these instructions; or an individual whose job
 27 it is to handle mail before, during, or after being transported by
 28 a public postal service, express mail service, parcel post service,
 29 or common carrier, but only during the normal course of his or her

1 employment to be in possession of a voted or unvoted absent voter
2 ballot.

3 Sec. 765. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (6),
4 a clerk who receives an absent voter ballot return envelope
5 containing the marked ballots of an absent voter shall not open
6 that envelope before delivering the envelope to the board of
7 election inspectors as provided in this section. Except as
8 otherwise provided in subsection (6), the city or township clerk
9 shall safely keep in his or her office until election day any
10 absent voter ballot return envelopes received by the clerk before
11 election day containing the marked ballots of an absent voter.

12 (2) Before the opening of the polls on election day or as soon
13 after the opening of the polls as possible, the clerk shall deliver
14 the absent voter ballot return envelopes to the chairperson or
15 other member of the board of election inspectors in the absent
16 voter's precinct, together with the signed absent voter ballot
17 applications received by the clerk from any voters of that precinct
18 and the clerk's list or record kept relative to those absent
19 voters. However, if higher numbered ballots are used under section
20 717, the clerk shall retain the applications and lists in his or
21 her office and shall keep the applications and lists open to public
22 inspection at all reasonable hours. Absent voter ballots must not
23 be tabulated before the opening of the polls on election day.

24 (3) The city or township clerk, or authorized designee of the
25 clerk, shall call for and receive absent voter ballots from the
26 post office at which the city or township clerk regularly receives
27 mail addressed to the city or township clerk on election day. Any
28 envelopes containing absent voter ballots that are received from
29 the post office or from voters who voted by absentee ballot in

1 person in the clerk's office on election day must be delivered to
2 the board of election inspectors or, except as otherwise provided
3 in section 764d, the absent voter counting boards to be tabulated.

4 (4) **If the absent voter ballot return envelope containing a**
5 **marked absent voter ballot is postmarked before or on election day**
6 **and the absent voter ballot is received by the city or township**
7 **clerk within 72 hours after the close of the polls on election day,**
8 **the city or township clerk shall count and tabulate that absent**
9 **voter ballot. Not later than the fourth day after election day,**
10 **each city and township clerk shall transmit the results of the**
11 **absent voter ballots tabulated after the election to the board of**
12 **county canvassers of the county in which that city or township is**
13 **located. If the absent voter ballot return envelope containing a**
14 **marked absent voter ballot is postmarked after election day or is**
15 **received by the clerk more than 72 hours after the close of the**
16 **polls on election day,** the clerk shall plainly mark the **return**
17 envelope with the time and date of receipt and shall file the
18 **return** envelope in his or her office.

19 (5) On or before 8 a.m. on election day, the clerk shall post
20 in the clerk's office or otherwise make public the number of absent
21 voter ballots the clerk distributed to absent voters and the number
22 of absent voter ballot return envelopes containing the marked
23 ballots of absent voters received by the clerk before election day
24 and to be delivered to the board of election inspectors or the
25 absent voter counting boards under this act. On or before 9 p.m. on
26 election day, the clerk shall post in the clerk's office or
27 otherwise make public the number of absent voter ballot return
28 envelopes containing the marked ballots of absent voters received
29 by the clerk on election day and delivered to the board of election

1 inspectors, under subsection (3), along with the total number of
2 absent voter ballot return envelopes containing the marked ballots
3 of absent voters received by the clerk both before and on election
4 day and delivered to the board of election inspectors or the absent
5 voter counting boards under this act. As soon as possible after all
6 precincts in the city or township are processed, the clerk shall
7 post in the clerk's office or otherwise make public the number of
8 absent voter ballot return envelopes containing the marked ballots
9 of absent voters received by the election inspectors at the
10 precincts on election day, along with the total number of absent
11 voter ballot return envelopes containing the marked ballots of
12 absent voters received in the city or township for that election.
13 This subsection applies only to elections in which a federal or
14 state office appears on the ballot.

15 (6) For the November 3, 2020 general election only, if the
16 clerk of a city or township with a population of at least 25,000
17 provides written notice in compliance with this subsection to the
18 secretary of state 20 days or more before election day, that city
19 or township clerk, or his or her authorized designee, may between
20 the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. on the day before election day
21 perform certain absent voter ballot pre-processing activities as
22 described in this subsection. The written notice provided to the
23 secretary of state must include the location and hours that the
24 absent voter ballot return envelopes will be opened in that city or
25 township. The secretary of state shall post any written notice
26 received from the clerk of a city or township under this subsection
27 on the department of state website. In addition, the clerk of the
28 city or township shall post the written notice provided to the
29 secretary of state on the city or township website. The board of

1 election commissioners shall appoint election inspectors to the
2 location where absent voter ballot return envelopes will be opened
3 in that city or township not less than 21 days or more than 40 days
4 before the day at which they are to be used. Election inspectors
5 may be appointed by the board of election commissioners under this
6 subsection before written notice is provided to the secretary of
7 state under this subsection. Sections 673a and 674 apply to the
8 appointment of election inspectors under this subsection. All
9 requirements for election inspectors appointed to an absent voter
10 counting board under section 765a apply to election inspectors
11 appointed under this subsection. At all times, at least 1 election
12 inspector from each major political party must be present at the
13 location and the policies and procedures adopted by the secretary
14 of state regarding the handling of absent voter ballot return
15 envelopes and absent voter ballot secrecy envelopes must be
16 followed. After providing written notice to the secretary of state
17 in compliance with this subsection, a city or township clerk, or
18 his or her authorized designee, on the day before election day is
19 only authorized to perform standard processing activities up to and
20 including the opening of absent voter ballot return envelopes and
21 the removal of absent voter ballot secrecy envelopes containing
22 absent voter ballots and to verify that the ballot number on the
23 ballot stub agrees with the ballot number on the absent voter
24 ballot return envelope label. The city or township clerk, or his or
25 her authorized designee, is not authorized to remove absent voter
26 ballots from the absent voter ballot secrecy envelopes. If an
27 opened absent voter ballot return envelope contains an absent voter
28 ballot that is not contained in an absent voter ballot secrecy
29 envelope, the city or township clerk, or his or her designee, shall

1 immediately insert that absent voter ballot into an absent voter
2 ballot secrecy envelope. The opening of absent voter ballot return
3 envelopes must be done at a location designated by the city or
4 township clerk, and the location and opening of absent voter ballot
5 return envelopes must be accessible to challengers as described in
6 section 730. The election inspectors appointed to the location
7 where absent voter ballot return envelopes will be opened in that
8 city or township must never leave the absent voter ballot secrecy
9 envelopes unattended. Once the absent voter ballot return envelopes
10 have been opened as provided in this subsection, the absent voter
11 ballot secrecy envelopes containing the absent voter ballots to be
12 counted must be stored, secured, and sealed in an absent voter
13 ballot secrecy envelope container, as described in section 24k, or
14 stored, secured, and sealed in a ballot container approved under
15 section 24j. The city or township clerk shall record the seal
16 number in the poll book, or an addendum to the poll book, and
17 follow all other policies and procedures adopted by the secretary
18 of state regarding absent voter ballots. The poll book, or an
19 addendum to the poll book, must be signed and dated by 1 election
20 inspector from each major political party who is present at the
21 location on the day before election day. The city or township clerk
22 shall store the absent voter ballot secrecy envelope container
23 containing the absent voter ballot secrecy envelopes in a secure
24 location until election day.

25 (7) The election inspectors who are appointed under subsection
26 (6) shall record in the poll book, or an addendum to the poll book,
27 all of the following:

28 (a) The number of absent voter ballot return envelopes that
29 were opened on the day before election day.

1 (b) The number of absent voter ballot return envelopes
2 delivered to the election inspectors that did not contain an
3 elector's signature and that were returned to the city or township
4 clerk.

5 (c) The number of absent voter ballot return envelopes that
6 were challenged, not opened by the election inspectors, and set
7 aside to be processed by the election inspectors on election day.

8 (8) The election inspectors who are appointed to an absent
9 voter counting board on election day as provided in section 765a
10 shall do all of the following:

11 (a) Verify the seal number recorded in the poll book, or an
12 addendum to the poll book, for any absent voter ballot secrecy
13 envelope container delivered to the absent voter counting board.

14 (b) Count and record in the poll book, or an addendum to the
15 poll book, both of the following:

16 (i) The number of absent voter ballot return envelopes opened
17 by the election inspectors on the day before election day as
18 provided under subsection (6) and the number of absent voter ballot
19 secrecy envelopes delivered to the absent voter counting board on
20 election day.

21 (ii) The number of absent voter ballot return envelopes that
22 were challenged, not opened by the election inspectors on the day
23 before election day, and set aside to be processed by the election
24 inspectors on election day.

25 (9) Not later than March 1, 2021, the secretary of state shall
26 provide a written report to the house and senate committees dealing
27 with elections that contains all of the following information:

28 (a) The number of cities and townships that performed absent
29 voter ballot pre-processing activities as described in subsection

1 (6).

2 (b) The names of the cities and townships that performed
3 absent voter ballot pre-processing activities as described in
4 subsection (6), and all of the following information for each of
5 those cities and townships:

6 (i) The number of registered electors in each city or township.

7 (ii) The number of active registered electors in each city or
8 township.

9 (iii) The number of electors who voted by absent voter ballot in
10 each city or township.

11 (iv) The number of electors who voted in person on election day
12 in each city or township.

13 (v) The number of absent voter ballots that were not returned
14 in each city or township.

15 (vi) The number of electors on a permanent absent voter list in
16 each city or township, if applicable.

17 (vii) The number of ballots that had to be duplicated in each
18 city or township.

19 (c) The total number of absent voter ballot return envelopes
20 that were opened on the day before election day.

21 (d) The total number of absent voter ballot return envelopes
22 delivered to the election inspectors that did not contain an
23 elector's signature and that were returned to the city or township
24 clerk.

25 (e) The total number of absent voter ballot return envelopes
26 that were challenged, not opened by the election inspectors, and
27 set aside to be processed by the election inspectors on election
28 day.

29 (f) The total number of absent voter ballot secrecy envelopes

1 that were stored in an absent voter ballot secrecy envelope
2 container.

3 (g) For each city or township that performed absent voter
4 ballot pre-processing activities as described in subsection (6),
5 whether the number of absent voter ballot return envelopes opened
6 on the day before election day matched the number of absent voter
7 ballot secrecy envelopes delivered to the absent voter counting
8 board on election day.