

Legislative Analysis



ALLOW ONLINE ELECTION INSPECTOR APPLICATIONS

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

Senate Bill 385 as reported from House committee

Sponsor: Sen. Erika Geiss

House Committee: Elections

Senate Committee: Elections and Ethics

Complete to 10-28-23

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

(Enacted as Public Act 251 of 2023)

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 385 would amend the Michigan Election Law to allow clerks to accept election inspector applications through an online portal or by other electronic means.

Currently, an individual must file an application in their own handwriting with their city or township clerk in order to be appointed to a board of election inspectors.¹

Senate Bill 385 would remove the handwriting requirement and would allow county clerks to receive election inspector applications. Additionally, county, city, and township clerks could allow applicants to submit their applications electronically.

MCL 168.677

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state or local units of government.

POSITIONS:

A representative of the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks testified in support of the bill. (9-19-23)

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

- Department of State (9-19-23)
- Michigan Association of County Clerks (9-19-23)
- Michigan Municipal League (9-26-23)
- Promote the Vote (9-19-23)
- Voters Not Politicians (9-19-23)

Pure Integrity for Michigan Elections indicated opposition to the bill. (9-26-23)

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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.

¹ The election inspector application form can be found here: https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/01vanderroest/Elec_InspecAppl.pdf?rev=2721cebde7534b7fb2d66c9671d543c7.