

SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4833

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled  
"Michigan election law,"  
by amending sections 867 and 881 (MCL 168.867 and 168.881), section  
867 as amended by 2013 PA 51 and section 881 as amended by 1995 PA  
261.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 867. (1) A candidate or elector filing a recount petition  
2 pursuant to section 862 or 863 shall file the recount petition with  
3 the clerk of the appropriate board of county canvassers. ~~At~~**EXCEPT**  
4 **AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, AT** the time of filing the  
5 recount petition, the petitioner shall deposit with the clerk the  
6 sum of ~~\$10.00~~**\$25.00** for each precinct referred to in his or her  
7 recount petition.

8           (2) **IF 1 CANDIDATE IS TO BE ELECTED TO THE OFFICE AND THE**

1 OFFICIAL CANVASS OF VOTES SHOWS THAT THE NUMBER OF VOTES SEPARATING  
2 THE WINNING CANDIDATE AND THE PETITIONER IS MORE THAN 50 VOTES OR  
3 0.5% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES CAST IN THE RACE, WHICHEVER IS  
4 GREATER, THE PETITIONER SHALL DEPOSIT WITH THE CLERK THE SUM OF  
5 \$125.00 FOR EACH PRECINCT REFERRED TO IN HIS OR HER PETITION. FOR  
6 PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE WINNING CANDIDATE IN A PRIMARY FOR  
7 A NONPARTISAN OFFICE WHERE ONLY 1 CANDIDATE WILL BE ELECTED MEANS  
8 THE CANDIDATE NOMINATED WITH THE LESSER NUMBER OF VOTES.

9 (3) IF MORE THAN 1 CANDIDATE IS TO BE ELECTED TO THE OFFICE  
10 AND THE OFFICIAL CANVASS OF VOTES SHOWS THAT THE NUMBER OF VOTES  
11 SEPARATING THE WINNING CANDIDATE WHO RECEIVED THE LEAST NUMBER OF  
12 VOTES AND THE PETITIONER IS MORE THAN 50 VOTES OR 0.5% OF THE SUM  
13 OF THE NUMBER OF VOTES RECEIVED BY THE 2 CANDIDATES, WHICHEVER IS  
14 GREATER, THE PETITIONER SHALL DEPOSIT WITH THE CLERK THE SUM OF  
15 \$125.00 FOR EACH PRECINCT REFERRED TO IN HIS OR HER PETITION.

16 (4) IF THE VOTE IS ON A PROPOSAL AND THE OFFICIAL CANVASS OF  
17 VOTES SHOWS THAT THE NUMBER OF VOTES SEPARATING THE "YES" VOTES AND  
18 THE "NO" VOTES IS MORE THAN 50 VOTES OR 0.5% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF  
19 VOTES CAST ON THE PROPOSAL, WHICHEVER IS GREATER, THE PETITIONER  
20 SHALL DEPOSIT WITH THE CLERK THE SUM OF \$125.00 FOR EACH PRECINCT  
21 REFERRED TO IN HIS OR HER PETITION.

22 (5) ~~(2)~~—If, by reason of the recount, the petitioner  
23 establishes sufficient fraud or mistake as set forth in his or her  
24 recount petition to change the result of the election and receives  
25 a certificate of election or establishes sufficient fraud or  
26 mistake to change the result upon an amendment or proposition, the  
27 votes for and against which were recounted, the clerk of the board

1 of county canvassers shall refund the money deposited to the  
2 petitioner.

3 (6) ~~(3) If the petitioner does not establish a fraud or~~  
4 ~~mistake as set forth in his or her recount petition, IF A REFUND IS~~  
5 **NOT MADE AS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (5),** the sum deposited shall  
6 be paid by the clerk of the board of county canvassers to the  
7 treasurer of the county.

8 (7) **IF A PRECINCT REFERRED TO IN THE PETITION IS DETERMINED**  
9 **"NOT RECOUNTABLE" AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 871(3) OR, SUBJECT TO**  
10 **SUBSECTION (8), IF A PRECINCT REFERRED TO IN THE PETITION IS NOT**  
11 **RECOUNTED DUE TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PETITION, THE MONEY**  
12 **DEPOSITED FOR THE RECOUNT OF THAT PRECINCT SHALL BE REFUNDED TO THE**  
13 **PETITIONER.**

14 (8) **IF THE VOTES CAST ON THE BALLOTS VOTED IN A PRECINCT HAVE**  
15 **BEEN EXAMINED AND RECOUNTED, THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PETITION SHALL**  
16 **NOT RESULT IN A REFUND OF THE MONEY DEPOSITED FOR THE RECOUNT OF**  
17 **THAT PRECINCT.**

18 Sec. 881. (1) A person filing a recount petition pursuant to  
19 section 879 or 880 shall file the petition with the state bureau of  
20 elections. ~~At~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, AT** the  
21 time of filing the petition, the petitioner shall deposit the sum  
22 of ~~\$10.00~~ **\$25.00** for each precinct in which a recount of the votes  
23 is demanded in cash or by check or other negotiable instrument made  
24 payable to the state of Michigan.

25 (2) **IF 1 CANDIDATE IS TO BE ELECTED TO THE OFFICE AND THE**  
26 **OFFICIAL CANVASS OF VOTES SHOWS THAT THE NUMBER OF VOTES SEPARATING**  
27 **THE WINNING CANDIDATE AND THE PETITIONER IS MORE THAN 50 VOTES OR**

1 0.5% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTES CAST IN THE RACE, WHICHEVER IS  
2 GREATER, THE PETITIONER SHALL DEPOSIT WITH THE STATE BUREAU OF  
3 ELECTIONS THE SUM OF \$125.00 FOR EACH PRECINCT REFERRED TO IN HIS  
4 OR HER PETITION. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE WINNING  
5 CANDIDATE IN A PRIMARY FOR A NONPARTISAN OFFICE WHERE ONLY 1  
6 CANDIDATE WILL BE ELECTED MEANS THE CANDIDATE NOMINATED WITH THE  
7 LESSER NUMBER OF VOTES.

8 (3) IF MORE THAN 1 CANDIDATE IS TO BE ELECTED TO THE OFFICE  
9 AND THE OFFICIAL CANVASS OF VOTES SHOWS THAT THE NUMBER OF VOTES  
10 SEPARATING THE WINNING CANDIDATE WHO RECEIVED THE LEAST NUMBER OF  
11 VOTES AND THE PETITIONER IS MORE THAN 50 VOTES OR 0.5% OF THE SUM  
12 OF THE NUMBER OF VOTES RECEIVED BY THE 2 CANDIDATES, WHICHEVER IS  
13 GREATER, THE PETITIONER SHALL DEPOSIT WITH THE STATE BUREAU OF  
14 ELECTIONS THE SUM OF \$125.00 FOR EACH PRECINCT REFERRED TO IN HIS  
15 OR HER PETITION.

16 (4) IF THE VOTE IS ON A PROPOSAL AND THE OFFICIAL CANVASS OF  
17 VOTES SHOWS THAT THE NUMBER OF VOTES SEPARATING THE "YES" VOTES AND  
18 THE "NO" VOTES IS MORE THAN 50 VOTES OR 0.5% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF  
19 VOTES CAST ON THE PROPOSAL, WHICHEVER IS GREATER, THE PETITIONER  
20 SHALL DEPOSIT WITH THE STATE BUREAU OF ELECTIONS THE SUM OF \$125.00  
21 FOR EACH PRECINCT REFERRED TO IN HIS OR HER PETITION.

22 (5) ~~(2)~~—If, by reason of the recount, the petitioner  
23 establishes fraud or mistake as set forth in his or her petition  
24 and receives a certificate of election or establishes sufficient  
25 fraud or mistake to change the result ~~7~~—upon an amendment or  
26 proposition, the votes for and against ~~7~~—which were recounted, the  
27 state bureau of elections shall refund the money deposited to the

1 petitioner. The secretary of state shall refund the money deposited  
2 to a petitioner who is a chairperson of a state political party if  
3 the results of the race for which a recount was petitioned for  
4 under section 879 are changed. If a refund is not made as required  
5 by this section, then the secretary of state shall pay to the  
6 treasurer of each county its proportionate share of the deposit  
7 based upon the number of precincts in the county in which the votes  
8 were recounted.

9 (6) IF A PRECINCT REFERRED TO IN THE PETITION IS DETERMINED  
10 "NOT RECOUNTABLE" AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 871(3) OR, SUBJECT TO  
11 SUBSECTION (7), IF A PRECINCT REFERRED TO IN THE PETITION IS NOT  
12 RECOUNTED DUE TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PETITION, THE MONEY  
13 DEPOSITED FOR THE RECOUNT OF THAT PRECINCT SHALL BE REFUNDED TO THE  
14 PETITIONER.

15 (7) IF THE VOTES CAST ON THE BALLOTS VOTED IN A PRECINCT HAVE  
16 BEEN EXAMINED AND RECOUNTED, THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE PETITION SHALL  
17 NOT RESULT IN A REFUND OF THE MONEY DEPOSITED FOR THE RECOUNT OF  
18 THAT PRECINCT.