Legislative Analysis



PROPOSAL 2022-2 IMPLEMENTATION FOR EARLY VOTING; TABULATE ABSENTEE BALLOTS BEFORE ELECTION DAY

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Senate Bill 367 (H-1) as adopted Sponsor: Sen. Jeremy Moss House Committee: Elections Analysis available at http://www.legislature.mi.gov

Senate Committee: Elections and Ethics

Revised 8-15-23 (Enacted as Public Act 81 of 2023)

SUMMARY:

Ballot Proposal 22-2 amended the state constitution to grant Michigan voters the right to participate in early voting for statewide and federal elections. Early voters have the same rights and are subject to the same requirements as voters at polling places on election day. Each early voting site must be open for nine consecutive days prior to an election, beginning on the second Saturday before and election and ending on the Sunday before the election. Sites must be open for at least eight hours for each of these nine days and can be open for additional days and hours. Results cannot be generated or reported from a voting site until after 8:00 p.m. on election day.

<u>Senate Bill 367</u> would amend the Michigan Election Law to reflect these changes and to implement early voting. It would also establish election day vote centers, allow absent voter (AV) ballots to be tabulated on the day before election day and up to eight days before election day in certain municipalities, and allow absent voters to insert their AV ballots into a tabulator at their polling place or early voting site. The bill is tie-barred to House Bills 4697¹ and Senate Bill 370,² meaning that it would not go into effect unless both of those bills were also enacted.

EARLY VOTING

Early voting rights

All registered and qualified voters in Michigan would have the right to vote in person at an early voting site for each statewide and federal election. Early voters would have the same rights, and would be subject to the same requirements, as voters at a polling place on election day.

Early voting would have to be provided for each statewide and federal election for at least nine consecutive days, beginning on the second Saturday before the election and ending on the Sunday before the election, and early voting sites would have to be open for at least eight hours per day during this period. Beginning January 1, 2026, early voting could be offered on the Monday before an election as long as voting ends by 4:00 p.m.

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¹ House Bill 4697 would amend provisions of the Michigan Election Law that address absent voter drop boxes, largely to incorporate changes made to the state constitution with the passage of Proposal 22-2. A summary of the bill as passed by the House can be found here: http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2023-2024/billanalysis/House/pdf/2023-HLA-4697-F0496BCB.pdf.

² Senate Bill 370 would also amend provisions of the Michigan Election Law to amend absent voting procedures and to incorporate changes made to the state constitution by Proposal 22-2 regarding a permanent absent voter list. A summary of the bill as reported from the House Elections committee can be found here: http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2023-2024/billanalysis/House/pdf/2023-HLA-0370-70780A62.pdf.

SOS implementation

The secretary of state (SOS) would be responsible for supervising the implementation and conduct of early voting for state and federal elections. For early voting at these elections, the SOS would have to do all of the following:

- Issue instructions and procedures to county and municipal election officials on the administration and conduct of early voting.
- Advise and direct those election officials on conducting early voting.
- Develop, acquire, or approve new technology for the early voting poll book to efficiently and securely implement, administer, and conduct early voting.
- Create a model municipal agreement template and model county agreement template.
- Ensure that each template can be completed online by a county or municipality.
- Create model early voting plan templates and model countywide early voting plan templates for municipalities and counties, respectively.
- Ensure that each early voting plan template can be electronically transmitted to the Bureau of Elections.
- Evaluate new voting system technology that produces ballots on demand or can be used to cast and tabulate early voting ballots. (If appropriate, the SOS would be required to submit the new technology to the Board of State Canvassers for approval.)

The SOS would have to provide resources to county and municipal election officials that prevent an elector from intentionally or inadvertently casting multiple ballots at an election by any method or at any location. These resources could be technological, procedural, or both. The SOS would also have to provide guidance to election officials regarding the process of securing equipment and ballots at the end of each day of early voting.

Ballots printed on demand

The requirement to compare a ballot number with the poll list would not apply to a ballot used for early voting that is produced by an on-demand ballot printing system. Ballots produced by an on-demand printing system for early voting would also be exempted from other provisions of the Michigan Election Law pertaining to ballot stubs and numbering requirements.

The SOS would have to issue instructions regarding ballots produced by an on-demand printing system and that are subject to challenge.

Local administration

To administer early voting, each municipality would have to either conduct early voting as a single and separate municipality, enter into a municipal agreement to jointly conduct early voting with one or more other municipalities located in whole or in part in the same county, or enter into a county agreement authorizing the county clerk to conduct early voting.

At least 155 days before the first regularly scheduled statewide or federal election in an evennumbered year, each county clerk would have to notify each municipal clerk in that county of whether the county clerk intends to conduct early voting in accordance with a county agreement. At least 150 days before that election, each municipal clerk would have to notify the county clerk of how the municipality intends to conduct early voting (as a single municipality, under a municipal agreement, or under a county agreement). Municipal and county agreements would have to be finalized and signed by the appropriate municipal clerks

at least 125 days before the election. Agreements for special statewide or federal elections would have to be finalized and signed at least 90 days before the special election.

However, if a municipality conducted early voting as a single municipality for a presidential primary election, it could enter into a municipal or county agreement for the remaining statewide and federal elections to be held in that year, elections held during the following year, and any other elections covered by the agreement. Such a municipality could enter an agreement until April 15 of the year of the presidential primary either through an amendment to an existing agreement that was in effect for the presidential primary, if all parties to that agreement agree, or through a new agreement.

Single municipality early voting

If a municipal clerk does not enter into a municipal or county agreement, then that clerk would be responsible for administering early voting in that municipality. Each municipality would have to have at least one early voting site for a federal and statewide election. Municipal clerks could set additional hours for voting beyond the required days and times that take place on or after the 29th day before an election.³

Each early voting site would have to be designated in the same manner as polling places (as described below), and each elector registered in that municipality could participate in early voting at any early voting site in the municipality.

The municipality's board of election commissioners would have to appoint election inspectors for each early voting site.

Early voting could be approved for a local election by a resolution of the municipality's legislative body and would have to be held in accordance with all requirements for statewide and federal elections, except for the nine-day and eight-hour minimums.

If a municipality has 250 or more precincts, each ballot form that contains identical offices and names could be considered a separate precinct for the purposes of early voting

The municipal clerk would have to provide either of the following configuration sets for each early voting site:

- A single configuration set that is programmed to tabulate ballots for all precincts in the municipality.
- Multiple configuration sets that are each programmed to tabulate ballots for a unique set of precincts in the municipality and that do not include a precinct on multiple configuration sets.

Municipal agreements

For each federal and statewide election, there would have to be at least one early voting site that is open to all registered electors of each municipality that participates in a municipal agreement. Participating clerks could also agree to jointly offer early voting on additional days for up to 29 days before an election without being subject to the eight-hour minimum.

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³ Early voting sites that are open for days beyond the nine-day minimum would not be subject to the eight-hour requirement, and municipal clerks would be responsible for setting the site's hours on those days.

A municipal agreement would cover all statewide and federal elections, and any other elections included in the agreement, for at least the entire election year in which a general election is held and for the year following that election. An agreement could provide that it has no fixed termination date.

A municipality could withdraw from an agreement after providing 30 days' written notice to the other parties, but a municipality could not withdraw during the 150 days before the first statewide general election in an even-numbered year and before the completion of the county canvass for that election. If a municipality withdraws from an agreement, it would have to conduct early voting as a single municipality, as described above.

The clerks of participating municipalities would have to appoint a municipal clerk or staff member of a municipal clerk to serve as a coordinator who will organize and monitor the administrative requirements of early voting. The coordinator would be responsible for providing oversight to ensure that sufficient resources are available and dispatched to each early voting site, developing the early voting plan and budget for each election, and submitting each early voting site to the appropriate municipal legislative body or bodies for approval.

A participating clerk would also have to be designated to download the early poll book, and a clerk would also have to be appointed as a supervisor for each day of early voting. All participating clerks would have to recruit election inspectors, upon the coordinator's request, or provide the coordinator with the list of inspectors for their municipality. A board of election commissioners of a participating municipality would be responsible for appointing election inspectors for early voting.

Supervising clerks at early voting sites would have to operate in the same manner as at an election day polling place. Supervisor duties could be delegated to a staff member of the supervisor.

A municipal agreement would have to include the following information, in addition to any other provisions that the SOS could require:

- The name of each municipality that is a party to the agreement.
- The number of precincts in each participating municipality.
- The name of the coordinator organizing and monitoring the administrative requirements of early voting for the municipalities.
- The process for approving early voting sites by municipal legislative bodies.
- The board of election commissioners that will be responsible for appointing election inspectors for each early voting site.
- The process for approving early voting hours for the required nine consecutive days of early voting and for approving any additional days and hours of voting.
- The communication strategy for informing electors of the opportunity for early voting and publicizing the location, dates, and hours of operation of each early voting site.
- The process to ensure the SOS has the information necessary to include the location, dates, and hours of operation of each early voting site on its website.
- The process for developing the early voting budget and cost-sharing procedures.
- The process for determining the number of tabulators and early voting poll books necessary at each voting site.
- The name of each municipality that will provide the tabulators and poll books.

- The board of election commissioners that will be responsible for testing the electronic voting equipment.
- The name of the clerk who will be responsible for downloading the early voting poll book.
- The supervision and staffing of each early voting site for each day of early voting.
- Information on how a receiving board or a group of election inspectors will be appointed to canvass the early vote returns on election day and report results to the county clerk.
- The process for a participating municipality to withdraw from the agreement.

The legislative body of a participating municipality could adopt a resolution to conduct early voting in that municipality for a local election, in accordance with the requirements for single-municipality voting described above. Municipal legislative bodies could also agree to jointly conduct early voting for a local election in accordance with a municipal agreement. Early voting for local elections under a municipal agreement would have to be conducted in accordance with the above requirements for municipal agreements but would not be subject to the nine-day and eight-hour minimums. A municipality could not withdraw from a municipal agreement covering local elections during the 150 days before that election and before the completion of the county canvass.

The municipal agreement would have to provide either of the following configuration sets for each early voting site:

- A single configuration set that is programmed to tabulate ballots for all precincts in each participating municipality.
- Multiple configuration sets with each tabulator programmed to tabulate ballots for one or more municipalities and that do not include a precinct on multiple configuration sets.

County agreements

For each federal and statewide election, there would have to be at least one early voting site that is open to all registered electors of each municipality that participates in a county agreement. The county clerk could also offer early voting on additional days for up to 29 days before an election without being subject to the eight-hour minimum.

A county agreement would cover all statewide and federal elections, and any other elections included in the agreement, for at least the entire election year in which a general election is held and for the year following that election. An agreement could provide that it has no fixed termination date.

A municipality partially or wholly located in a county could join an agreement for that county. A party to a county agreement could withdraw from an agreement after providing 30 days' written notice to the other parties, but a party could not withdraw during the 150 days before the first statewide general election in an even-numbered year and before the completion of the county canvass for that election.

The county clerk would have to appoint a clerk or staff member of a clerk to serve as a coordinator who will organize and monitor the administrative requirements of early voting. The coordinator would be responsible for providing oversight to ensure that sufficient resources are available and dispatched to each early voting site, developing the early voting plan in consultation with participating municipal clerk.

The county clerk could designate a participating clerk, including the county clerk, to download the early poll book, and a clerk or a county clerk staff member could also have to be appointed as a supervisor for each day of early voting.⁴ All participating clerks would have to recruit election inspectors, upon the county clerk's request, or provide the county clerk with the list of inspectors for their municipality. The county board of election commissioners would be responsible for appointing election inspectors for early voting.

Supervising clerks at early voting sites would have to operate in the same manner as at an election day polling place. Supervisor duties could be delegated to a staff member of the supervisor.

Upon request of the county clerk, a participating municipal clerk would have to make tabulators, early voting poll books, and ballot containers available to conduct early voting. In consultation with the municipal clerks, the county clerk would have to submit each early voting location to the county's board of election commissioners for approval. Approved sites could serve all electors covered by the county agreement, electors in municipalities covered by the early voting site, and/or the electors of a municipality, as long as each elector in the county can use an early voting site.

A county agreement would have to include the following information, in addition to any other provisions that the SOS could require:

- The name of the county and each municipality that is a party to the agreement.
- The number of precincts in each participating municipality.
- The name of the coordinator organizing and monitoring the administrative requirements of early voting.
- The process for determining the number of early voting sites needed and the location of each site.
- The process for approving early voting hours for the required nine consecutive days of early voting and for approving any additional days and hours of voting.
- The communication strategy for informing electors of the opportunity for early voting.
- The communication strategy for publicizing the city or township served by each early voting site and the location, dates, and hours of operation of each site.
- The process to ensure the SOS has the information necessary to include the location, dates, and hours of operation of each early voting site on its website.
- The process for developing the early voting budget and for developing the cost-sharing and chargeback procedures.
- The process for determining the number of tabulators and early voting poll books necessary at each voting site.
- The name of each municipality that will provide the tabulators and poll books.
- The board of election commissioners that will be responsible for testing the electronic voting equipment.
- The name of the county or municipal clerk who will be responsible for downloading the early voting poll book.
- The supervision and staffing of each early voting site for each day of early voting.

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⁴ Different municipal clerks or county clerk staff members could serve as supervisors on different days of early voting.

- Information on how a receiving board or a group of election inspectors will be appointed to canvass the early vote returns on election day and report results to the county clerk.
- The process for a participating municipality to withdraw from the agreement.

The legislative body of a participating municipality could adopt a resolution to conduct early voting in that municipality for a local election, in accordance with the requirements for single-municipality voting described above. A county clerk and municipal legislative bodies could also agree to jointly conduct early voting for a local election in accordance with a county agreement. Early voting for local elections under a municipal agreement would have to be conducted in accordance with the above requirements for county agreements but would not be subject to the nine-day and eight-hour minimums. A municipality could not withdraw from a county agreement covering local elections during the 150 days before that election and before the completion of the county canvass.

If an early voting site will cover an entire county, the county agreement would have to provide either of the following configuration sets for each early voting site:

- A single configuration set that is programmed to tabulate ballots for all precincts in the county.
- Multiple configuration sets that are each programmed to tabulate ballots for a unique set of precincts in the county and that do not include a precinct on multiple configuration sets.

If an early voting site will cover less than an entire county, the agreement would have to provide either of the following configuration sets for each early voting site:

- A single configuration set that is programmed to tabulate ballots for all precincts in each participating municipality.
- Multiple configuration sets with each tabulator programmed to tabulate ballots for one or more municipalities and that do not include a precinct on multiple configuration sets.

Early voting plans

Early voting plans would have to be filed at least 120 days before the first statewide or federal election in each even-numbered year. The coordinator for a municipal agreement would be responsible for filing the early voting plan for those municipalities with the appropriate county clerk, and a county would be responsible for preparing an early voting plan if participating in a county agreement. If a municipality fails to file an early voting plan for single municipality voting with the appropriate county clerk, that county clerk would have to immediately contact the municipal clerk and attempt to determine the municipality's plan for early voting.

Each early voting plan would have to include the following information, in addition to any other information the SOS or county clerk considers to be necessary:

- Whether the plan covers a single municipality, municipal agreement, or county agreement.
- The name of each municipal county clerk, and the name of the county clerk when applicable, executing the early voting plan.
- The number of precincts and registered electors in the municipality, municipal agreement, or county agreement, as applicable.
- The number of early voting sites, the location of each early voting site (if available), and the municipality or municipalities served.

- If applicable, the name, position, and contact information of the coordinator for a municipal or county agreement.
- Any additional early voting days that will be offered before the required nine
 consecutive days and the hours the early voting sites will be open on those additional
 days.
- Beginning January 1, 2026, whether early voting will be offered on the Monday before election day.
- The communication strategy for informing electors of the opportunity for early voting.
- The process to ensure that the SOS has the information necessary to include the location, dates, and hours of operation of each early voting site on its website.
- If applicable, a copy of a municipal or county agreement.

Each county clerk would review each received early voting plan to verify that it contains all required information. Municipalities and coordinators would be required to submit accurate and complete information in their early voting plans and would have to promptly respond to a request for information from the county clerk or a member of the county clerk's staff.

At least 110 days before the first statewide or federal election in an even-numbered year, each county clerk would have to submit a countywide early voting plan to the SOS that includes all of the following, in addition to any other information the SOS or county clerk considers necessary:

- If the county clerk is participating in a county agreement, a statement as such that includes the municipalities that are parties to the agreement.
- Which municipalities, if any, will be conducting early voting as a single municipality.
- Which municipalities, if any, will be conducting early voting under a municipal agreement, and the municipalities party to each agreement.
- The process that the county, each municipal coordinator, and each municipality not party to a municipal or county agreement will use to ensure that the SOS has the information necessary to include the location, dates, and hours of operation of each early voting site on its website.
- A copy of each early voting plan submitted by the county's municipalities and municipal coordinators.
- A copy of the county early voting plan prepared by the county clerk.

The county clerk would have to certify that the electors of each municipality are served by at least one early voting site. If a municipality is not a participant in a municipal or county agreement and has not filed its own early voting plan, then the county clerk would have to indicate that municipality as an exception to this certification and indicate which steps the county clerk has taken to determine that municipality's early voting plan.

Early voting sites

Early voting sites would be subject to the same requirements as polling places, with the following exceptions:

- An early polling place could serve electors from more than six precincts and electors from more than one municipality within a county.
- An early voting place would not be subject to the limit on the number of electors assigned to a precinct.

The location and number of early voting sites would have to be selected after consideration of the expected turnout, population density, public transportation and accessibility, and travel time and traffic patterns, in addition to any other factors that election officials consider necessary to enhance the sites' accessibility.

Early voting sites would have to be finalized at least 60 days before election day.

Each registered and qualified voter that is in line at an early voting site at the time that the site closes for the day would have to be allowed to vote.

Early voting tabulation

Ballots cast at early voting sites would have to be tabulated electronically with authorized equipment. County clerks would be responsible for preparing programming for the electronic equipment and test ballots to be used at least 45 days before election day and would have to provide the equipment and ballots to each municipal clerk and early voting site coordinator. The appropriate board of election commissioners would have to complete the preliminary and public logic and accuracy testing at least five days before the beginning of early voting.

The SOS could approve an alternate configuration of tabulators and early voting poll books if the alternate configuration produces an accurate poll list of voters who cast ballots on each specific tabulator and allows the balancing of the number of voters casting a ballot at the early voting site with the number of ballots cast on the tabulator.

As applicable, municipal clerks and municipal agreement coordinators would have to select the appropriate configuration and inform the county clerk of that selection at least 90 days before an election. If early voting will be held under a county agreement, the county clerk would have to consult with participating municipal clerks to select an appropriate configuration at least 90 days before an election.

County clerks would have to program tabulators to adhere to the selected configuration or configurations for each early voting site.

Each early voting site would be required to have the number of tabulators and early voting poll books that is required by the selected configuration.

The early voting poll book would have to be updated before the beginning of each day of early voting to reflect new registered electors, received absentee ballots, and ballots cast at early voting sites since the last update.

After the close of the first day of early voting, the board of election inspectors would have to do all of the following at each early voting site:

- Verify that the number of ballots tabulated equals the number of electors identified in the early voting poll book as receiving ballots at the early voting site on that day and note any discrepancies if the numbers do not match.
- Remove the voted ballots from the tabulator bin.
- Seal all ballots, including spoiled ballots, and the early voting poll book in a ballot container in the same manner on election day.
- Record the seal number on the ballot container certificate and in the poll book.

- Print a poll list from the early voting poll book of the electors who voter at the early voting site for that day and add the list to the paper poll book.
- Report the number on the tabulator's public counter at the end of the day and at the beginning of the day in the poll book.
- Secure the absent voter ballots that are to be processed at the early voting site and each tabulator used at the site in a locked room.
- Lock the building in which the early voting site is located.

After the close of each subsequent day of early voting, the board of election inspectors would have to follow generally the same procedures as for the first day of early voting but could either place and seal the current day's ballots in a new ballot container or add those ballots to a container used for the previous day of early voting. If the board of election inspectors adds the current day's ballots to the container used for the previous day, the seal on that container would have to be removed, the container would have to be resealed after adding the new ballots, and the new seal number would have to be recorded on the ballot container certificate and in the poll book.

During the nine-day early voting period, the municipal clerk or early voting site supervisor, as appropriate, would have to take all necessary steps to secure the electronic voting equipment, ballot containers, blank ballots, and other election materials between the close of early voting and the opening of the next day of early voting. ⁵ After the last day of early voting, the municipal clerk or supervisor would have to deliver these materials to the clerk that will oversee the closing of the election after the polls close on election day. By the Friday before election day, each municipal clerk would have to post the location and time of the precinct canvass for early votes for that municipality on the municipality's website.

After the polls close on election day, precinct election inspectors would have to canvass the vote, generate the totals tape, and make the results available to those present. Precinct inspectors would also have to complete the statements of results, ballot summary, and certificate of election inspectors. If a ballot container is opened during the canvas, the inspectors would have to reseal the container and record the seal number on the ballot container certificate and in the poll book.

Early voting results would have to be reported separately from absent voter counting boards. Early voting results would then be added to the total results for each precinct. If a municipality has 250 or more precincts and chooses to use a ballot form that contains identical offices and names as the precincts for early voting, the results would not have to be tabulated separately.

If ballots from a precinct must be retabulated during a county canvass and ballots from that precinct are sealed in a ballot container from an early voting site that contains ballots from multiple precincts, then each necessary container would have to be opened, and the ballots would need to be sorted by precinct during the canvass. Ballots requiring retabulation would then be identified and separated. The same provisions would apply for a recount of a precinct.

Results from an early voting site could not be generated or reported until after 8:00 p.m. on election day, and an individual would be prohibited from intentionally disclosing an election

⁵ The SOS would be responsible for providing guidance on how to secure these materials.

result from an early voting site before that time. A violation of these provisions would be a felony punishable by imprisonment for up to five years or a fine of up to \$1,000, or both.

ELECTION LOCATIONS

Polling places and early voting locations

Currently, the legislative body of each city or township must designate polling places for non-statewide elections. School buildings, fire and police stations, and other public buildings must generally be used, and each precinct must have a suitable polling place. A legislative body can establish a central polling place for up to six precincts.

Under Senate Bill 367, a publicly owned or controlled building, including a municipal or school building, would have to be used as a polling place unless it is not possible or convenient to do so.

The legislative body of each municipality would also have to provide a suitable early voting site for each precinct located in the municipality if the municipality conducts early voting for an election. Legislative bodies would also be authorized to establish multiple central polling places, each of which could serve up to six precincts.

As is currently permitted for polling places, a township board could provide early voting sites that are located within the limits of a city that has been incorporated from territory formerly a part of that township, and township voters would be able to use those early voting sites.

All early voting sites and polling places would have to be accessible and in compliance with the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act and the Help America Vote Act.

Approved buildings

Currently, the Michigan Election law prohibits the use of buildings owned by a person that is a sponsor of a political or independent committee or by an individual is a candidate as polling places.

Senate Bill 367 would instead provide that a building owned or leased by an elected official, an official who is a candidate, or a person regulated under the Michigan Campaign Finance Act generally could not be designated as a polling place or early voting site. If only a portion of a building is leased by one of those persons, another portion of the building could be used if the portion leased by the prohibited person is located more than 100 feet from the entrance of the polling place or early voting site within that building.

Buildings that do not meet these requirements could not be used as early voting sites or polling places.

If there are no available approved buildings in a city or township, that city or township would have to enter a municipal or county agreement.

Notice

Once a polling place or early voting site is approved, the appropriate clerk would have to provide a notice within 45 days of an election to each registered voter entitled to vote at that polling place or early voting site that specifies its location.⁶

Notice for a polling place could be provided by updating and sending a voter identification card or by sending a separate notice by mail or another method that would provide notice to the voter. Notice for an early voting site would have to be provided only by mail or another method that would provide a separate notice to the elector; notice could not be provided through an updated voter identification card.

Notice for an early voting site would be provided by the municipal clerk approving a singlemunicipality early voting site, the clerk of each municipality party to a county agreement, or the clerk of the county where the site is located or the clerk of each municipality party to an agreement.

Site changes

An early voting site or central polling place location could not be moved less than 60 days before an election, unless relocation is necessary because the early voting site or central polling place as been damaged, destroyed, or rendered inaccessible or unusable.⁷

If there is a temporary change to any election site, the appropriate clerk would have to post a sign at the original location of the election site that indicates the new location. If the location is a polling place, notice of the change would have to be provided no more than 21 days before an election. If the location is an early voting site, notice would have to be provided no later than 21 days before the first day of early voting at that site.

If a temporary change is made within 20 days before an election or the start of early voting, the appropriate clerk would have to provide notice by posting a sign indicating the new location at the original location, posting the new location on the municipality or county website (as applicable), and posting the new location on the Department of State website.

ELECTION DAY VOTE CENTERS

Election day vote centers

Senate Bill 367 would add a new section to the Michigan Election Law that would provide that if a city or township has processed at least 500 voter registrations on election day in either or both of the previous two general elections, then the board of election commissioners of that city or township could establish election day vote centers to tabulate the ballots issued to individuals who register to vote or update their voter registration on election day. A board of election commissioners that establishes an election day vote center would have to notify their county clerk at least 90 days before the election. No later than the fourth day before election day, the clerk of each city or township that establishes an election day vote center would have to post a notice that provides the location of the election day vote center in the clerk's office and, if available, on the city's or township's website.

⁶ Notice would not be required if an early voting site is established in addition to another voting site in a precinct, as long as the appropriate voters received notice about the original early voting site and the original site stays open.

⁷ This provision currently only applies to polling places.

An election day vote center would be considered a polling place, and it would have to be located in the same building as where a city or township clerk conducts voter registration on election day. A city or township clerk who operates an election day vote center would have to configure the center with at least one designated tabulator and a corresponding poll book that lists the voters who were issued a ballot for that tabulator. The county clerk would then have to program the tabulators so that the results from those tabulators will be included in the unofficial and official election accumulation reports, and the number of tabulators and poll books at the election day vote center would have to conform to the way in which the county clerk has programed the tabulators. The collected registration receipts and the list of electors issued a ballot in the poll book would serve as the two required poll lists.

At least three election inspectors would have to be appointed for an election day vote center, and a political party, incorporated organization, or organized committee of interested citizens could have one challenger for every eight election inspectors assigned to an election day vote center.

Only a voter who registers to vote or updates their registration on election day could cast a ballot at an election day vote center, and they would have to use an election day vote center located in the same building as where they registered or updated their registration. After registering, a voter would have to provide their voter registration receipt to an election inspector and would be subject to all applicable requirements for a voter on election day.

Election inspectors would be responsible for issuing ballots to voters and entering each voter's name in the election day vote center poll book. Inspectors would have to allow a voter to cast a ballot at the vote center in the same manner as a voter who is listed on the registration list in an election-day precinct, if the individual who was issued a registration receipt and is in line at the vote center by 8:00 p.m., including after 11:59 p.m. on election day if necessary. An individual who is in line at a city or township clerk's office or satellite office by 8:00 p.m. on election day would have to be allowed to register to vote or update their voter registration and then immediately cast a ballot at an election day vote center.

After the last voter in line casts a ballot, the election inspectors assigned to an election day vote center would have to follow the same process required at an election day polling place.

ABSENTEE BALLOT PROCEDURES

Review and approval of AV ballots for tabulation

The bill would remove provisions that prohibit clerks from opening AV envelopes before election day and that prohibit the tabulation of AV ballots before election day, in addition to other provisions related to AV ballot processing on election day. It would also remove provisions added to the Michigan Election Law in 2020 to provide for the pre-processing of AV ballots.⁸

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⁸ For a summary of 2020 PA 177, which originally authorized clerks in cities or townships with a population of at least 25,000 to begin AV ballot pre-processing on the day before election day for the 2020 general election only, see: http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2019-2020/billanalysis/House/pdf/2019-HLA-0757-059CD2C3.pdf. 2022 PA 195 amended these provisions to remove the 2020 sunset, reduce the population minimum to 10,000, and additionally authorize pre-processing on the Sunday before election day.

Instead, city and township clerks would have to keep sealed and unopened AV ballot return envelopes in their office until delivering the envelopes to either a precinct board of election inspectors, an absent voter counting board (AVCB), or a team of election inspectors.

As close as possible to 8:00 p.m. on election day, the city or township clerk would have to collect AV ballots from the post office at which the clerk regularly receives mail. Any return envelopes containing AV ballots received from the post office or from voters who cast an AV ballot in person in the clerk's office on election day would have to be reviewed and approved for tabulation before being delivered to the board of election inspectors or an AVCB for tabulation. No more than 90 days after an election, but as soon as practicable, the clerk would have to notify a voter whose AV ballot return envelope is received after the polls closed by mail, telephone, or email that their AV ballot was not tabulated for that reason.

A city or township clerk would have to review each received AV ballot return envelope to determine whether the ballot is approved for tabulation by verifying the signature on the envelope and verifying that the individual has not already voted. If an AV ballot is approved for tabulation, the clerk would have to write or stamp the date that the envelope was received and indicate that the ballot is approved. If the envelope was received on election day, the clerk would also have to write or stamp the time of receipt.

If a signature on an AV ballot return envelope is missing or insufficient, the clerk would have to reject the ballot, notify the voter, and provide the voter with an opportunity to cure the deficiency. If an envelope has been approved for tabulation by a clerk, a precinct board of election inspectors or an AVCB could not make any further signature verifications for an AV ballot return envelope.

Additionally, if a city or township does not process and tabulate AV ballots before election day, the clerk would have to appoint at least one team of two election inspectors no more than seven days before an election, with one inspector from each major political party, to assist the clerk in determining whether ballots received from overseas and military voters are approved for tabulation. Teams of election inspectors would open any envelopes that do not have the voter's signature on the outside, remove the signed voter certificate, and leave the ballot in the envelope. The clerk would then copy the certificate, and the election inspectors would put the certificate back in the envelope and reseal it. Using the copy of the certificate, the clerk would determine whether the ballot is approved for tabulation.

Absent voter counting board agreements

Currently, if a city or township clerk enters into an agreement to establish a combined absent voter counting board (CAVCB) with other participating cities or townships, to allow the clerk of another city or township located in the same county to count AV ballots for both municipalities, or to allow the county's AVCB to count AV ballots for the city or township, any AV ballot received by that clerk after 4:00 p.m. on the day before an election cannot be delivered to the CAVCB or AVCB and must instead be delivered to the voter's precinct on election day for processing and tabulation.

⁹ Current law provides that AV ballots must be collected from the post office on election day but does not require the ballots to be collected by a specified time. Under the bill, a clerk's authorized designee could no longer collect ballots from the post office.

Under the bill, the board of election commissioners of a city or township that enters into one of the agreements listed above could authorize the use of an AVCB that only processes and tabulates AV ballots approved and received between the 4:00 p.m. on the day before the election and 8:00 p.m. on election day. The city or township would have to notify the appropriate county clerk at least 60 days before the election.

If a city or township does not enter into such an agreement and has established its own AVCB, AV ballots that are received by the appropriate clerk by 8:00 p.m. on election day and that are approved for tabulation would have to be delivered to the appropriate AVCB.

AV ballot delivery

If a city or township establishes an AVCB, and subject to the city or township's participation in early AV processing and tabulation or to an agreement with another municipality or county, the clerk of that city or township would generally have to deliver the AV ballots that have been approved for tabulation to the AVCB by the time the election inspectors for that AVCB report for duty on election day. All ballots received by the clerk by 8:00 p.m. on election day would also have to be delivered to the AVCB. ¹⁰

If a city or township does *not* establish or participate in an AVCB for an election, the city or township clerk would have to deliver the approved AV ballot return envelopes and their list or record of the absent voters whose ballots were approved and delivered for tabulation to a board of election inspectors at an election day precinct. The board of election inspectors could not tabulate the ballots until the polls open on election day. The list or record of voters would also have to be kept in the clerk's office and available for public inspection during regular business hours, along with the clerk's received AV ballot applications.

Absent voter counting boards

The bill would remove provisions that require a city or township board of election commissioners to establish the AVCBs for that city or township and determine the number of ballots that can be counted by an AVCB in a reasonable period of time, pursuant to SOS guidelines. It would also remove current provisions pertaining to delivering ballots to AVCBs, rejecting AV ballots for signature issues, allowing an individual to vote in person after applying for and receiving an AV ballot, and regulating local election officials entering and leaving an AVCB or CAVCB.

Instead, the bill would provide that ballots could not be left unattended during transitions between election inspector shifts or during any point after AV ballots are returned from their envelopes before being sealed in a ballot container. An election inspector from each major political party would have to be present, and all policies and procedures must be followed, at all times while AV ballots are being processed and tabulated.

There would be no limit on the number of AVCBs that could be assigned to a building, and the Board of State Canvassers could approve high-speed tabulators and supporting software for use as a component of an electronic voting system that could be used to tabulate AV ballots in an AVCB.

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¹⁰ This provision would not apply if a city or township establishes a separate AVCB for ballots received between 4:00 p.m. on the day before election day and 8:00 p.m. on election day, as described above.

Under Senate Bill 367, a city or township that has at least 250 precincts could establish at least one AVCB for each ballot form containing identical offices and candidate names, rather than one AVCB for each precinct.

PROCESSING AND TABULATION BEFORE ELECTION DAY

The board of election commissioners of a city or township with a population of at least 5,000 or of a county that establishes an AVCB to count AV ballots for a city or township could authorize the establishment of AVCBs to process and tabulate AV ballots between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on any of the eight days before election day.

The board of election commissioners of any city or township, regardless of population, could authorize and establish an AVCB to process and tabulate AV ballots between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on the Monday before election day.

In order to tabulate AV ballots before election day, a county, city, or township clerk would have to submit a written notice to the SOS at least 28 days before election day. At least 20 days before an election, the SOS would have to publish on the Department of State's website a list of the cities and townships that have notified the SOS of their intent to process and tabulate AV ballots before election day. If the city or township has a website, the clerk would have to post a notice at least 18 days before the election that includes the location, dates, and hours of the AV counting place, in addition to the number of election inspectors who will process and tabulate AV ballots at the counting place.

If the location, dates, hours, or number of inspectors changes, the clerk would have to post a revised notice that includes the updated information on the website as soon as possible, but at least eleven days before the election. This notice would also have to be posted in the clerk's office. If the clerk changes the number of election inspectors after tabulation has begun, the clerk would have to post the updated number on the website and in their office by 10:00 a.m. on the day that the changes occur. If the clerk reduces the number of election inspectors but fails to post a timely notice, the number of challengers allowed at the location would have to remain the same as before the reduction in inspectors.

For each day of AV ballot processing and tabulation that occurs before election day, a participating city or township clerk would have to deliver the ballots approved for tabulation to an AVCB. A clerk could not deliver any AV ballots received on a day that early voting is conducted to an AVCB for processing or tabulation until the following day. An AV ballot could only be tabulated after the receipt of that ballot appears on the registration list (or an addendum to the list) in an early voting site and after the voter history of individuals who cast an early voting ballot on the previous day is recorded in the Qualified Voter File. If an absentee voter cast a ballot at an early voting site, the voter's AV ballot would have to be cancelled.

Each political party, incorporated organization, or organized committee of interested citizens could designate one challenger for every eight election inspectors serving at an AV counting place. If there are seven or fewer inspectors serving at a counting place, then each entity could designate one challenger. Election officials would have to follow all instructions and procedures adopted by the SOS, and the ballots would have to be processed and tabulated in the same manner and under the same requirements as election day AV ballot processing and tabulation.

The board of election inspectors would have to verify that an AV ballot return envelope is signed by the voter and that the statement determining that the ballot is approved for tabulation has been completed by the city or township clerk. If the voter's signature is missing or the statement is incomplete, the board of election inspectors would have to immediately contact the clerk.

If the voter's signature is present and the statement is complete, the board of election inspectors would have to open the envelope, remove the ballot, and compare the ballot number on the stub with the number on the face of the AV ballot return envelope without unfolding the ballot. If the ballot numbers match, the board of election inspectors would have to detach the stub and prepare the ballot for tabulation according to the secretary of state's directions. Each approved AV ballot would then have to be inserted into the tabulator.

Once tabulation is complete for the day, election inspectors would have to secure tabulated ballots in a sealed container and then complete the poll book summary to account for all return envelopes and ballots processed and tabulated on that day. The poll book (or an addendum) would have to be signed and dated by one inspector from each major political party present at that location. The city or township clerk would have to post the number of AV ballots tabulated each day in the clerk's office and, if available, on the city or township's website. However, results could not be generated, printed, or reported before 8:00 p.m. on election day.

(Processing and tabulation at an AVCB on election day would begin at the time set by the board of election commissioners, but no earlier than 7a.m.)

AV BALLOT DROP-OFF

Senate Bill 367 would allow an absentee voter to bring their AV ballot to their polling place on election day or to their early voting site to put the ballot into a tabulator. The instructions provided with an AV ballot would have to instruct voters of the option to personally tabulate ballots at a polling place or an early voting site and of the process a voter would have to follow to do so, including the requirement to bring election for identification purposes or sign an affidavit if they do not have such identification before being allowed to tabulate their ballot.

To insert their AV ballot into a tabulator, the voter would have to put the ballot in the secrecy sleeve, bring the ballot in the secrecy sleeve to an election location, and provide all identification required of an in-person voter to the appropriate election official. If the voter does not bring a secrecy sleeve, an election inspector would have to provide one and instruct the voter to place their ballot in the secrecy sleeve.

If an absentee voter drops off their ballot into a tabulator, the election inspectors processing that voter would have to note that the voter returned their ballot to the election location, and that the ballot was tabulated, in the poll book.

¹¹ The seal number for a ballot container containing tabulated AV ballots, which must currently be recorded on the statement sheet and in the poll book, would also have to be recorded on the ballot container certificate.

¹² City and township clerks are currently required to post the number of AV ballots received on election day and delivered to the appropriate board of election inspectors, in addition to the total number of AV ballots received and delivered to a board of election inspectors or to a AVCB before and on election day, by 9:00 p.m. on election day. SB 367 would remove this provision.

After the polls close on election day, the board of election inspectors for each precinct would have to place the ballots in the ballot containers before sealing the container and delivering it to the city or township clerk.

If a tabulator at an election day polling place cannot be programmed to accept and tabulate AV ballots, an absentee voter could not tabulate their ballot at the polling place but could instead surrender their voted ballot to an election inspector and be issued a new ballot to be voted at the polling place.

If a city or township with at least 250 precincts is unable to program an election day tabulator to accept an AV ballot for any election in an election year, the appropriate city or township clerk would have to modify the AV ballot instruction form to remove the ability to return a marked AV ballot to an election day polling place for tabulation.

Returned AV ballots for in-person voters

Before voting in person, an absent voter must generally return their AV ballot to the board of election inspectors in their precinct, and the board of election inspectors must cancel the ballot. Under the bill, this provision would not apply to an absent voter who brings their marked AV ballot to be inserted into a tabulator at an election day polling place or an early voting site.

Spoiled ballots

Voters would have to spoil their AV ballots by 5:00 p.m. on the second Friday before an election, rather than the Friday immediately before the election. (The deadline for spoiling a lost or non-received AV ballot would remain unchanged.) The bill would also provide that a voter could not spoil a ballot that has been tabulated.

Damaged or defective ballots

If an AV ballot cannot be properly counted by a tabulator because it is damaged or defective, or because it was for the incorrect precinct, election inspectors from different political parties would have to make a duplicate copy of the ballot and substitute it for the damaged or defective ballot. If the original ballot was for the wrong precinct, the election inspectors could only duplicate the ballot for the candidates and proposals that remain the same at both precincts. Duplicate ballots would have to be clearly labeled as such, and the serial numbers on the duplicate ballots would have to be recorded on the original damaged or defective AV ballot.¹³

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Photography and recording

The oath taken by any individual in attendance at an AVCB or CAVCB would have to include a statement that the individual will not photograph or otherwise record within the counting place anything other than publicly posted election results. The bill would allow the clerk or a member of the clerk's staff to administer the oath, in addition to a member of the AVCB or CAVCB.

An individual would generally be prohibited from photographing or recording anything inside an AV counting place other than posted election results. A clerk or clerk's employee, assistant, or consultant who photographs or records inside the AV counting place in fulfilling their

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¹³ The SOS would be responsible for developing procedures to label duplicated ballots.

official duties would be exempted. Additionally, an individual in charge of an ACVB could authorize news media to take wide-angled photographs or video inside the counting place if the recording is far enough away as not to disclose the face of any marked ballot. An individual in violation of these provisions would be expelled from the counting place and would be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Unofficial returns

An accumulation report of unofficial results that uses the tabulated votes available after 8:00 p.m. on election day would have to be compiled and published using a format that clearly indicates the election day precinct results, the corresponding AVCB results, the corresponding early voting results, and the sum of each of the above results for each precinct and contest.

If a city or township with at least 250 precincts uses common ballot forms instead of the election day precinct format for AVCBs and early voting sites, the accumulation report would not report results from AVCBs or early voting sites as corresponding to election day precincts. Accumulation reports would instead have to report the results for each election day precinct and separately report the results of each AVCB and corresponding early voting results. Each common ballot corm could constitute at least one separate AVCB and early voting precinct.

Repealed sections

Finally, Senate Bill 367 would repeal sections 14b, 24k, and 767 of the Michigan Election Law. Sections 14b and 24k pertain to absent voter ballot secrecy envelope containers, and section 767 pertains to the process of rejecting an AV ballot with an insufficient signature or an otherwise illegal AV ballot.

MCL 168.662 et seq.

BACKGROUND:

Thirty-eight states, in addition to the U.S. Virgin Islands, allow election officials to perform various AV ballot processing duties before election day, and ten states allow tabulation to begin before election day.¹⁴

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 367 would codify in statute provisions of Ballot Proposal 22-2 regarding early voting that entail significant costs to the state and to local units of government. While these costs are already incurred by the state and local units independently of SB 367, this summary provides details of cost estimates of both the bill and ballot proposal for full cost transparency.

The requirement that early voting sites be made available for at least nine consecutive days before the election date and be open for at least eight hours each day will result in significant one-time implementation costs and annual ongoing costs to the Department of State (DOS) and to city, township, and county clerks offices. DOS estimates early voting requirements to cost \$45.4 million in one-time implementation costs to both the state and local units of government and \$12.3 million annually to local units. DOS would incur \$9.5 million of the one-time

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¹⁴ For more information of processing and tabulation laws in each state, see: https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/table-16-when-absentee-mail-ballot-processing-and-counting-can-begin.

implementation costs, and municipal and county clerk offices would incur the remaining \$35.9 million.

Local government costs

Municipal clerks' offices would be fully responsible for staffing and equipment costs for each early voting site unless they agree to share costs with a county clerk through an early voting site agreement. Final costs would be partly dependent on the number and hours of election staff, election inspectors, and vendor support. Municipal clerks would also be responsible for costs of new equipment for each early voting site and costs associated with finding and establishing early voting sites. DOS has not yet received figures from local clerks regarding their equipment needs. Voting equipment costs would be dependent on what existing voting equipment is currently held by local clerks and shared early voting site agreements that they make with each other and counties that would facilitate greater equipment sharing. DOS estimates local voting equipment needs to be 5,000 tabulators at \$5,584 each, or \$27.9 million total, and 1,753 voter assist terminals at \$4,569 each, \$8.0 million total, for a total of \$35.9 million.

There would be additional costs related to the bill's requirement for municipal clerks to notify all voters of approved polling places and temporary voting sites. Assuming clerks send notifications by mailing postcards, at \$0.48, to all of the state's 8.1 million registered electors as required, total postage implementation costs would be approximately \$3.9 million. Ongoing costs to notify electors of changes in temporary voting sites would be substantially less and is estimated at \$1.0 million during even-numbered years.

Ongoing equipment costs to municipalities may include additional state Bureau of Elections-approved ballot bags or containers for transporting ballots from early voting sites. These generally range between \$80 and \$250 each, depending on the size. One larger-sized ballot bag can hold up to 2,000 ballots. Other ongoing costs would include additional staffing and contracted vendor costs. DOS estimates ongoing annual costs to locals for the items above to be approximately \$2,000 per precinct, or \$9.5 million to \$10.0 million.

The bill would permit municipalities to offer early voting sites for more than the minimum of nine consecutive days before an election (not including the Monday before election day), to be open for more than the minimum of eight hours each day, and to hold early voting on the Monday before an election day. Municipalities would incur increases in costs corresponding to the amount of additional time they offer for early voting.

State costs

The bill requires that the state provide technological or procedural resources to local election officials to prevent voters from casting more than one ballot at an election. Accordingly, DOS would be required to develop and program an electronic pollbook system and distribute necessary resources to local voting sites. DOS estimates the necessary technological resources to be approximately 5,000 electronic pollbook units at \$1,500 each, or \$7.5 million. Additional implementation costs reported by DOS include \$1.0 million for four additional IT programmers and \$1.0 million for network and performance upgrades to the Qualified Voter File system.

DOS reports that an additional 16.0 FTE positions and \$2.3 million would be required to provide the necessary procedural resources required by the bill, including developing and

providing training materials, developing model early voting agreements and plans, and issuing instructions and guidance to local election officials.

Final costs to the state government may include a significant portion of estimated costs to local units of government out of concern for upholding the state's Headlee amendment, which requires the state maintain its proportion of spending for costs of state mandated programs and requirements. The amount of state funding support for local units' costs has not been determined.

Early Voting Cost Estimates

Cost Type	<u>Description</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>Total</u>
One-Time				
	New Electronic Pollbooks	\$7,000,000		\$7,000,000
	IT Staffing	\$2,500,000		\$2,500,000
	Voting Equipment		\$35,929,500*	\$35,929,500
	Notifications Postage		\$3,895,500**	\$3,670,400
TOTAL		\$9,500,000***	\$39,825,000	\$49,325,000
Ongoing				
	Staffing, Voting Locations, Vendor Support	\$2,300,000	\$10,000,000	\$12,300,000
	Notifications Postage		\$1,000,000**	\$1,000,000
TOTAL		\$2,300,000***	\$11,000,000	\$13,300,000

Note: Estimates provided by the Department of State except where noted otherwise.

Senate Bill 367 also would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the state and on local units of government related to corrections and the judiciary. Individuals disclosing an election result from an early voting site before election day would be guilty of a felony under the bill, and individuals photographing or video recording a ballot or other election records in an absent voter counting place would be guilty of a misdemeanor. The number of these individuals is not known.

New felony convictions would result in increased costs related to state prisons and state probation supervision. In fiscal year 2022, the average cost of prison incarceration in a state facility was roughly \$47,900 per prisoner, a figure that includes various fixed administrative and operational costs. State costs for parole and felony probation supervision averaged about \$5,000 per supervised offender in the same year. Those costs are financed with state general fund/general purpose revenue. New misdemeanor convictions would increase costs related to county jails and/or local misdemeanor probation supervision. Costs of local incarceration in county jails and local misdemeanor probation supervision, and how those costs are financed, vary by jurisdiction.

The fiscal impact on local court systems would depend on how provisions of the bill affected court caseloads and related administrative costs. It is difficult to project the actual fiscal impact to courts due to variables such as law enforcement practices, prosecutorial practices, judicial

^{*}Final estimate awaiting input from locals on existing equipment and voting site agreements.

^{**}House Fiscal Agency estimate.

^{***}Final costs to state government may include a significant portion of local units' costs to comply with the Headlee amendment, which prohibits the state from shifting excessive financial burden of state initiatives to local units.

discretion, case types, and complexity of cases. Any increase in penal fine revenue would increase funding for public and county law libraries, which are the constitutionally designated recipients of those revenues.

In addition, the bill would result in an indeterminate increase in costs to certain cities and townships with over 500 registered voters related to compensating additional election workers and compensating staff for additional days. Costs would vary depending on the number of days before an election a municipality chooses to begin tabulating votes and the additional number of election staff and election inspectors are needed. The need for additional election inspectors will likely raise costs to municipalities substantially. In some circumstances, early tabulation of ballots may result in a decrease in costs if it enables a municipality to compensate workers for a comparable amount of time as they currently would without paying overtime wages.

POSITIONS:

[Senate Bill 367 (H-1) combines the provisions of Senate Bill 367 (S-1) and House Bill 4756 (H-1) as those bills were reported from the House Elections committee.¹⁵ Below are the positions indicated in that committee regarding those bills.]

Representatives of the following entities indicated support for House Bill 4756 (6-20-23):

- Michigan Secretary of State
- Promote the Vote (and indicated support for SB 367)

The following entities indicated support for Senate Bill 367 and House Bill 4756 (6-20-23):

- American Association of University Women Michigan
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Michigan
- Common Cause Michigan
- Institute for Responsive Government
- Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks
- Michigan League of Conservation Voters
- Voters not Politicians

The Michigan Townships Association indicated support for House Bill 4756. (6-20-23)

A representative of Pure Integrity for Michigan Elections testified in opposition to House Bill 4756 and indicated opposition to Senate Bill 367. (6-20-23)

Legislative Analyst: Holly Kuhn
Fiscal Analysts: Michael Cnossen
Robin Risko

■ 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.

¹⁵ HFA summary of SB 367 as reported: https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2023-2024/billanalysis/House/pdf/2023-HLA-0367-E790674B.pdf HFA summary of HB 4756 as reported: https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2023-2024/billanalysis/House/pdf/2023-HLA-4755-8F1A2D03.pdf