

# HOUSE BILL No. 5766

April 28, 1992, Introduced by Rep. Joe Young, Jr. and referred to the Committee on Elections.

A bill to amend sections 485, 643a, and 707 of Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, entitled "Michigan election law," being sections 168.485, 168.643a, and 168.707 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Section 1. Sections 485, 643a, and 707 of Act No. 116 of  
2 the Public Acts of 1954, being sections 168.485, 168.643a, and  
3 168.707 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, are amended to read as  
4 follows:

5 Sec. 485. ~~Any~~ A question submitted to the electors of  
6 this state or the electors of ~~any~~ A subdivision of this state  
7 shall, to the extent that it will not confuse the electorate, be  
8 worded ~~in the following manner: A "yes"~~ SO THAT A "FOR" vote  
9 will be a vote in favor of the subject matter of the proposal or

1 issue ~~/~~ and ~~a "no"~~ AN "AGAINST" vote will be a vote against  
 2 the subject matter of the proposal or issue. ~~Questions~~ THE  
 3 QUESTION shall be worded so as to apprise the voters of the  
 4 subject matter of the proposal or issue, but need not be legally  
 5 precise. THE QUESTION SHALL BE CLEARLY WRITTEN USING WORDS THAT  
 6 HAVE A COMMON EVERYDAY MEANING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. The lan-  
 7 guage used shall NOT create ~~no~~ prejudice for or against the  
 8 issue or proposal.

9       Sec. 643a. ~~Any~~ A question submitted to the electors of  
 10 this state or the electors of ~~any~~ A subdivision of this state  
 11 shall, to the extent that it will not confuse the electorate, be  
 12 worded ~~in the following manner: A "yes"~~ SO THAT A "FOR" vote  
 13 will be a vote in favor of the subject matter of the proposal or  
 14 issue ~~/~~ and ~~a "no"~~ AN "AGAINST" vote will be a vote against  
 15 the subject matter of the proposal or issue. ~~Questions~~ THE  
 16 QUESTION shall be worded so as to apprise the voters of the  
 17 subject matter of the proposal or issue, but need not be legally  
 18 precise. THE QUESTION SHALL BE CLEARLY WRITTEN USING WORDS THAT  
 19 HAVE A COMMON EVERYDAY MEANING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. The lan-  
 20 guage used shall NOT create ~~no~~ prejudice for or against the  
 21 issue or proposal.

22       Sec. 707. (1) ~~Whenever~~ IF a proposed constitutional  
 23 amendment or other proposition is to be submitted to the electors  
 24 of ~~the~~ THIS state for popular vote, the secretary of state,  
 25 ~~shall,~~ not less than 49 days ~~prior to~~ BEFORE the date of the  
 26 election at which ~~such~~ THE proposed constitutional amendment or  
 27 other proposition is to be submitted, SHALL certify to the

1 various county clerks the form of ballots to be prepared in  
 2 connection ~~therewith which~~ WITH THE PROPOSAL. THE BALLOT shall  
 3 ~~have printed thereon~~ CONTAIN a statement of ~~such~~ THE proposed  
 4 constitutional amendment or other proposition in ~~not to exceed~~  
 5 100 words OR LESS, exclusive of caption, as provided in section 2  
 6 of article ~~12~~ XII of the state constitution ~~, on~~ OF 1963. THE  
 7 BALLOT SHALL BE a single ballot separate and distinct from the  
 8 ballots containing the names of candidates or nominees for public  
 9 office. ~~over which shall appear~~ THE BALLOT SHALL CONTAIN a  
 10 suitable caption, ~~and~~ under which shall be printed the words  
 11 ~~"Yes ( )"~~ "FOR ( )" and ~~"No ( )"~~ "AGAINST ( )" in separate  
 12 lines. ~~, and it shall be the duty of the various boards~~ EACH  
 13 BOARD of county election commissioners ~~to~~ SHALL print ~~such~~  
 14 THE ballots for use in their respective counties.

15 (2) ~~Any~~ A city ordinance ~~which~~ THAT has been or is here-  
 16 after adopted by the ~~common council in~~ LEGISLATIVE BODY OF a  
 17 city WITH A POPULATION of ~~over~~ MORE THAN 500,000 and ~~which~~  
 18 THAT is subject to referendum shall be submitted to the people of  
 19 that city at the next general election unless submitted to a spe-  
 20 cial election by action of the ~~common council~~ LEGISLATIVE  
 21 BODY.