



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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BALLOT PROPOSAL LANGUAGE

House Bill 4093

Sponsor: Rep. Joseph Young, Jr.

Committee: Education

Complete to 2-14-94

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4093 AS INTRODUCED 2-2-93

The bill would amend the Michigan Election Law to require that ballot proposals submitted to the voters of the state or a political subdivision of the state be worded so that voters will vote "For" or "Against" a question rather than vote, as now, "Yes" or "No". The bill also would require that a question be clearly written using words that have a common everyday meaning to the general public.

The law currently requires that a ballot question be worded, to the extent that it will not confuse the electorate, so that a "Yes" vote would be a vote in favor of the subject matter of the proposal or issue and a "No" vote would be a vote against it. The bill would substitute "For" and "Against" for "Yes" and "No". The law now says a question must be worded "so as to apprise the voters of the subject matter of the proposal or issue, but need not be legally precise." The bill would retain that wording but add the new standard. (The election law also requires, for constitutional amendments and other statewide propositions, that the secretary of state prepare for the ballot form a statement of the amendment or other proposition in 100 words or less, exclusive of caption.)

MCL 168.485 et al.

House Bill 4093 (2-14-94)