

HOUSE BILL No. 6152

June 7, 2006, Introduced by Reps. Meyer, Newell, Stewart and Wenke and referred to the Committee on House Oversight, Elections, and Ethics.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending section 163 (MCL 168.163), as amended by 1999 PA 218.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 163. (1) To obtain the printing of the name of a person
2 as a candidate for nomination by a political party for the office
3 of state senator or representative under a particular party heading
4 upon the official primary ballots in the various election precincts
5 of a district, there shall be filed nominating petitions signed by
6 a number of qualified and registered electors residing in the
7 district as determined under section 544f. If the district
8 comprises more than 1 county, the nominating petitions shall be
9 filed with the secretary of state. If the district comprises 1

1 county or less, the nominating petitions shall be filed with the
2 county clerk of that county. Nominating petitions shall be in the
3 form prescribed in section 544c. The secretary of state and the
4 various county clerks shall receive nominating petitions for filing
5 in accordance with this act up to 4 p.m. of the twelfth Tuesday
6 ~~preceeding~~ **BEFORE** the August primary.

7 (2) ~~In~~ **UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2007, IN** lieu of filing a
8 nominating petition, a filing fee of \$100.00 may be paid to the
9 county clerk or, for a candidate in a district comprising more than
10 1 county, to the secretary of state. **BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2008, IN**
11 **LIEU OF FILING A NOMINATING PETITION, A FILING FEE OF \$500.00 MAY**
12 **BE PAID TO THE COUNTY CLERK OR, FOR A CANDIDATE IN A DISTRICT**
13 **COMPRISING MORE THAN 1 COUNTY, TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.** Payment
14 of the fee and certification of the name of the candidate paying
15 the fee shall be governed by the same provisions as in the case of
16 nominating petitions. The fee shall be deposited in the general
17 fund of the county and shall be refunded to candidates who are
18 nominated ~~and to an equal number of candidates who receive the~~
19 ~~next highest number of votes~~ in the primary election. ~~If 2 or~~
20 ~~more candidates tie in having the lowest number of votes allowing a~~
21 ~~refund, the sum of \$100.00 shall be divided among them.~~ A refund
22 of a deposit shall not be made to a candidate who withdraws as a
23 candidate.