

HOUSE BILL No. 4068

January 27, 2015, Introduced by Rep. Yanez and referred to the Committee on Elections.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending section 659 (MCL 168.659), as amended by 2014 PA 94.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 659. (1) If a county, city, ward, township, village,
2 metropolitan district, or school district is divided into 2 or more
3 election precincts, the county, city, ward, township, or village
4 election commissioners may, by resolution, consolidate the election
5 precincts for a particular election that is not a general November
6 election, primary election immediately before a general November
7 election, ~~or other statewide~~ or federal election. In making the
8 determination to consolidate election precincts for a particular
9 election, the election commission shall take into consideration the
10 number of choices the voter must make, the percentage of registered
11 voters who voted at the last similar election in the jurisdiction,

1 and the intensity of the interest of the electors in the
2 jurisdiction concerning the candidates and proposals to be voted
3 upon. Consolidated precincts shall not exceed 5,000 active
4 registered electors.

5 (2) A consolidation under this section shall be made not less
6 than 60 days before a primary, general, or special election.

7 (3) Unless the polling places for the election precincts to be
8 consolidated are located in the same building, when a county, city,
9 ward, township, or village consolidates election precincts for a
10 particular election under subsection (1), the election
11 commissioners or other designated election officials shall do both
12 of the following:

13 (a) Provide notice to the registered electors of the affected
14 election precincts of the consolidation of election precincts for
15 the particular election and the location of the polling place for
16 the election precinct or precincts for that election. Notice may be
17 provided by mail or other method designed to provide actual notice
18 to the registered electors.

19 (b) Post a written notice at each election precinct polling
20 place stating the location of the consolidated election precinct
21 polling place.

22 (4) If a county, city, ward, township, or village consolidates
23 election precincts under this section, each affected election
24 precinct shall be treated as a whole unit and shall not be divided
25 during the consolidation.