

# HOUSE BILL NO. 4788

May 05, 2021, Introduced by Rep. Markkanen and referred to the Committee on Elections and Ethics.

A bill to amend 1895 PA 3, entitled  
"The general law village act,"  
(MCL 61.1 to 74.25) by adding section 5b to chapter II.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

### CHAPTER II-OFFICERS

1  
2       **Sec. 5b. (1) To initiate limiting the terms of office of**  
3 **electd village officers in a village, a petition signed by not**  
4 **less than 10% of the registered electors of the village requesting**  
5 **a vote on the question of whether the terms of office of elected**

1 village officers in that village should be limited as provided in  
2 this section must be filed with the township clerk.

3 (2) A petition described in subsection (1) must provide that  
4 an individual shall not be elected to the same village office more  
5 than 4 times for an office with a 2-year term of office or more  
6 than 2 times for an office with a 4-year term of office.

7 (3) An individual appointed or elected to fill a vacancy in  
8 the same village office for a period of greater than 1/2 of a term  
9 of the office is considered to have been elected to serve 1 time in  
10 that office for purposes of this section.

11 (4) Not more than 14 days after a petition is filed under  
12 subsection (1), the township clerk shall verify the signatures and  
13 determine the sufficiency of the petition. If the clerk determines  
14 that the petition is sufficient, the question of limiting the terms  
15 of office of elected village officers in that village must appear  
16 on the ballot at the next general or special election to be held in  
17 the village, subject to the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL  
18 168.1 to 168.992. The township clerk shall prepare the ballot  
19 language in substantially the following form:

20 "Shall the terms of office of elected village officers in the  
21 village of \_\_\_\_\_ be limited so that an individual shall  
22 not be elected to the same village office more than 4 times for an  
23 office with a 2-year term of office or more than 2 times for an  
24 office with a 4-year term of office?

25 ( ) Yes

26 ( ) No".

27 (5) The county election commission of the county in which the  
28 greatest number of electors of the village reside shall provide  
29 ballots for the election. The clerk and election officials of the

1 township shall conduct the election.

2 (6) If the election on the proposed limiting of the terms of  
3 office of elected village officers in a village is to be held in  
4 conjunction with a general election or a state primary election  
5 immediately before a general election, the notices of the close of  
6 registration and election must be published as provided for by the  
7 state election laws. Otherwise, the county clerk of the county in  
8 which the greatest number of electors of the village reside shall  
9 publish the notices of the close of registration and election. The  
10 notice of the close of registration must include the ballot  
11 language of the proposal.

12 (7) The results of the election on the proposed limiting of  
13 the terms of office of elected village officers in a village must  
14 be canvassed by the board of county canvassers of the county in  
15 which the village is located.

16 (8) If a majority of the electors voting on the question vote  
17 in favor of limiting the terms of office of elected village  
18 officers in the village, the village shall limit the terms of  
19 office of elected village officers in that village as approved by  
20 the electors.