

AMEND BALLOT CHALLENGE REQUIREMENTS

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<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4567 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Penelope Tsernoglou
Committee: Elections
Complete to 5-22-23

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4567 would amend the Michigan Election Law to no longer require certain ballots to be automatically challenged.

Michigan voters can register to vote in person up to and on election day with proof of residency.¹ If the voter cannot prove residency in a city or township with a driver's license or state personal ID card, they may do so using both of the following, but the voter's ballot must be processed as a challenged ballot:

- Allowable *identification for election purposes*² or an affidavit indicating that the voter does not have that identification.
- A current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government document.

The Michigan Election Law also provides that if a voter does not have identification for election purposes when obtaining an absentee ballot from their local clerk's office, they cannot be given the ballot unless they sign an affidavit to that effect, and their ballot must then be processed as challenged.

House Bill 4567 would no longer require ballots cast by voters who provide identification for election purposes and a document indicating their residency to be automatically processed as challenged. (Voters who do not provide identification for election purposes and instead sign an affidavit would still have their ballots challenged.) Additionally, absentee voters who sign an affidavit stating that they do not have identification for election purposes when receiving an absentee ballot from their local clerk would no longer have their ballots challenged for reason of not having ID.

MCL 168.497 et seq.

¹ Voters may register in person without proof of residency up to and including 15 days before election day.

² *Identification for election purposes* is defined in section 2 of the Election Law and generally includes official IDs issued by a state, the U.S. government, the military, or a high school or institution of higher education. The full list can be found here: https://www.michigan.gov/sos/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/05mcalpine/photo_id_flyer.pdf?rev=a97660a57a54431a9c35e80a00b0e978&hash=80339AD55CE20E86B917C5659DA7EAAB. More information on Michigan's voter ID laws can be found here: <https://www.michigan.gov/sos/elections/upcoming-election-information/voters/election-day/a-guide-to-voter-id-affidavit-at-the-polls>.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state or on local units of government.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.