

**MICHIGAN ELECTION LAW (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 116 of 1954**

**168.624 Delegate to county or district conventions; qualifications; affidavit of identity; seating of delegates; violation as misdemeanor; complaint; procedure.**

Sec. 624. (1) A person holding a public office in this state or a municipal subdivision of this state may become a candidate for delegate to the county or district conventions.

(2) A candidate for delegate to the county or district conventions of a political party shall be a qualified and registered elector residing within, as well as having his or her actual bona fide residence within, the election precinct for which he or she desires to become a candidate on the filing deadline. A candidate must file an affidavit of identity as prescribed in section 558(1) with the county clerk of the county in which the candidate resides. A county clerk shall receive affidavits of identity under this section up to 4 p.m. on the thirteenth Tuesday before the time designated for holding a primary election in the county. All duly elected and certified delegates shall be seated at the county or district county conventions. A person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(3) If a written complaint is made to the county clerk with respect to the registration or bona fide residence, or both, of a candidate, the county clerk shall check with the township or city clerk of the township or city in which the candidate is registered or residing, or both. The township or city clerk shall report back to the county clerk within 48 hours as to the registration or bona fide residence, or both, of the candidate. If the township or city clerk's report shows that the candidate is not a registered elector or a bona fide resident of the election precinct of the township or city for which the petition shows the candidate is a resident, the county clerk shall remove the name of the candidate from the ballot. A complaint received by the county clerk after the ballots have been released for printing and before the primary election must not be acted upon.

**History:** 1954, Act 116, Eff. June 1, 1955;—Am. 1966, Act 42, Imd. Eff. May 26, 1966;—Am. 1976, Act 3, Imd. Eff. Feb. 3, 1976;—Am. 1988, Act 116, Imd. Eff. May 2, 1988;—Am. 1990, Act 7, Imd. Eff. Feb. 12, 1990;—Am. 1996, Act 583, Eff. Mar. 31, 1997;—Am. 1999, Act 218, Eff. Mar. 10, 2000;—Am. 2012, Act 276, Eff. Aug. 16, 2012;—Am. 2018, Act 120, Eff. Dec. 31, 2018.

**Compiler's note:** Section 2 of Act 116 of 1988 provides:

“If any portion of this amendatory act or the application of this amendatory act to any person or circumstances shall be found to be invalid by a court, the invalidity shall not affect the remaining portions or applications of this amendatory act which can be given effect without the invalid portion or application, if the remaining portions are not determined by the court to be inoperable, and to this end this amendatory act is declared to be severable.”

Act 269 of 2001, which was approved by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State on January 11, 2002, provided for the amendment of MCL 168.31, 168.73, 168.283, 168.393, 168.509y, 168.509aa, 168.561a, 168.624, 168.624a, 168.686, 168.706, 168.727, 168.737, 168.745, 168.769, 168.782b, 168.795, 168.795c, 168.797a, 168.798c, 168.799a, 168.803, 168.804, 168.842, and 168.931 of, the addition of Sec. 701 to, and the repeal of Sec. 509 of, Act 116 of 1954, known as the Michigan Election Law. A petition seeking a referendum on Act 269 of 2001 was filed with the Secretary of State. The Board of State Canvassers officially declared the sufficiency of the referendum petition on May 14, 2002. Const 1963, art 2, sec 9, provides that no law as to which the power of referendum properly has been invoked shall be effective thereafter unless approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon at the next general election. A referendum on Act 269 of 2001 was presented to the electors at the November 5, 2002, general election as Proposal 02-1, which read as follows:

**“A REFERENDUM ON PUBLIC ACT 269 OF 2001—AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN SECTIONS OF MICHIGAN ELECTION LAW**

Public Act 269 of 2001 would:

- Eliminate “straight party” vote option on partisan general election ballots.
- Require Secretary of State to obtain training reports from local election officials.
- Require registered voters who do not appear on registration list to show picture identification before voting a challenged ballot.
- Require expedited canvass if presidential vote differential is under 25,000.
- Require ballot counting equipment to screen ballots for voting errors to ensure the accurate tabulation of absentee ballots. Permit voters in polls to correct errors.
- Provide penalties for stealing campaign signs or accepting payment for campaign work while being paid as a public employee to perform election duties.

Should this law be approved?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No \_\_\_\_\_

Act 269 of 2001 was not approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon at the November 5, 2002, general election.

**Popular name:** Election Code