



House
Legislative
Analysis
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PICK PRES. PRIMARY AT POLLS

House Bill 5111
Sponsor: Rep. John Bennett
Committee: Elections

Complete to 9-12-91

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5111 AS INTRODUCED 9-11-91

Under the Michigan Election Law, a person who wishes to vote in the state's presidential primary must declare a party preference at least 30 days before the primary. The bill would instead permit a voter to declare his or her party preference to the city or township clerk at any time before the date of the primary or to an election official on the day of the primary at the polls. A change in party preference could be made at any time before or at the primary as well. The bill would also allow for an indication of party preference on an application for an absent voter ballot to be cast in the presidential primary.

Under the bill, a person could declare or change a party preference on the day of the presidential primary by applying in person with an election official at the polls in the voter's precinct on a form prescribed by the secretary of state. Upon receipt of such a form, the election official would compare identifying information with information on the voter registration cards or list and, if it corresponded, initial the form and forward it to the local clerk. The clerk would record the new party preference (and strike any previously stated preference) on the original and duplicate registration cards in a manner prescribed by the secretary of state. The clerk would mail to the elector a corrected voter identification card.

MCL 169.495 et al.

House Bill 5111 (9-12-91)