



House
Legislative
Analysis
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WRITE-IN QUALIFICATIONS

House Bill 4449
Sponsor: Rep. Beverly Hammerstrom
Committee: Local Government

Complete to 9-25-95

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4449 AS INTRODUCED 2-21-95

The bill would amend the Michigan Election Law to prohibit the counting of votes for a write-in candidate unless the candidate had filed a notarized declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate.

The secretary of state would have to prescribe and supply forms for the declaration of intent for write-in candidates, and clerks would be required to have them available. The form would contain the candidate's name and address, the office sought, and other information the secretary of state considered appropriate.

Declarations of intent would have to be filed on or before 5 p.m. on the Friday immediately preceding the election. However, if a candidate listed on the printed ballot died after that deadline, a write-in candidate could file a declaration of intent by noon on the Monday before the election. Filing officials would be required to deliver a list of those who had filed declarations to the board of election inspectors on or before the opening of the polls on election day.

A candidate who was defeated as a partisan candidate in a primary election, a candidate defeated in a non-partisan primary, and a candidate defeated at a caucus for a political party nomination would be ineligible to file a declaration of intent for the immediately succeeding general election.

MCL 168.737a

House Bill 4449 (9-25-95)