

HOUSE BILL No. 4685

May 1, 2001, Introduced by Reps. George, Richner, Vear, Toy, Drolet and Gilbert and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Resource Management.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending section 200 (MCL 168.200), as amended by 1998
PA 364.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 200. (1) A county clerk, a county treasurer, a regis-
2 ter of deeds, a prosecuting attorney, a sheriff, a drain commis-
3 sioner, and a surveyor shall be elected at the 2000 general
4 November election and every fourth year after that. However, in
5 a county in ~~which 1 of these offices~~ SUCH AN OFFICE is
6 abolished, ~~or~~ combined, OR APPOINTIVE as provided by law, ~~no~~
7 A person shall NOT be elected to that office in that county.

8 (2) Subject to subsections (3), (4), and (5), a county board
9 of commissioners may by resolution combine the offices of county
10 clerk and register of deeds in 1 office of the clerk register or

1 separate the office of the clerk register into the offices of
2 county clerk and register of deeds. A combination or separation
3 of offices shall not take effect before the expiration of the
4 current term of the affected offices.

5 (3) Before adopting a resolution to combine the offices of
6 county clerk and register of deeds or separate the office of
7 clerk register into the offices of county clerk and register of
8 deeds, a county board of commissioners shall study the question
9 of combining or separating the offices. The ~~mandatory~~ require-
10 ments of this subsection may be satisfied by conducting a public
11 hearing pursuant to subsection (4).

12 (4) The county board of commissioners as a whole body shall
13 hold ~~not less than~~ AT LEAST 1 public hearing, ~~held~~ subject to
14 the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275, on the
15 question of combining or separating the offices of county clerk
16 and register of deeds. The county board of commissioners may
17 vote on the question as a regularly scheduled agenda item not
18 less than 10 days or more than 30 days after the last public
19 hearing held by the county board of commissioners on the
20 question.

21 (5) Not later than the sixth Tuesday before the deadline for
22 filing the nominating petitions for the office of county clerk,
23 register of deeds, or clerk register, the county board of commis-
24 sioners may by a vote of 2/3 of the commissioners elected and
25 serving combine the offices of county clerk and register of deeds
26 or separate the office of the clerk register. The resolution
27 shall become effective upon the commencement of the next term of

1 office of the county clerk, register of deeds, or clerk register
2 after the adoption of the resolution.

3 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take
4 effect unless Senate Bill No. _____ or House Bill No. 4686
5 (request no. 00790'01 *) of the 91st Legislature is enacted into
6 law.