

# HOUSE BILL No. 4867

June 5, 2001, Introduced by Reps. Waters, Garza, Kolb, Spade, Murphy, Zelenko, Whitmer, Thomas, Woodward, Daniels, Phillips, Frank, Plakas, Switalski, Schermesser, Jacobs, Callahan, Lockwood, Lipsey, Williams, Reeves, Bernero, Rich Brown, Bovin, O'Neil, McConico, Quarles, Pestka, Adamini, Hale, Clark, Schauer, Minore, Wojno, Gielegem, Bogardus, Stallworth, Rivet, Hansen, Clarke, Jamnick, Kilpatrick, Dennis and Lemmons and referred to the Committee on Redistricting and Elections.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending sections 31, 33, 491, 497, 497a, 509n, 683, 720, 727, 744, 758, 759, 759b, 770, and 796a (MCL 168.31, 168.33, 168.491, 168.497, 168.497a, 168.509n, 168.683, 168.720, 168.727, 168.744, 168.758, 168.759, 168.759b, 168.770, and 168.796a), section 31 as amended by 1999 PA 220, section 33 as amended by 1996 PA 583, sections 491 and 497 as amended by 1989 PA 142, section 497a as amended by 1986 PA 220, section 509n as amended by 1999 PA 216, sections 727, 744, and 759 as amended by 1995 PA 261, section 758 as amended by 1996 PA 207, and section 796a as amended by 1998 PA 215, and by adding sections 499e, 720a, 755, and 773a.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 31. (1) The secretary of state shall do all of the  
2 following:

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1 (a) Subject to subsection (2), issue instructions and  
2 promulgate rules ~~pursuant to~~ UNDER the administrative proce-  
3 dures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, for the  
4 conduct of elections and registrations in accordance with the  
5 laws of this state.

6 (b) Advise and direct local election officials as to the  
7 proper methods of conducting elections.

8 (c) Publish and furnish for the use in each election pre-  
9 cinct before each state primary, GENERAL, and SPECIAL election a  
10 manual of instructions that includes specific instructions on  
11 assisting voters in casting their ballots, directions on the  
12 location of voting stations in polling places, procedures and  
13 forms for processing challenges, and procedures on prohibiting  
14 campaigning in the polling places as prescribed in this act.

15 (d) Publish indexed pamphlet copies of the registration,  
16 primary, and election laws and furnish to the various county,  
17 city, township, and village clerks a sufficient number of copies  
18 for their own use and to enable them to include 1 copy with the  
19 election supplies furnished each precinct board of election  
20 inspectors under their respective jurisdictions. The secretary  
21 of state may furnish single copies of the publications to organi-  
22 zations or individuals who request the same for purposes of  
23 instruction or public reference.

24 (e) Prescribe and require uniform forms, notices, and sup-  
25 plies the secretary of state considers advisable for use in the  
26 conduct of elections and registrations.

1 (f) Prepare the form of ballot for ~~any~~ A proposed  
2 amendment to the constitution or proposal under the initiative or  
3 referendum provision of the constitution to be submitted to the  
4 voters of this state.

5 (g) Require reports from the local election officials the  
6 secretary of state considers necessary.

7 (h) Investigate, or cause to be investigated by local  
8 authorities, the administration of election laws, and report vio-  
9 lations of the election laws and regulations to the attorney gen-  
10 eral or prosecuting attorney, or both, for prosecution.

11 (i) Publish in the legislative manual the vote for governor  
12 and secretary of state by townships and wards and the vote for  
13 members of the state legislature cast at the preceding November  
14 election ~~, which shall be~~ THAT IS returned to the secretary of  
15 state by the county clerks on or before the first day of December  
16 following the election. ~~All clerks~~ EACH CLERK shall furnish to  
17 the secretary of state, promptly and without compensation, ~~any~~  
18 further information requested of ~~them~~ THE CLERK to be used in  
19 the compilation of the legislative manual.

20 (j) Establish a curriculum for comprehensive training and  
21 accreditation of all county, city, township, village, and school  
22 elections officials. THE CURRICULUM SHALL INCLUDE TRAINING  
23 REGARDING STANDARDS OF APPROPRIATE CONDUCT BY ELECTION OFFICIALS.

24 (k) Establish and require attendance by all new appointed or  
25 elected election officials at an initial course of instruction  
26 within 6 months before the date of the election.

1 (l) Establish a comprehensive training curriculum for all  
2 ~~precinct~~ ELECTION inspectors. THE CURRICULUM SHALL INCLUDE  
3 TRAINING REGARDING STANDARDS OF APPROPRIATE CONDUCT BY ELECTION  
4 INSPECTORS.

5 (m) Create an election day dispute resolution team that has  
6 regional representatives of the department of state ~~, which team~~  
7 ~~shall~~ TO appear on site, if necessary.

8 (N) IN COOPERATION WITH LOCAL CLERKS, DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT  
9 ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

10 (i) NEIGHBORHOOD VOTER EDUCATION SEMINARS.

11 (ii) MAILINGS TO VOTERS PROVIDING INSTRUCTION IN THE USE OF  
12 VOTING EQUIPMENT AND OTHER PERTINENT ISSUES.

13 (iii) A TOLL-FREE LINE TO ANSWER PREELECTION QUESTIONS.

14 (2) ~~Pursuant to~~ IN ACCORDANCE WITH the administrative pro-  
15 cedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, the sec-  
16 retary of state may promulgate rules establishing uniform stan-  
17 dards for state and local nominating, recall, and ballot question  
18 petition signatures. The standards for petition signatures may  
19 include, but need not be limited to, standards for all of the  
20 following:

21 (a) Determining the validity of registration of a circulator  
22 or individual signing a petition.

23 (b) Determining the genuineness of the signature of a circu-  
24 lator or individual signing a petition.

25 (c) Proper designation of the place of registration of a  
26 circulator or individual signing a petition.

1       Sec. 33. (1) The director of elections shall conduct  
2 training schools throughout this state ~~preceding~~ BEFORE the  
3 general November election, and ~~preceding such~~ BEFORE other  
4 elections as the director considers advisable, for county clerks  
5 and their representatives with respect to the conducting of elec-  
6 tions in accordance with the election laws. ~~In case any~~ IF A  
7 county clerk ~~shall fail~~ FAILS to conduct in his or her county a  
8 training school for election boards within the county, the direc-  
9 tor of elections shall conduct ~~such~~ THE training school ~~,~~ AND  
10 CHARGE the cost of the training school to ~~be charged as an obli-~~  
11 ~~gation of~~ the county.

12       (2) The director of elections shall train all county, city,  
13 and township clerks who are involved in the training of  
14 ~~precinct~~ ELECTION inspectors. The training CURRICULUM shall  
15 include team training and monitoring of their performance as  
16 trainers. THE TRAINING CURRICULUM SHALL ALSO INCLUDE STANDARDS  
17 OF APPROPRIATE CONDUCT BY ELECTION OFFICIALS, INCLUDING CIVILITY  
18 AND INTERPERSONAL RELATIONS.

19       (3) The director of elections shall conduct all ~~precinct~~  
20 ELECTION inspector training in counties where the clerk has not  
21 been accredited to conduct the training ~~schools~~ SCHOOL.

22       Sec. 491. The BOARD OF ELECTION inspectors ~~of election~~ at  
23 ~~an election~~ A GENERAL, SPECIAL, or primary election in this  
24 state, or in a district, county, township, city, or village in  
25 this state, shall not receive the vote of a person whose name is  
26 not registered in the registration book or listed on the computer  
27 voter registration precinct list of the township, ward, or

1 precinct in which he or she offers to vote unless the person has  
2 met the requirements of section 507b OR HAS REGISTERED TO VOTE AT  
3 THE POLLING PLACE ON THE DAY OF THE ELECTION AS PROVIDED IN SEC-  
4 TION 499E.

5       Sec. 497. (1) A person who is not registered TO VOTE but  
6 ~~possesses~~ MEETS the qualifications of an elector as ~~set forth~~  
7 PROVIDED in section 492 ~~,~~ may apply for registration to the  
8 clerk of the county, township, city, or village in which he or  
9 she resides on a day other than Saturday, Sunday, OR a legal  
10 holiday. ~~,~~ or the day of a regular, primary, school, or special  
11 election. Registrations accepted ~~between~~ BEGINNING the thirti-  
12 eth day ~~preceding~~ BEFORE an election and THROUGH the day ~~of~~  
13 BEFORE the election, unless the thirtieth day falls on a  
14 Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, in which event registration  
15 shall be accepted during the following day, are not valid for the  
16 election but are valid for A subsequent regular, primary, school,  
17 or special ~~elections that are~~ ELECTION THAT IS held ~~so that~~  
18 ~~not less~~ MORE than 30 days ~~intervene between~~ AFTER the date  
19 the person registered. ~~and the date of the election.~~ A PERSON  
20 WHO IS NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE BUT MEETS THE QUALIFICATIONS OF AN  
21 ELECTOR AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 492 MAY APPLY FOR REGISTRATION TO  
22 THE CLERK OF THE TOWNSHIP, CITY, OR VILLAGE, OR AUTHORIZED  
23 ASSISTANT TO THE CLERK AT THE POLLING PLACE ON THE DAY OF AN  
24 ELECTION AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 499E. A REGISTRATION ACCEPTED AT  
25 THE POLLING PLACE ON THE DAY OF AN ELECTION IS VALID FOR THAT  
26 ELECTION AND EACH SUBSEQUENT ELECTION.

1           (2) Except as otherwise provided in THIS SECTION AND  
2 sections ~~499a to 499c~~ 499E, 500a to 500j, and 504, an  
3 application for registration shall not be executed at a place  
4 other than the office of the county, township, city, or village  
5 clerk or a public place or places designated by the clerk ~~or~~  
6 ~~deputy registrar~~ for receiving registrations. ~~, but the~~  
7 HOWEVER, A clerk or ~~deputy registrar~~ ASSISTANT CLERK may  
8 receive an application wherever he or she may be. If a county,  
9 township, city, or village clerk does not regularly keep his or  
10 her office open daily during certain hours, the clerk ~~shall~~ IS  
11 not ~~be~~ required to be at his or her office for the purpose of  
12 receiving applications for registration on a particular day nor  
13 during specific hours of a day, except as provided in section  
14 498. Registrations taken after the time of closing registrations  
15 before an election need not be processed until the date immedi-  
16 ately following that election. A registration shall not be  
17 placed in a precinct registration file until the date immediately  
18 following that election. If a person registers at a time that  
19 registrations are closed for an election, the person shall be  
20 given a notice, signed by the clerk, on a form developed by the  
21 secretary of state, informing him or her that, UNLESS THE PERSON  
22 REGISTERS AT THE POLLING PLACE ON THE DAY OF THE ELECTION, he or  
23 she is not eligible to vote in the election and indicating the  
24 first date on which he or she is eligible to vote. Except as  
25 provided in sections 500a to 500j, the provisions of this section  
26 relating to registration shall apply.

1           Sec. 497a. The 30-day limitation contained in section 497  
2 ~~shall~~ DOES not apply to a second school millage election  
3 allowable under section 36(3) of the general property tax act,  
4 ~~Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, as amended, being~~  
5 ~~section 211.36 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, or to a first~~  
6 ~~school millage election held under section 36(2) during calendar~~  
7 ~~year 1986 if a school district's operating revenue is less than~~  
8 ~~the total operating revenue for the previous school year 1893 PA~~  
9 ~~206, MCL 211.36. For those elections, a registration taken on~~  
10 ~~the days intervening between~~ ACCEPTED BEGINNING the tenth day  
11 ~~preceding~~ BEFORE the election and THROUGH the day ~~of~~ BEFORE  
12 the election ~~shall~~ IS not ~~be~~ valid for that election but  
13 ~~shall be~~ IS valid for a subsequent regular, primary, or special  
14 election of the district. A PERSON MAY REGISTER AT THE POLLING  
15 PLACE ON THE DAY OF THE ELECTION AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 499E.

16           SEC. 499E. (1) THE CLERK OF A CITY, TOWNSHIP, OR VILLAGE  
17 SHALL BE PRESENT OR HAVE AN ASSISTANT CLERK BE PRESENT AT A POLL-  
18 ING PLACE AT ALL TIMES THE POLLING PLACE IS OPEN ON THE DAY OF AN  
19 ELECTION HELD UNDER THIS ACT. THE CLERK OR ASSISTANT CLERK SHALL  
20 RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AS PROVIDED IN THIS  
21 SECTION.

22           (2) IN ADDITION TO ALL OTHER RIGHTS TO REGISTRATION UNDER  
23 THIS CHAPTER, AN ELECTOR ENTITLED TO REGISTRATION IN AN ELECTION  
24 PRECINCT MAY BECOME REGISTERED IN THE PRECINCT BY APPLYING IN  
25 PERSON TO A CLERK OR ASSISTANT CLERK AT THE POLLING PLACE ON THE  
26 DAY OF AN ELECTION. THE ELECTOR SHALL EXECUTE IN DUPLICATE A

1 REGISTRATION SWORN STATEMENT AND SWEAR TO AND SIGN THE SWORN  
2 STATEMENT IN THE PRESENCE OF THE CLERK OR ASSISTANT CLERK.

3 (3) THE CLERK OR ASSISTANT CLERK SHALL REQUIRE THE APPLICANT  
4 FOR REGISTRATION TO ANSWER UNDER OATH A QUESTION CONCERNING THE  
5 ELECTOR'S QUALIFICATION AS AN ELECTOR. THE CLERK OR ASSISTANT  
6 CLERK MAY ADMINISTER OATHS AND SWEAR PERSONS AS TO THE TRUTH OF  
7 STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN REGISTRATION SWORN STATEMENTS. THE CLERK  
8 MAY EMPLOY AND SWEAR AN INTERPRETER TO INTERPRET ALL QUESTIONS  
9 PUT TO AN APPLICANT AND THE ANSWERS TO THOSE QUESTIONS. IF THE  
10 APPLICANT, IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION OR IN THE REGISTRATION SWORN  
11 STATEMENT, MAKES A MATERIAL STATEMENT THAT IS FALSE, THE APPLI-  
12 CANT IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR.

13 (4) IF THE APPLICANT IS ENTITLED TO REGISTRATION, THE CLERK  
14 OR ASSISTANT CLERK SHALL PERSONALLY SIGN AND NOTE ON THE CARD THE  
15 ACCEPTANCE OF THE REGISTRATION. IF THE REGISTRATION IS REFUSED,  
16 THE CLERK OR ASSISTANT CLERK SHALL DESTROY THE CARD OF THE  
17 APPLICANT. CARDS VALIDATED BY THIS SECTION SHALL BE DESIGNATED  
18 AS PRESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THE CLERK OR ASSISTANT  
19 CLERK SHALL NOT ACCEPT A FEE FROM AN ELECTOR APPLYING FOR REGIS-  
20 TRATION, EITHER FOR THE REGISTERING OF THE ELECTOR OR FOR THE  
21 TAKING OF THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT ON THE SWORN STATEMENT. A CLERK OR  
22 ASSISTANT CLERK WHO ACCEPTS A FEE IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR.

23 (5) IMMEDIATELY AFTER APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRA-  
24 TION UNDER SUBSECTION (4), THE CLERK OR ASSISTANT CLERK SHALL  
25 PREPARE A REGISTRATION CARD OR AN INSERT TO A REGISTRATION LIST  
26 IN A FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THE CLERK OR  
27 ASSISTANT CLERK SHALL HAVE THE REGISTRATION CARD OR INSERT TO A

1 REGISTRATION LIST TRANSFERRED TO THE BOARD OF ELECTION INSPECTORS  
2 AT THE POLLING PLACE IN ORDER FOR THE NEWLY REGISTERED ELECTOR TO  
3 APPLY TO VOTE AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 523.

4 (6) THE CLERK SHALL PREPARE AND SEND A VOTER IDENTIFICATION  
5 CARD IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED FOR CORRECTED VOTER IDENTIFICATION  
6 CARDS IN SECTION 499 AS SOON AS PRACTICAL AFTER THE ELECTION.

7 Sec. 509n. The secretary of state is responsible for the  
8 coordination of the requirements imposed under this chapter and  
9 the national voter registration act of 1993. The secretary of  
10 state shall do all of the following:

11 (a) Develop a mail registration form and make the form  
12 available for distribution through governmental and private enti-  
13 ties, with special emphasis on making the form available to voter  
14 registration programs established for the purpose of registering  
15 citizens of this state to vote.

16 (b) Instruct designated voter registration agencies; county,  
17 city, township, and village clerks; and school officials regard-  
18 ing the voter registration procedures and requirements imposed by  
19 law.

20 (c) By June 15 of each odd numbered year, submit to each  
21 member of the committees of the senate and house of representa-  
22 tives with primary responsibility for election matters a report  
23 on the qualified voter file. The report shall include, but  
24 ~~need~~ IS not ~~be~~ limited to, both of the following:

25 (i) Information on the efficiency and effectiveness of the  
26 qualified voter file as a voter registration system.

1       (ii) ~~Any recommendations~~ RECOMMENDATIONS of the secretary  
2 of state for amendments to this act to increase the efficiency  
3 and effectiveness of the qualified voter file as a voter regis-  
4 tration system.

5       (D) IN COOPERATION WITH COUNTY, CITY, TOWNSHIP, AND VILLAGE  
6 CLERKS, MAINTAIN THE ACCURACY OF THE QUALIFIED VOTER FILE. THE  
7 SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PROVIDE QUALIFIED VOTER FILE INFORMATION  
8 TO A LOCAL CLERK AT LEAST 1 WEEK BEFORE AN ELECTION TO PERMIT THE  
9 CLERK ADEQUATE TIME TO REVIEW THE INFORMATION AND UPDATE REGIS-  
10 TRATION RECORDS.

11       Sec. 683. Each county clerk prior to each primary, ~~and~~  
12 GENERAL, AND SPECIAL election shall, by some reliable means,  
13 notify the clerk of each township and city in the county of a  
14 training school for election inspectors to be held at a place  
15 designated by the county clerk within 20 days ~~prior to each~~  
16 BEFORE A primary, general, and special election. The township  
17 and city clerks shall notify each election inspector appointed to  
18 serve at that election of the time and place of ~~such~~ THE train-  
19 ing school. At ~~such meeting~~ THE TRAINING SCHOOL, the county  
20 clerk shall TRAIN ELECTION INSPECTORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CUR-  
21 RICULUM ESTABLISHED IN SECTIONS 31 AND 33, AND SHALL instruct and  
22 demonstrate ~~the manner in which~~ HOW the duties of election  
23 inspectors are required by law to be performed. It shall be the  
24 duty of the ELECTION inspectors, ~~so~~ notified UNDER THIS  
25 SECTION, to attend ~~such meeting~~ THE TRAINING SCHOOL unless  
26 excused by the county clerk for good cause. Compensation FOR  
27 ATTENDING THE TRAINING SCHOOL may be paid ~~them therefor by their~~

1 ~~respective municipalities at such rate as may be determined by~~  
 2 ~~the governing bodies~~ TO AN ELECTION INSPECTOR UNDER SECTION  
 3 682. ~~No inspector of~~ AN election INSPECTOR shall NOT serve in  
 4 ~~any~~ AN election unless he ~~shall have~~ OR SHE HAS BEEN CERTI-  
 5 FIED TO HAVE within the last ~~preceding~~ 2 years either attended  
 6 AND SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED an election TRAINING school or ~~shall~~  
 7 ~~have~~ passed ~~satisfactorily~~ an examination given by the elec-  
 8 tion commission of the city, township, or village in which HE OR  
 9 SHE WAS appointed. The examination shall be subject to the  
 10 approval of the secretary of state. This section ~~shall~~ DOES  
 11 not prevent the appointment of an ~~inspector of~~ election  
 12 INSPECTOR to fill a vacancy. This section ~~shall~~ DOES not pro-  
 13 hibit ~~any~~ A city or ~~any~~ township having a population of  
 14 10,000 or more from conducting its own training school for elec-  
 15 tion inspectors of that city or township. ~~in which case~~  
 16 ~~election~~ ELECTION inspectors who have attended ~~such~~ A CITY OR  
 17 TOWNSHIP TRAINING school ~~shall~~ ARE not ~~be~~ required to attend  
 18 the county training school.

19 Sec. 720. (1) On the day of ~~any~~ AN election, the polls  
 20 shall ~~be opened~~ OPEN at 7 ~~o'clock in the forenoon,~~ A.M. and  
 21 shall be continuously open until 8 ~~o'clock in the afternoon and~~  
 22 ~~no longer~~ P.M. ~~Every~~ EACH qualified elector present and in  
 23 line at the polls at ~~the hour prescribed for the~~ closing  
 24 ~~thereof~~ TIME shall be allowed to vote.

25 (2) IN A JURISDICTION CONDUCTING EARLY VOTING UNDER SECTION  
 26 720A, THE POLLS SHALL OPEN AND CLOSE AT THE HOURS DESIGNATED BY  
 27 THE CLERK CONDUCTING THE ELECTION. THE CLERK SHALL POST THE

1 HOURS THAT THE POLLS WILL BE OPEN AT EACH EARLY VOTING POLLING  
2 PLACE AND SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE TO ELECTORS OF THE LOCATION OF  
3 EACH EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE AND THE DATES AND HOURS THE EARLY  
4 VOTING POLLING PLACE WILL BE OPEN. THE NOTICE TO ELECTORS SHALL  
5 SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLY WITH THE FORM IN SECTION 653A.

6 SEC. 720A. (1) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2002, LOCAL JURISDIC-  
7 TIONS MAY PARTICIPATE IN EARLY VOTING. THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
8 SHALL APPROVE A PLAN FOR EARLY VOTING SUBMITTED BY A LOCAL JURIS-  
9 DICTION IF IT MEETS THE GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE SECRETARY  
10 OF STATE. THE GUIDELINES SHALL INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO,  
11 THE FOLLOWING:

12 (A) THE PLAN SUBMITTED BY A LOCAL JURISDICTION SHALL CONTAIN  
13 A COMMITMENT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE LOCAL JURISDICTION  
14 TO CONDUCT EARLY VOTING.

15 (B) EARLY VOTING IN A LOCAL JURISDICTION SHALL BE PLANNED  
16 AND IMPLEMENTED TO REDUCE DELAYS AND CONGESTION AT THE POLLS ON  
17 ELECTION DAY.

18 (C) POLLING PLACES SELECTED FOR EARLY VOTING SHALL BE CON-  
19 VENIENT FOR ELECTORS AND MAY INCLUDE COMMUNITY CENTERS, SHOPPING  
20 MALLS, OR OTHER LOCATIONS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

21 (2) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL COOPERATE WITH A JURISDIC-  
22 TION CONDUCTING EARLY VOTING AND PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO  
23 A JURISDICTION REQUESTING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

24 (3) A JURISDICTION CONDUCTING EARLY VOTING SHALL FOLLOW THE  
25 PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT REGARDING ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

26 (A) SELECTION OF AN EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE.

1 (B) ELECTION INSPECTORS.

2 (C) CHALLENGES TO VOTERS.

3 (D) POLL BOOK AND POLL LIST.

4 (E) NOTICES, INSTRUCTIONS, AND PLACARDS.

5 (F) SECURITY OF A VOTING MACHINE OR OTHER VOTING SYSTEM.

6 (G) BALLOT SECURITY, BALLOT CONTAINERS, BALLOT COUNTING, AND  
7 BALLOT PRESERVATION.

8 (4) "EARLY VOTING", AS USED IN SECTION 720 AND THIS SECTION,  
9 MEANS THE PERIOD OF TIME FROM 1 WEEK BEFORE A PRIMARY, GENERAL,  
10 OR SPECIAL ELECTION THROUGH THE DAY BEFORE A PRIMARY, GENERAL, OR  
11 SPECIAL ELECTION WHEN A QUALIFIED AND REGISTERED ELECTOR MAY VOTE  
12 IN PERSON AT A POLLING PLACE DESIGNATED BY THE CLERK CONDUCTING  
13 THE ELECTION.

14 Sec. 727. (1) An election inspector shall challenge ~~a~~  
15 ~~person applying for ballots~~ AN APPLICANT FOR A BALLOT if the  
16 ELECTION inspector knows or has good reason to suspect THAT the  
17 applicant is not a qualified and registered elector of the pre-  
18 cinct, or if a challenge appears in connection with the  
19 applicant's name in the registration book. A registered elector  
20 of the precinct present in the polling place may challenge the  
21 right of anyone attempting to vote if the elector knows or has  
22 good reason to suspect that ~~person~~ THE INDIVIDUAL is not a reg-  
23 istered elector in that precinct. An election inspector or other  
24 qualified challenger may challenge the right of ~~a person~~ AN  
25 INDIVIDUAL attempting to vote who has previously applied for an  
26 absent voter ballot and who on election day is claiming to have

1 never received the absent voter ballot or to have lost or  
2 destroyed the absent voter ballot.

3 (2) Upon a challenge being made under subsection (1), an  
4 election inspector shall immediately do all of the following:

5 (a) Identify ~~pursuant to section~~ AS PROVIDED IN  
6 SECTIONS 745 AND 746 ~~any~~ A ballot voted by the challenged indi-  
7 vidual, if any.

8 (b) Make a written report including all of the following  
9 information:

10 (i) All election disparities or infractions complained of or  
11 believed to have occurred.

12 (ii) The name of the ~~person~~ INDIVIDUAL making the  
13 challenge.

14 (iii) The time of the challenge.

15 (iv) The name, telephone number, and address of the chal-  
16 lenged individual.

17 (v) ~~Any other~~ OTHER information considered appropriate by  
18 the election inspector.

19 (c) Retain the written report created under subdivision (b)  
20 and make it a part of the election record.

21 (D) INFORM A CHALLENGED ELECTOR OF HIS OR HER RIGHTS UNDER  
22 SECTION 729.

23 (3) A challenger shall not make a challenge indiscriminately  
24 and without good cause. A challenger shall not handle the poll  
25 books while observing election procedures or the ballots during  
26 the counting of the ballots. A challenger shall not interfere  
27 with or unduly delay the work of the election inspectors. A

1 person who challenges a qualified and registered elector of a  
2 voting precinct for the purpose of annoying or delaying voters is  
3 guilty of a misdemeanor.

4 (4) PRINTED INSTRUCTIONS INFORMING AN ELECTOR CHALLENGED  
5 UNDER SUBSECTION (1) OF THE CHALLENGED ELECTOR'S RIGHTS UNDER  
6 SECTION 729 SHALL BE PRINTED IN LARGE TYPE AND CONSPICUOUSLY DIS-  
7 PLAYED IN EACH POLLING PLACE.

8 Sec. 744. (1) An election inspector or ~~any~~ other ~~person~~  
9 INDIVIDUAL in the polling ~~room or~~ PLACE, in a compartment con-  
10 nected to the polling ~~room~~ PLACE, or within 100 feet from ~~any~~  
11 AN entrance to the building in which the polling place is located  
12 shall not persuade or endeavor to persuade ~~a person~~ AN  
13 INDIVIDUAL to vote for or against ~~any~~ A particular candidate or  
14 party ticket, or for or against ~~any~~ A ballot question that is  
15 being voted on at the election. ~~A person~~ AN INDIVIDUAL shall  
16 not place or distribute stickers, other than stickers provided by  
17 the election officials ~~pursuant to law~~ UNDER THIS ACT, in the  
18 polling ~~room~~ PLACE or in a compartment connected to the polling  
19 ~~room~~ PLACE or within 100 feet from ~~any~~ AN entrance to the  
20 building in which the polling place is located.

21 (2) A person shall not solicit donations, gifts, contribu-  
22 tions, purchase of tickets, or similar demands, or request or  
23 obtain signatures on petitions in the polling ~~room or~~ PLACE, in  
24 a compartment connected to the polling ~~room~~ PLACE, or within  
25 100 feet from ~~any~~ AN entrance to the building in which the  
26 polling place is located.

1 (3) On election day, a person shall not post, display, or  
 2 distribute in a polling place, in ~~any~~ A hallway used by voters  
 3 to enter or exit a polling place, or within 100 feet of an  
 4 entrance to a building in which a polling place is located ~~any~~  
 5 material that directly or indirectly makes reference to an elec-  
 6 tion, a candidate, or a ballot question. This subsection does  
 7 not apply to official material that is required by law to be  
 8 posted, displayed, or distributed in a polling place on election  
 9 day. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SUBSECTION, "ELECTION DAY" INCLUDES  
 10 EARLY VOTING UNDER SECTION 720A.

11 (4) AN ELECTION INSPECTOR OR OTHER INDIVIDUAL IN THE POLLING  
 12 PLACE OR WITHIN 100 FEET FROM AN ENTRANCE TO THE BUILDING IN  
 13 WHICH THE POLLING PLACE IS LOCATED SHALL NOT ASK AN ELECTOR THE  
 14 FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

15 (A) IF THE ELECTOR OWES BACK CHILD SUPPORT.

16 (B) IF THE ELECTOR HAS AN OUTSTANDING WARRANT FOR HIS OR HER  
 17 ARREST.

18 (C) IF THE ELECTOR HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY.

19 (5) ~~(4)~~ A person who violates this section is guilty of a  
 20 misdemeanor.

21 SEC. 755. (1) IF A BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS DETER-  
 22 MINES THAT THE NUMBER OF NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING ELECTORS IN A PRE-  
 23 CINCT INDICATES A NEED FOR AN INTERPRETER, A BOARD OF ELECTION  
 24 COMMISSIONERS MAY APPOINT AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS FLUENT IN THAT  
 25 NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE TO SERVE AS AN INTERPRETER TO ASSIST ELEC-  
 26 TORS IN THAT PRECINCT. AN INDIVIDUAL APPOINTED UNDER THIS  
 27 SECTION SHALL ONLY PROVIDE TO ELECTORS REQUIRING ASSISTANCE IN A

1 NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE THE SAME TYPE OF ASSISTANCE THAT AN ELECTION  
2 INSPECTOR MAY PROVIDE TO AN ENGLISH SPEAKING ELECTOR.

3 (2) AN INDIVIDUAL APPOINTED AS AN INTERPRETER UNDER THIS  
4 SECTION SHALL MEET ALL THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

5 (A) EXCEPT FOR THE REQUIREMENT OF POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIA-  
6 TION, AN INTERPRETER SHALL HAVE THE QUALIFICATIONS OF AN ELECTION  
7 INSPECTOR UNDER SECTION 677.

8 (B) VERBAL AND WRITTEN FLUENCY IN ENGLISH AND A NON-ENGLISH  
9 LANGUAGE.

10 (C) THE INTERPRETER SHALL SIGN A SWORN STATEMENT THAT HE OR  
11 SHE WILL INTERPRET AND TRANSLATE LITERALLY AND WITHOUT  
12 PARAPHRASING.

13 (D) THE INTERPRETER SHALL NOT ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE AN ELEC-  
14 TOR TO VOTE FOR OR AGAINST A CANDIDATE OR BALLOT QUESTION ON THE  
15 BALLOT.

16 (3) AN INTERPRETER APPOINTED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL  
17 RECEIVE COMPENSATION IN THE SAME MANNER AS UNDER SECTION 28.

18 Sec. 758. ~~-(1) For the purposes of-~~ AS USED IN this act,  
19 "absent voter" means a qualified and registered elector who  
20 ~~meets 1 or more of the following requirements:~~

21 ~~(a) On account of physical disability, cannot without~~  
22 ~~another's assistance attend~~ WISHES TO VOTE WITHOUT ATTENDING the  
23 polls on the day of an election.

24 ~~-(b) On account of the tenets of his or her religion, cannot~~  
25 ~~attend the polls on the day of election.~~

1 ~~(c) Cannot attend the polls on the day of an election in the~~  
2 ~~precinct in which he or she resides because of being an election~~  
3 ~~precinct inspector in another precinct.~~

4 ~~(d) Is 60 years of age or older.~~

5 ~~(e) Is absent or expects to be absent from the township or~~  
6 ~~city in which he or she resides during the entire period the~~  
7 ~~polls are open for voting on the day of an election.~~

8 ~~(f) Cannot attend the polls on election day because of being~~  
9 ~~confined in jail awaiting arraignment or trial.~~

10 ~~(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to~~ ABSENT VOTER DOES NOT  
11 INCLUDE a person who has moved outside of this state, regardless  
12 of length of his or her residence outside of this state, and who  
13 no longer maintains an actual residence in this state. The stor-  
14 age of personal effects or household goods, the ownership of  
15 property that is rented or leased to others, or occasional brief  
16 visits to a former domicile in this state while residing outside  
17 of this state for most of the year does not constitute a resi-  
18 dence for voting purposes in this state, except for each of the  
19 following:

20 (a) A person described in section 1 of article II of the  
21 state constitution of 1963 and statutes enacted under that  
22 section.

23 (b) A person described in section 759a.

24 Sec. 759. (1) At any time during the 75 days before a pri-  
25 mary ELECTION or special primary ELECTION, but not later than 2  
26 p.m. of the Saturday immediately before the primary ELECTION or  
27 special primary ELECTION, an elector who qualifies to vote as an

1 absent voter ~~, as defined in section 758,~~ may apply for an  
2 absent voter ballot. The elector shall apply in person or by  
3 mail with the clerk of the township, city, or village in which  
4 the elector is registered. An application received before a pri-  
5 mary ELECTION or special primary ELECTION may be for either that  
6 primary ELECTION only, or for that primary ELECTION and the elec-  
7 tion that follows.

8 (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (1), at any  
9 time during the 75 days before an election, but not later than 2  
10 p.m. of the Saturday before the election, an elector who quali-  
11 fies to vote as an absent voter ~~, as defined in section 758,~~  
12 may apply for an absent voter ballot. The elector shall apply in  
13 person or by mail with the clerk of the township, city, or vil-  
14 lage in which the voter is registered.

15 (3) An application for an absent voter ballot under this  
16 section may be made in any of the following ways:

17 (a) By a written request signed by the ~~voter stating the~~  
18 ~~statutory grounds for making the application~~ ELECTOR.

19 (b) On an absent voter ballot application form provided for  
20 that purpose by the clerk of the city, township, or village.

21 (c) On a federal postcard application.

22 (4) An applicant for an absent voter ballot shall sign the  
23 application. A clerk or assistant clerk shall not deliver an  
24 absent voter ballot to an applicant who does not sign the  
25 application. ~~A person other~~ OTHER than the applicant; a member  
26 of the applicant's immediate family; a person residing in the  
27 applicant's household; a person whose job normally includes the

1 handling of mail, but only during the course of his or her  
2 employment; a registered elector requested by the applicant TO  
3 RETURN THE APPLICATION; or a clerk, assistant of the clerk, or  
4 other authorized election official, A PERSON shall not be in pos-  
5 session of a signed absent voter ballot application. A regis-  
6 tered elector who is requested by the applicant to return his or  
7 her absent voter ballot application shall sign the certificate on  
8 the absent voter ballot application.

9 (5) The clerk of the city, township, or village shall have  
10 absent voter ballot application forms available in the office of  
11 the clerk at all times and shall furnish an absent voter ballot  
12 application form to anyone upon a verbal or written request. The  
13 absent voter ballot application shall be in substantially the  
14 following form:

15 "Application for absent voter ballot for:

16 [] The primary ELECTION or special primary election to be  
17 held on ....., 19... [DATE].

18 [] The election to be held on ....., 19...  
19 ..... [DATE].

20 (Check applicable election or elections)

21 I, ....., a qualified and registered elector of  
22 the ..... precinct of the township of ..... or village  
23 of ..... or of the ..... ward of the city  
24 of ....., in the county of ..... and state of  
25 Michigan, apply for an official ballot, or ballots, to be voted  
26 by me at the election or elections as requested in this  
27 application.

1 ~~The statutory grounds on which I base my request are:~~

2 ~~[ ] I expect to be absent from the community in which I am~~  
3 ~~registered for the entire time the polls are open on election~~  
4 ~~day.~~

5 ~~[ ] I am physically unable to attend the polls without the~~  
6 ~~assistance of another.~~

7 ~~[ ] I cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of my~~  
8 ~~religion.~~

9 ~~[ ] I have been appointed an election precinct inspector in a~~  
10 ~~precinct other than the precinct where I reside.~~

11 ~~[ ] I am 60 years of age or older.~~

12 ~~[ ] I cannot attend the polls because I am confined to jail~~  
13 ~~awaiting arraignment or trial.~~

14 ~~(Check applicable reason)~~

15 Send absent voter ballot to me at:

16 .....  
17 (Street No. or R.R.)

18 .....  
19 (Post Office) (State) ZIP CODE

20 My registered address.....  
21 (Street No. or R.R.)

22 .....  
23 (Post Office) (State) ZIP CODE

24 Date.....

25 I ~~declare~~ SWEAR that the statements in this absent voter  
26 ballot application are true.

27 .....  
28 (Signature)

29 WARNING

1 A person making a false statement in this absent voter  
2 ballot application is guilty of a misdemeanor. It is a violation  
3 of Michigan election law for a person other than those listed in  
4 the instructions to return, offer to return, agree to return, or  
5 solicit to return your absent voter ballot application to the  
6 clerk. An assistant authorized by the clerk who receives absent  
7 voter ballot applications at a location other than the office of  
8 the clerk must have credentials signed by the clerk. Ask to see  
9 his or her credentials before entrusting your application with a  
10 person claiming to have the clerk's authorization to return your  
11 application.

12 Certificate of Authorized Registered

13 Elector Returning Absent Voter

14 Ballot Application

15 I certify that my name is ....., my address  
16 is ....., and my date of birth is .....;  
17 that I am delivering the absent voter ballot application of  
18 ..... at his or her request; that I did not  
19 solicit or request to return the application; that I have not  
20 made any markings on the application; that I have not altered the  
21 application in any way; that I have not influenced the applicant;  
22 and that I am aware that a false statement in this certificate is  
23 a violation of Michigan election law.

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 (Date) (Signature)"

26 (6) The following instructions for an applicant for an  
27 absent voter ballot shall be included with each application  
28 furnished an applicant:

1           INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS FOR ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

2           Step 1. After completely filling out the application, sign  
3 and date the application in the place designated. Your signature  
4 must appear on the application or you will not receive an absent  
5 voter ballot.

6           Step 2. Deliver the application by 1 of the following  
7 methods:

8           (a) Place the application in an envelope addressed to the  
9 appropriate clerk and place the necessary postage upon the return  
10 envelope and deposit it in the United States mail or with another  
11 public postal service, express mail service, parcel post service,  
12 or common carrier.

13           (b) Deliver the application personally to the office of the  
14 clerk, to the clerk, or to an authorized assistant of the clerk.

15           (c) In either (a) or (b), a member of the immediate family  
16 of the voter including a father-in-law, mother-in-law,  
17 brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law,  
18 grandparent, or grandchild or a person residing in the voter's  
19 household may mail or deliver the application to the clerk for  
20 the applicant.

21           (d) ~~In the event~~ IF an applicant cannot return the appli-  
22 cation in any of the above methods, the applicant may select any  
23 registered elector to return the application. The person return-  
24 ing the application must sign and return the certificate at the  
25 bottom of the application.

26           (7) A person who prints and distributes absent voter ballot  
27 applications shall print on the application the warning,

1 certificate of authorized registered elector returning absent  
2 voter ballot application, and instructions required by this  
3 section.

4 (8) A person who makes a false statement in an absent voter  
5 ballot application is guilty of a misdemeanor. A person who  
6 forges a signature on an absent voter ballot application is  
7 guilty of a felony. A person who is not authorized in this act  
8 and who both distributes absent voter ballot applications to  
9 absent voters and returns those absent voter ballot applications  
10 to a clerk or assistant of the clerk is guilty of a misdemeanor.

11 Sec. 759b. (1) ~~Any~~ A registered elector may apply for AN  
12 absent voter ~~ballots~~ BALLOT at any time ~~prior to~~ BEFORE  
13 4 p.m. on election day if he ~~shall have become~~ OR SHE BECAME  
14 physically disabled or ~~shall be~~ WAS absent from the city or  
15 township because of sickness or death in the family ~~which has~~  
16 THAT occurred at a time ~~which has~~ THAT made it impossible to  
17 apply for AN absent voter ~~ballots~~ BALLOT by the statutory  
18 deadline. The application shall be called an emergency absent  
19 voter BALLOT application.

20 (2) Emergency absent voter BALLOT applications may be made  
21 by letter or on a form PRESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND  
22 provided by the clerk. The application shall set forth that the  
23 voter is qualified to vote in the election ~~, stating the statu-~~  
24 ~~tory reason for applying for an emergency absent voter ballot~~  
25 and that the reason for applying after the statutory deadline  
26 occurred at such a time to make it impossible to file an

1 application for AN absent voter ~~ballots~~ BALLOT by the statutory  
2 deadline.

3 (3) ~~Any~~ A person intentionally making a false statement in  
4 ~~such~~ AN EMERGENCY ABSENT VOTER BALLOT application is guilty of  
5 a felony. ~~Any~~ A person aiding or abetting ~~any~~ ANOTHER person  
6 to make a false statement ~~on such~~ IN AN EMERGENCY ABSENT VOTER  
7 BALLOT application is guilty of a felony.

8 (4) Upon receipt by the clerk of a valid application for an  
9 emergency absent voter ballot, the clerk may deliver the  
10 ~~ballots~~ AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT to the applicant in person,  
11 through a deputy or an election assistant, or ~~he may deliver~~  
12 ~~them~~ at his OR HER office to a person named by the applicant in  
13 the EMERGENCY ABSENT VOTER BALLOT application. The ABSENT voter  
14 may return the ~~ballots~~ ABSENT VOTER BALLOT to the clerk ~~in the~~  
15 ~~sealed envelope provided therefor~~ in any manner. ~~he sees fit.~~  
16 ~~To~~ HOWEVER, TO be valid, ~~ballots must be returned~~ THE ABSENT  
17 VOTER SHALL RETURN THE ABSENT VOTER BALLOT to the clerk IN THE  
18 SEALED ENVELOPE PROVIDED FOR THAT REASON AND in time to be deliv-  
19 ered to the polls ~~prior to~~ BEFORE 8 p.m. on election day.

20 Sec. 770. (1) At ~~all elections hereafter~~ AN ELECTION held  
21 in this state UNTIL MAY 30, 2002, ballots or votes may be cast,  
22 registered, recorded, and counted by means of voting machines, as  
23 provided in this chapter.

24 (2) The governing body of ~~any~~ A governmental unit in this  
25 state may contract with the governing body of ~~any other~~ ANOTHER  
26 governmental unit in this state with regard to the use of voting  
27 machines owned by either of the contracting units.

1 (3) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2001, A BIPARTISAN UNIFORM VOTING  
2 SYSTEM TASK FORCE SHALL EXAMINE ALL OPTIONS AND SHALL SELECT A  
3 UNIFORM VOTING SYSTEM FOR THIS STATE NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 31,  
4 2001. THE UNIFORM VOTING SYSTEM SELECTED SHALL BE A VOTING  
5 SYSTEM THAT IS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF STATE CANVASSERS.

6 (4) THE UNIFORM VOTING SYSTEM TASK FORCE SHALL CONSIST OF 17  
7 MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE FOLLOWING INTERESTS:

8 (A) TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE STATE SENATORS REPRESENTING THE  
9 REPUBLICAN PARTY.

10 (B) TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE STATE SENATORS REPRESENTING THE  
11 DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

12 (C) TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE STATE REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTING  
13 THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

14 (D) TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE STATE REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTING  
15 THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

16 (E) TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE. ONE  
17 MEMBER SHALL BE THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF ELECTIONS OR HIS OR  
18 HER DESIGNEE.

19 (F) TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE FROM THE COUNTY CLERKS  
20 ASSOCIATION. ONE MEMBER SHALL REPRESENT A JURISDICTION IN AN  
21 URBAN AREA AND 1 MEMBER SHALL REPRESENT A JURISDICTION IN A RURAL  
22 AREA.

23 (G) TWO MEMBERS SHALL BE FROM THE MUNICIPAL CLERKS  
24 ASSOCIATION. ONE MEMBER SHALL REPRESENT A JURISDICTION IN AN  
25 URBAN AREA AND 1 MEMBER SHALL REPRESENT A JURISDICTION IN A RURAL  
26 AREA.

1 (H) THREE MEMBERS SHALL BE FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC APPOINTED  
2 BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FROM A LIST OF NAMES SUBMITTED BY  
3 INTERESTED PERSONS. TWO MEMBERS SHALL REPRESENT JURISDICTIONS IN  
4 AN URBAN AREA, AND 1 MEMBER SHALL REPRESENT A JURISDICTION IN A  
5 RURAL AREA.

6 (5) THE UNIFORM VOTING SYSTEM TASK FORCE SHALL DO ALL OF THE  
7 FOLLOWING:

8 (A) CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARINGS TO TAKE TESTIMONY FROM LOCAL  
9 CLERKS, VOTERS, AND OTHER CONCERNED CITIZENS ABOUT THE PROBLEMS,  
10 STRENGTHS, PREFERENCES, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND OTHER ISSUES REGARD-  
11 ING VARIOUS VOTING SYSTEMS.

12 (B) REVIEW INFORMATION ABOUT VARIOUS VOTING SYSTEMS PROVIDED  
13 BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, VENDORS OF VOTING SYSTEMS, BOARD OF  
14 STATE CANVASSERS, AND OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS.

15 (C) OBTAIN AND REVIEW MATERIAL ABOUT THE TYPE OF VOTING SYS-  
16 TEMS UTILIZED BY OTHER STATES, INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
17 CHANGES.

18 (D) SELECT A VOTING SYSTEM FOR USE IN THIS STATE.

19 (E) REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE BY JANUARY 31, 2002 THE RECOM-  
20 MENDATIONS OF THE UNIFORM VOTING SYSTEM TASK FORCE.

21 (6) BEGINNING MAY 30, 2002, EACH VOTING PRECINCT IN THIS  
22 STATE SHALL USE THE UNIFORM VOTING SYSTEM. IF THE PARTICULAR  
23 MODEL IS A MODEL APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF STATE CANVASSERS, A  
24 COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWNSHIP MAY SELECT A PARTICULAR MODEL OF THE  
25 UNIFORM VOTING SYSTEM FOR USE IN THAT COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWNSHIP.

26 SEC. 773A. BEFORE AN ELECTION AT WHICH A VOTING MACHINE IS  
27 USED, THE BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY, CITY,

1 VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP, OR SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL HAVE THE VOTING  
2 SYSTEM PREPARED FOR THE ELECTION, INCLUDING FULL TESTING OF THE  
3 VOTING SYSTEM NOT LESS THAN 1 WEEK BEFORE THE ELECTION.

4       Sec. 796a. (1) Before an election at which an electronic  
5 voting system is used, the board of election commissioners of the  
6 county, city, village, township, or school district shall have  
7 the system prepared for the election, INCLUDING FULL TESTING OF  
8 THE VOTING SYSTEM NOT LESS THAN 1 WEEK BEFORE THE ELECTION. The  
9 board shall provide the election board of each voting precinct  
10 with the necessary equipment and supplies.

11       (2) Before an election, the board of election commissioners  
12 of a county, city, village, township, or school district shall  
13 provide a sufficient number of voting stations needed to ensure  
14 the orderly conduct of the election taking into consideration the  
15 projected turnout, the length of the ballot, and the number of  
16 voters the voting system can process per hour as determined under  
17 section 795a. As a minimum for each election, the board of elec-  
18 tion commissioners shall provide ~~at least 1 voting station for~~  
19 ~~each 400 registered voters in each precinct through August 31,~~  
20 ~~1998 and~~ at least 1 voting station for each 300 registered  
21 voters. ~~on and after September 1, 1998.~~ If counting centers are  
22 used, the board of election commissioners of the county, city,  
23 village, township, or school district shall establish 1 or more  
24 counting centers as needed before the election.