

Fiscal Analysis

ABSENTEE VOTERS



Bill/Sponsor **HOUSE BILL 5086 AS INTRODUCED**, Rep. Edward J. Gaffney

House Committee Local Government and Urban Policy

Analysis **Summary**

House Bill 5086 would amend 1954 PA 116, the Michigan Election Law, by revising the requirements for applying to vote as an absent voter.

Under the bill, an elector who applies to vote as an absent voter by federal postcard application would be eligible to vote as an absent voter in any election occurring in the calendar year in which the federal postcard application was received by the city, village, or township clerk, but would not be eligible to vote in an election for which the application is received by the clerk after 2 P.M. of the Saturday before the election. City, village, and township clerks would be required to forward absent voter ballots to absent voters who are eligible to vote as absent voters and to comply with all other provisions of the law regarding the handling of absent voter ballots.

Also, HB 5086 would delete the requirement that civilian employees of the armed services outside of the United States, citizens of the United States who temporarily reside outside the territorial limits of the United States, citizens of the United States who reside in the District of Columbia, and their spouses and dependents who live with them, include an affidavit stating their qualifications as electors and affirming that they have not relinquished their citizenship or established residence for voting in any other place.

Fiscal Impact

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state. Local units of government would experience an indeterminate increase in costs due to the requirement of forwarding absent voter ballots to absent voters who are eligible.

Analyst(s)

Robin Risko

COMMITTEE ANALYSIS - 9/29/03

Mitchell Bean, Director – House Fiscal Agency
124 N. Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: (517)373-8080, Fax: (517)373-5874
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>