

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4245**

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled  
"Michigan election law,"  
by amending section 961a (MCL 168.961a), as amended by 1999  
PA 220.

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

1       Sec. 961a. (1) Not later than the business day following  
2 the filing of a recall petition, the official with whom the  
3 recall was filed shall notify in writing the officer whose recall  
4 is sought that the recall petition has been filed.  
5       (2) An officer whose recall is sought may challenge the  
6 validity of the registration or the validity and genuineness of  
7 the signature of a circulator or person signing the recall  
8 petition. A challenge shall be in writing, specifying the  
9 challenged signature, and shall be delivered to the filing  
10 official within 30 days after the filing of the petitions. The

1 officer whose recall is sought shall have not less than ~~8~~ 6  
2 **business** days after the clerk has examined the signatures to  
3 check signatures on the original registration records.

4 (3) Subject to subsection (4), a challenged signature shall  
5 be compared with the signature on the original registration  
6 record.

7 (4) The qualified voter file may be used to determine the  
8 validity of petition signatures by verifying the registration of  
9 signers. If the qualified voter file indicates that, on the date  
10 the elector signed the petition, the elector was not registered  
11 to vote, there is a rebuttable presumption that the signature is  
12 invalid. If the qualified voter file indicates that, on the date  
13 the elector signed the petition, the elector was not registered  
14 to vote in the city or township designated on the petition, there  
15 is a rebuttable presumption that the signature is invalid.