

HOUSE BILL No. 6022

April 27, 2006, Introduced by Rep. Ward and referred to the Committee on House Oversight, Elections, and Ethics.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending section 509aa (MCL 168.509aa), as amended by 2004 PA
92.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 509aa. (1) A clerk may use change of address information
2 supplied by the United States postal service or other reliable
3 information received by the clerk that identifies registered voters
4 whose addresses may have changed as provided in this section.

5 (2) Upon receipt of reliable information that a registered
6 voter has moved his or her residence within the city or township,
7 the clerk shall send by forwardable mail all of the following to

1 the voter:

2 (a) A notice that the clerk has received information
3 indicating that the voter has moved his or her residence within the
4 city or township.

5 (b) A postage prepaid and preaddressed return card on which
6 the voter may verify or correct the address information.

7 (c) A notice explaining that, if the address information is
8 correct and the voter has moved his or her residence within the
9 city or township, the voter should complete and return the card to
10 the clerk with a postmark of 30 days or more before the date of the
11 next election. If the voter has moved his or her residence within
12 the city or township and does not complete and return the card to
13 the clerk with a postmark of 30 days or more before the date of the
14 next election, the voter will be required to vote in his or her
15 former precinct of residence in the city or township. The voter
16 will also be required to submit an address correction before being
17 permitted to vote.

18 (3) Upon the receipt of reliable information that a registered
19 voter has moved his or her residence to another city or township,
20 the clerk shall send by forwardable mail all of the following to
21 the voter:

22 (a) A notice that the clerk has received information
23 indicating that the voter has moved his or her residence to another
24 city or township.

25 (b) A postage prepaid and preaddressed return card on which
26 the voter may verify or correct the address information.

27 (c) A notice containing all of the following information:

1 (i) If the address information is incorrect and the voter has
2 not moved to another city or township and wishes to remain
3 registered to vote, the voter should complete and return the card
4 to the clerk with a postmark of 30 days or more before the date of
5 the next election. If the card is not completed and returned with a
6 postmark of 30 days or more before the date of the next election,
7 the voter may be required to affirm his or her current address
8 before being permitted to vote. Further, if the voter does not vote
9 in an election within the period beginning on the date of the
10 notice and ending on the first business day immediately following
11 the second November general election that is held after the date on
12 the notice, the registration of the voter will be canceled and his
13 or her name will be removed from the registration record of that
14 city or township.

15 (ii) If the voter has moved his or her residence to another
16 city or township, information on how the voter can become
17 registered to vote at the next election in his or her new city or
18 township.

19 (4) If a notice sent under this section is returned to the
20 clerk by the post office as undeliverable, the clerk shall identify
21 the registration record of a voter as challenged as provided in
22 this act. The clerk shall instruct the board of election inspectors
23 to challenge that voter at the first election at which the voter
24 appears to vote. If in response to the challenge the voter
25 indicates that he or she resides at the registration address or has
26 changed addresses within the city or township, the voter shall be
27 permitted to vote a regular ballot rather than a challenged ballot.

1 The voter shall complete a change of address form at the polling
2 place, if applicable. If the person does not appear to vote in an
3 election within the period beginning on the date of the notice and
4 ending on the first business day immediately following the second
5 November general election that is held after the date of the
6 notice, the clerk shall cancel the registration of the voter and
7 remove his or her name from the registration record of the city or
8 township.

9 (5) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL CREATE AN INACTIVE VOTER FILE
10 IN THE QUALIFIED VOTER FILE. THE INACTIVE VOTER FILE SHALL CONTAIN
11 A RECORD FOR EACH VOTER WHO IS SENT A NOTICE UNDER THIS SECTION.

12 (6) THE RECORD OF A VOTER SHALL REMAIN IN THE INACTIVE VOTER
13 FILE UNTIL THE VOTER VOTES AT AN ELECTION, UNTIL THE VOTER CORRECTS
14 OR CONFIRMS HIS OR HER VOTER REGISTRATION ADDRESS, OR UNTIL JANUARY
15 10 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SECOND NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION THAT
16 IS HELD AFTER THE DATE ON THE NOTICE SENT UNDER THIS SECTION,
17 WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST.

18 (7) IF A VOTER REMAINS IN THE INACTIVE VOTER FILE ON JANUARY
19 10 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SECOND NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION THAT
20 IS HELD AFTER THE DATE ON THE NOTICE SENT UNDER THIS SECTION, THE
21 REGISTRATION OF THE VOTER SHALL BE CANCELED AS PROVIDED IN
22 SUBSECTION (3).

23 (8) WHILE THE RECORD OF A VOTER IS IN THE INACTIVE VOTER FILE,
24 THE VOTER REMAINS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND HIS OR HER NAME SHALL APPEAR
25 ON THE PRECINCT VOTER REGISTRATION LIST.

26 (9) THE RECORD OF A VOTER IN THE INACTIVE VOTER FILE SHALL NOT
27 BE COUNTED FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 4(E), 24A, 381, 656, 658, 659,

1 OR 661 OR R 168.774 OF THE MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.