

SENATE BILL No. 758

September 11, 2007, Introduced by Senators CHERRY, SCOTT, OLSHOVE, BASHAM, WHITMER, CLARKE, SWITALSKI and THOMAS and referred to the Committee on Campaign and Election Oversight.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending section 523 (MCL 168.523), as amended by 2005 PA 71.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 523. (1) At each election, before being given a ballot,
2 each registered elector offering to vote shall identify himself or
3 herself by ~~presenting an official state identification card issued~~
4 ~~to that individual pursuant to Act No. 222 of the Public Acts of~~
5 ~~1972, being sections 28.291 to 28.295 of the Michigan Compiled~~
6 ~~Laws, an operator's or chauffeur's license issued to that~~
7 ~~individual pursuant to the Michigan vehicle code, Act No. 300 of~~
8 ~~the Public Acts of 1949, being sections 257.1 to 257.923 of the~~
9 ~~Michigan Compiled Laws, or other generally recognized picture~~
10 ~~identification card and by executing an application showing his or~~

1 her signature or mark and address of residence in the presence of
2 an election official. If an elector's signature contained in the
3 qualified voter file is available in the polling place, the
4 election official shall compare the signature upon the application
5 with the digitized signature provided by the qualified voter file.
6 If an elector's signature is not contained in the qualified voter
7 file, the election official shall process the application in the
8 same manner as applications are processed when a voter registration
9 list is used in the polling place. If voter registration lists are
10 used in the precinct, the election inspector shall determine if the
11 name on the application to vote appears on the voter registration
12 list. If the name appears on the voter registration list, the
13 elector shall provide further identification by giving his or her
14 date of birth or other information stated upon the voter
15 registration list. In precincts using voter registration lists, the
16 date of birth may be required to be placed on the application to
17 vote. If the signature or an item of information does not
18 correspond, the vote of the person shall be challenged, and the
19 same procedure shall be followed as provided in this act for the
20 challenging of an elector. If the person offering to vote has
21 signed the registration card or application by making a mark, the
22 person shall identify himself or herself by giving his or her date
23 of birth, which shall be compared with the date of birth stated
24 upon the registration card or voter registration list, or shall
25 give other identification as may be referred to upon the
26 registration card or voter registration list. ~~If the elector does~~
27 ~~not have an official state identification card, operator's or~~

~~chauffeur's license as required in this subsection, or other
generally recognized picture identification card, the individual
shall sign an affidavit to that effect before an election inspector
and be allowed to vote as otherwise provided in this act. However,
an elector being allowed to vote without the identification
required under this subsection is subject to challenge as provided
in section 727.~~

(2) If, upon a comparison of the signature or other
identification as required in subsection (1), it is found that the
applicant is entitled to vote, the election officer having charge
of the registration list shall approve the application and write
his or her initials on the application, after which the number on
the ballot issued shall be noted on the application. The
application shall serve as 1 of the 2 poll lists required to be
kept as a record of a person who has voted. The application shall
be filed with the township, city, or village clerk. If voter
registration cards are used in the precinct, the date of the
election shall be noted by 1 of the election officials upon the
precinct registration card of each elector voting at an election.
If voter registration lists are used in the precinct, the election
official shall clearly indicate upon the list each elector voting
at that election. The clerk of a city, village, or township shall
maintain a record of voting participation for each registered
elector.