

SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4478

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled  
"Michigan election law,"  
by amending sections 32, 500, and 501 (MCL 168.32, 168.500, and  
168.501), section 32 as amended by 2012 PA 276 and section 501 as  
amended by 2005 PA 71, and by adding sections 19 and 755a.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1        SEC. 19. AS USED IN THIS ACT, "PHYSICAL DISABILITY" MEANS THAT  
2        TERM AS DEFINED IN SECTION 6 OF THE ADULT FOSTER CARE FACILITY  
3        LICENSING ACT, 1979 PA 218, MCL 400.706.

4        Sec. 32. (1) In the office of the secretary of state, the  
5        bureau of elections created by former 1951 PA 65 continues under  
6        the supervision of a director of elections, to be appointed by the  
7        secretary of state under civil service regulations. The director of  
8        elections shall be vested with the powers and shall perform the

1 duties of the secretary of state under his or her supervision, with  
 2 respect to the supervision and administration of the election laws.  
 3 The director of elections shall be a nonmember secretary of the  
 4 state board of canvassers.

5 (2) The director of elections, with the approval of the state  
 6 board of canvassers, shall prepare a statement for designation on  
 7 the ballot in not more than 100 words, exclusive of caption, of the  
 8 purpose of any proposed amendment or question to be submitted to  
 9 the electors as required under section 9 of article II, section 34  
 10 of article IV **IF THE LEGISLATURE DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR THE CONTENT**  
 11 **OF THE QUESTION TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORS**, or section 1 or 2  
 12 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963. The statement  
 13 shall consist of a true and impartial statement of the purpose of  
 14 the amendment or question in such language as shall create no  
 15 prejudice for or against the proposed amendment or question. The  
 16 powers and duties of the state board of canvassers and the  
 17 secretary of state with respect to the preparation of the statement  
 18 are transferred to the director of elections. The secretary of  
 19 state shall certify the statement of the purpose of any proposed  
 20 amendment or question to be submitted to the electors not later  
 21 than 60 days before the date of the election.

22 Sec. 500. If ~~the~~ **AN** applicant for **VOTER** registration is unable  
 23 to write, **OR SIGN HIS OR HER NAME ON THE VOTER REGISTRATION**  
 24 **APPLICATION BECAUSE OF A PHYSICAL DISABILITY**, then ~~he shall~~ **THE**  
 25 **APPLICANT MAY** execute the registration affidavit **EITHER** by making  
 26 his **OR HER** mark ~~and there shall be noted upon the registration card~~  
 27 ~~the month, day and year of his birth and any other identifying~~

1 ~~information which shall be used in identifying said person at the~~  
2 ~~time he makes application for voting as hereinafter more~~  
3 ~~specifically provided~~ **OR BY USING A SIGNATURE STAMP.**

4       Sec. 501. The original registration cards shall be filed  
5 alphabetically ~~hereinafter~~ and shall be termed the "master file".  
6 The master file shall contain the signature of each elector  
7 registered in the city, township, or village, unless the clerk of  
8 the jurisdiction has access to the qualified voter file and the  
9 elector has a digitized signature in the qualified voter file. **IF**  
10 **AN ELECTOR IS UNABLE TO WRITE, OR SIGN HIS OR HER NAME BECAUSE OF A**  
11 **PHYSICAL DISABILITY, THE MASTER FILE SHALL CONTAIN THE MARK OR**  
12 **SIGNATURE STAMP USED BY THAT ELECTOR WHEN A SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED.**

13       **SEC. 755A. (1) IF AN ELECTOR IS UNABLE TO WRITE, OR SIGN HIS**  
14 **OR HER NAME ON AN ELECTION DOCUMENT BECAUSE OF A PHYSICAL**  
15 **DISABILITY, THE ELECTOR MAY EXECUTE THE ELECTION DOCUMENT WHERE A**  
16 **SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED EITHER BY MAKING HIS OR HER MARK OR BY USING**  
17 **A SIGNATURE STAMP.**

18       **(2) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "ELECTION DOCUMENT" INCLUDES, BUT**  
19 **IS NOT LIMITED TO, ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

20       **(A) A VOTER APPLICATION AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 523.**

21       **(B) AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT APPLICATION AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION**  
22 **759 OR 759A.**

23       **(C) AN EMERGENCY ABSENT VOTER BALLOT APPLICATION AS DESCRIBED**  
24 **IN SECTION 759B.**

25       **(D) AN ABSENT VOTER BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPE AS DESCRIBED IN**  
26 **SECTION 761.**