SENATE BILL No. 1166

December 4, 2014, Introduced by Senator ROBERTSON and referred to the Committee on Local Government and Elections.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law,"

by amending section 685 (MCL 168.685), as amended by 2002 PA 399.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 685. (1) The name of a candidate of a new political
- 2 party shall not be printed upon the official ballots of an
- 3 election unless the chairperson and secretary of the state
- 4 central committee of the party files with the secretary of state,
- 5 not later than 4 p.m. of the one hundred-tenth day before the
- general November election, a certificate signed by the
- 7 chairperson and secretary of the state central committee bearing
- 8 the name of the party, together with petitions bearing the
- 9 signatures of registered and qualified electors equal to not less

- 1 than 1% of the total number of votes cast for all candidates for
- 2 governor at the last election in which a governor was elected.
- 3 The petitions shall be signed by at least 100 registered electors
- 4 in each of at least 1/2 of the congressional districts of the
- 5 THIS state. All signatures on the petitions shall be obtained not
- 6 more than 180 days immediately before the date of filing.
- 7 (2) After the date on which a petition is filed, the
- 8 secretary of state shall not accept additional petition sheets
- 9 for that petition. The validity and authenticity of the
- 10 signatures may be determined in the same manner as provided for
- 11 initiatory and referendary REFERENDUM petitions in section 9 of
- 12 article II of the state constitution of 1963. An official
- 13 declaration of the sufficiency or insufficiency of a petition
- 14 filed under this section shall be made by the board of state
- 15 canvassers not later than 60 days before the general November
- 16 election.
- 17 (3) The petitions shall be in substantially the following
- **18** form:
- 19 PETITION TO FORM NEW POLITICAL PARTY
- 20 We, the undersigned, duly registered electors of the
- 21 city, township of county of
- 22 (strike one)
- 23 state of Michigan, residing at the places set opposite our
- 24 names, respectfully request the secretary of state, in
- 25 accordance with section 685 of the Michigan election law,
- 26 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.685, to receive the certificate and
- 27 vignette accompanying this petition, and place the names of
- 28 the candidates of the party on the

1	ballot at the election.
2	Warning: A person who knowingly signs petitions to organize
3	more than 1 new state political party, signs a petition to
4	organize a new state political party more than once, or signs a
5	name other than his or her own is violating the provisions of the
6	Michigan election law.
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10	(4) The balance of the petition form shall be substantially
11	as set forth in section 544c. The size of all organizing
12	petitions shall be 8-1/2 inches by 13 inches and shall be printed
13	in the following type sizes: The words "petition to form new
14	political party" and the name of the proposed political party
15	shall be in 24-point boldface type; the word "warning" and the
16	language contained in the warning shall be in 12-point boldface
17	type. SECTION 547 APPLIES TO A PETITION TO FORM NEW POLITICAL
18	PARTY.
19	(5) Petitions circulated under this section may be
20	circulated on a countywide basis. A petition that is circulated
21	countywide shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of

(6) If the principal candidate of a political party receives
a vote equal to less than 1% of the total number of votes cast
for the successful candidate for the office of secretary of state

22 state.

- 1 at the last preceding general November election in which a
- 2 secretary of state was elected, that political party shall not
- 3 have the name of any candidate printed on the ballots at the next
- 4 ensuing general November election, and a column shall not be
- 5 provided on the ballots for that party. A disqualified party may
- 6 again qualify and have the names of its candidates printed in a
- 7 separate party column on each election ballot in the manner set
- 8 forth in subsection (1) for the qualification of new parties. The
- 9 term "principal candidate" of a political party means the
- 10 candidate who receives the greatest number of votes of all
- 11 candidates of that political party for that election.
- 12 (7) A political party that complied with this section is
- 13 subject to section 686a in order to have the name of that party,
- 14 its vignette, and its candidates appear on the general election
- 15 ballot.
- 16 (8) A person shall not knowingly sign a petition to organize
- 17 more than 1 new state political party, sign a petition to
- 18 organize a new state political party more than once, or sign a
- 19 name other than his or her own on the petition.
- 20 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
- 21 unless all of the following bills of the 97th Legislature are
- 22 enacted into law:
- 23 (a) Senate Bill No.1167.

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25 (b) Senate Bill No.1161.

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27 (c) Senate Bill No.1163.

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2 (d) Senate Bill No.1164.

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4 (e) Senate Bill No.1165.

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