

Act No. 79
Public Acts of 2014
Approved by the Governor
March 28, 2014
Filed with the Secretary of State
March 28, 2014
EFFECTIVE DATE: March 28, 2014

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
97TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014**

Introduced by Reps. Schor, LaVoy and Kivela

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 4478

AN ACT to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "An act to reorganize, consolidate, and add to the election laws; to provide for election officials and prescribe their powers and duties; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state departments, state agencies, and state and local officials and employees; to provide for the nomination and election of candidates for public office; to provide for the resignation, removal, and recall of certain public officers; to provide for the filling of vacancies in public office; to provide for and regulate primaries and elections; to provide for the purity of elections; to guard against the abuse of the elective franchise; to define violations of this act; to provide appropriations; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to repeal certain acts and all other acts inconsistent with this act," 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:

Sec. 19. As used in this act, "physical disability" means that term as defined in section 6 of the adult foster care facility licensing act, 1979 PA 218, MCL 400.706.

Sec. 32. (1) In the office of the secretary of state, the bureau of elections created by former 1951 PA 65 continues under the supervision of a director of elections, to be appointed by the secretary of state under civil service regulations. The director of elections shall be vested with the powers and shall perform the duties of the secretary of state under his or her supervision, with respect to the supervision and administration of the election laws. The director of elections shall be a nonmember secretary of the state board of canvassers.

(2) The director of elections, with the approval of the state board of canvassers, shall prepare a statement for designation on the ballot in not more than 100 words, exclusive of caption, of the purpose of any proposed amendment or question to be submitted to the electors as required under section 9 of article II, section 34 of article IV if the legislature does not provide for the content of the question to be submitted to the electors, or section 1 or 2 of article XII of the state constitution of 1963. The statement shall consist of a true and impartial statement of the purpose of the amendment or question in such language as shall create no prejudice for or against the proposed amendment or question. The powers and duties of the state board of canvassers and the secretary of state with respect to the preparation of the statement are transferred to the director of elections. The secretary of state shall certify the statement of the purpose of any proposed amendment or question to be submitted to the electors not later than 60 days before the date of the election.

Sec. 500. If an applicant for voter registration is unable to write, or sign his or her name on the voter registration application because of a physical disability, then the applicant may execute the registration affidavit either by making his or her mark or by using a signature stamp.

Sec. 501. The original registration cards shall be filed alphabetically and shall be termed the "master file". The master file shall contain the signature of each elector registered in the city, township, or village, unless the clerk of the jurisdiction has access to the qualified voter file and the elector has a digitized signature in the qualified voter file. If an elector is unable to write, or sign his or her name because of a physical disability, the master file shall contain the mark or signature stamp used by that elector when a signature is required.

Sec. 755a. (1) If an elector is unable to write, or sign his or her name on an election document because of a physical disability, the elector may execute the election document where a signature is required either by making his or her mark or by using a signature stamp.


(2) As used in this section, "election document" includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

- (a) A voter application as described in section 523.
- (b) An absent voter ballot application as described in section 759 or 759a.
- (c) An emergency absent voter ballot application as described in section 759b.
- (d) An absent voter ballot return envelope as described in section 761.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Clerk of the House of Representatives



Secretary of the Senate

Approved

Governor