

SENATE BILL No. 205

March 12, 2015, Introduced by Senators HERTEL and YOUNG and referred to the Committee on Elections and Government Reform.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending section 560b (MCL 168.560b), as amended by 2012 PA 128.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 560b. (1) A candidate required to indicate a name change
2 on the affidavit of identity under section 558 shall be listed on
3 the ballot with his or her current name and former name as
4 prescribed by the secretary of state.

5 (2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4), both a candidate's
6 given name and surname that he or she was given at birth, and only
7 those names, shall appear on the ballot, except under 1 of the
8 following circumstances:

9 (a) The name in question, whether a given name, a surname, or
10 otherwise, is a name that was formally changed.

1 (b) The candidate is subject to subsection (1).

2 (c) The name in question, whether a given name, a surname, or
3 otherwise, is 1 of the following:

4 (i) A name that was changed in a certificate of naturalization
5 issued by a federal district court at the time the individual
6 became a naturalized citizen at least 10 years before filing as a
7 candidate.

8 (ii) A name that was changed because of marriage.

9 (iii) A name that was changed because of divorce, but only if to
10 a legal name by which the individual was previously known.

11 (3) A candidate may specify that both his or her given name
12 and middle name, or only a middle name, shall appear on the ballot.
13 A candidate may specify that either an initial or a recognized
14 diminutive for the candidate's given ~~or~~ **NAME**, middle name, **OR**
15 **SURNAME**, or for ~~both~~, **EACH**, shall appear on the ballot. In
16 addition, a candidate may specify that a common law name used in
17 accordance with Michigan department of state guidelines for use of
18 a common law name on a driver license or state personal
19 identification card shall appear on that ballot.

20 (4) A candidate is prohibited from specifying that a nickname
21 that is not a recognized diminutive of the candidate's common law
22 name, given name, ~~or~~ middle name, **OR SURNAME** appear on the ballot.
23 A married individual is prohibited from specifying that his or her
24 spouse's given name, or an alternative for that given name
25 otherwise permitted under subsection (3), appear on the ballot.

26 (5) A ballot that would violate this section shall not be
27 produced, printed, or distributed.

1 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
2 after the date it is enacted into law.