

# HOUSE BILL NO. 6524

December 17, 2020, Introduced by Reps. Haadsma, Kuppa, Hertel, Hope, Guerra, Tyrone Carter, Elder, Sowerby, Wittenberg, Rabhi, Peterson, Brixie and Camilleri and referred to the Committee on Elections and Ethics.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled  
"Michigan election law,"  
(MCL 168.1 to 168.992) by adding section 759e.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1       Sec. 759e. (1) Each city or township clerk shall maintain a  
2 permanent absent voter list.
- 3       (2) Each county, city, or township clerk may mail to each  
4 registered elector in the county, city, or township a notice  
5 indicating that the elector may request to be placed on the

1 permanent absent voter list of the city or township in which the  
2 elector is registered to vote.

3 (3) If a city or township clerk maintains a permanent absent  
4 voter list on or before the effective date of the amendatory act  
5 that added this section, the city or township clerk may continue to  
6 maintain that list as its permanent absent voter list.

7 (4) Each voter registration application produced by this state  
8 must include a space for the elector to mark if the elector wishes  
9 to be listed on the permanent absent voter list of the city or  
10 township in which the elector is registered to vote. In addition,  
11 each absent voter ballot application as prescribed under section  
12 759 and distributed by a county, city, or township clerk must  
13 include a space for the elector to mark if the elector wishes to be  
14 listed on the permanent absent voter list of the city or township  
15 in which the elector is registered to vote.

16 (5) In addition to subsection (4), a qualified and registered  
17 elector may request to be placed on the permanent absent voter list  
18 of the city or township in which the elector is registered to vote.  
19 A request by an elector under this subsection must be made to the  
20 city or township clerk in person or by telephone, facsimile  
21 communication, electronic mail, or first-class mail.

22 (6) The request of each registered and qualified elector to be  
23 placed on the permanent absent voter list must be entered in the  
24 qualified voter file in the same manner as data are entered for a  
25 new elector.

26 (7) The county, city, or township clerk responsible for  
27 issuing absent voter ballots for an election shall send to each  
28 elector on the permanent absent voter list an application for an  
29 absent voter ballot for the election.

1       (8) A qualified and registered elector may request in writing  
2 to be removed from the permanent absent voter list of the city or  
3 township. A written request by an elector under this subsection  
4 must be made to the city or township clerk in person or by  
5 facsimile communication, electronic mail, or first-class mail. In  
6 addition, a city or township clerk shall remove an elector from the  
7 permanent absent voter list of the city or township if either of  
8 the following occurs:

9       (a) The city or township clerk has knowledge that the elector  
10 has died.

11       (b) An absent voter ballot application sent to an elector  
12 under this section is returned to the city or township clerk by the  
13 post office as undeliverable.

14       (9) Every January, the city or township clerk may remove an  
15 elector from the permanent absent voter list if the elector has not  
16 requested an absent voter ballot in any election held in the  
17 previous 4 consecutive years.

18       (10) If an elector is on a permanent absent voter list and the  
19 elector changes his or her residence, the elector's request to be  
20 on a permanent absent voter list automatically continues and the  
21 elector must be listed on the permanent absent voter list of the  
22 city or township in which the elector is registered to vote.