

# Legislative Analysis



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**House Bill 4837 (H-2) as reported from committee**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Sarah L. Lightner**  
**Committee: Elections and Ethics**  
**Complete to 8-17-21**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 4837 would amend the Michigan Election Law to provide that only the following individuals can access the qualified voter file (QVF):

- The secretary of state (SOS).
- Each county, city, and township clerk.
- Any election official who has been issued credentials by the SOS to access the QVF.
- Any employee of the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget (DTMB) or employee of a vendor who performs system maintenance and security functions on the QVF.

The bill also would remove “designated voter registration agency” from the entities allowed to enter names of individuals into the QVF.

Finally, the bill would stipulate that nothing in the list of individuals allowed access to the QVF would affect an individual’s ability to receive records under the section of the act that allows for public inspection of voter registration-related records held by the SOS or applicable clerk.

MCL 168.509o and 168.509r

### FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4837 would have no fiscal impact on the state or on local units of government.

### POSITIONS:

A representative of Freezing Fraud from Future Elections testified in support of the bill. (5-18-21)

Representatives of the following entities testified in support of the bill, with changes (5-18-21):

- Pure Integrity for Michigan Elections
- Rescue Michigan Coalition

The Michigan Association of County Clerks indicated support for the bill. (5-18-21)

The following entities indicated a neutral position on the bill:

- Department of State (6-22-21)
- Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks (6-8-21)

A representative of Engage Michigan testified in opposition to the bill. (5-25-21)

The following entities indicated opposition to the bill:

- ACLU of Michigan (5-18-21)
- Sierra Club Michigan (5-25-21)
- Promote the Vote (6-22-21)

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.