

Legislative Analysis



ALLOWABLE USES FOR ON-DEMAND BALLOT PRINTING

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 6052 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Penelope Tsernoglou
Committee: Elections
Complete to 11-11-24

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

SUMMARY:

House Bill 6052 would amend the Michigan Election Law to expand the allowable uses for on-demand ballot printing systems beyond their currently allowed use for early voting.

To implement the early voting provisions added to the state constitution by Proposal 2 of 2022,¹ 2023 PA 81 required the secretary of state to evaluate new voting system technology that produces ballots on demand or may be used to cast and tabulate early voting ballots and submit appropriate new technology to the Board of State Canvassers for approval. The secretary of state also was charged with issuing instructions regarding ballots produced by an on-demand ballot printing system and that are subject to challenge.²

In addition, 2023 PA 81 amended the Michigan Election Law to exempt ballots produced by an on-demand ballot printing system for purposes of early voting from the general requirements that paper ballots be numbered sequentially and have an attached, perforated, numbered stub. The bill would additionally exempt the following kinds of ballots from those requirements if they are produced by an on-demand ballot printing system:

- Absent voter ballots issued to individuals who register to vote or update a voter registration at a clerk's office on election day.
- Ballots issued to individuals who register to vote or update a voter registration at an election day vote center.
- Ballots translated to a language other than English.

MCL 168.570, 168.795b, and 168.797a

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state or local units of government.

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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.

¹ Section 4(1)(m): <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-ARTICLE-II-4>

² See <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-168-720c>

2023 PA 81: <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Bills/Bill?ObjectName=2023-SB-0367>