

MICHIGAN ELECTION LAW (EXCERPT)
Act 116 of 1954

168.865 Recount petitions; forms.

Sec. 865. (1) A candidate petition for a recount must be in the following form:

CANDIDATE PETITION FOR A RECOUNT

I _____, the petitioner, reside at _____, and I petition the _____ (state/county) board of canvassers for a recount of the votes cast for the _____ (Office/District/Party) at the election. I am aggrieved on account of error in the canvass or returns of the votes. I have a good-faith belief that, but for error, I would have had a reasonable chance of winning the election. I am requesting a recount of sufficient votes to change the result of the election.

I request that the following precincts, absent voter counting board (AVCB) precincts, and early voting precincts within the listed jurisdictions be recounted:

Precinct/AVCB Precinct/Early Voting Precinct Number

Name of Jurisdiction

(List additional precincts/vote centers on the back or attach additional sheets)

Specifically explain the error in the canvass or returns of votes:

My deposit of \$_____ is enclosed.

Signature of candidate: _____

Date of signature: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ___ day of _____, 20___

Name of notary public: _____

Signature of notary public: _____

Notary public, State of Michigan, County of _____

Acting in the County of _____

My commission expires: _____

(2) A candidate counter petition for a recount must be in the following form:

CANDIDATE COUNTER PETITION FOR A RECOUNT

I _____, the counter petitioner, reside at _____, and I counter petition the _____ (state/county) board of canvassers for a recount of the votes cast for the _____ (Office/District/Party) at the election.

I request that the additional following precincts, absent voter counting board (AVCB) precincts, and early voting precincts within the listed jurisdictions be recounted:

Precinct/AVCB Precinct/Early Voting Precinct
Number

Name of Jurisdiction

(List additional precincts/vote centers on the back or attach additional sheets)

Specifically explain the error in the canvass or returns of votes:

My deposit of \$_____ is enclosed.

Signature of candidate: _____

Date of signature: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ___ day of _____, 20___

Name of notary public: _____

Signature of notary public: _____

Notary public, State of Michigan, County of _____

Acting in the County of _____

My commission expires: _____

(3) Except as otherwise provided under subsection (5), a ballot question committee petition for a recount must be in the following form:

BALLOT QUESTION COMMITTEE PETITION FOR A RECOUNT

I _____, an authorized representative of _____, petition the _____ (state/county) board of canvassers for a recount of the votes cast for the _____ (ballot question) at the _____ election. The ballot question committee has a good-faith belief that, but for error, the result of the ballot question would have been the opposite. The ballot question committee is requesting a recount of sufficient votes to change the result of the election.

The ballot question committee requests that the following precincts, absent voter counting board (AVCB) precincts, and early voting precincts within the listed jurisdictions be recounted:

Precinct/AVCB Precinct/Early Voting Precinct
Number

Name of Jurisdiction

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(List additional precincts/vote centers on the back or attach additional sheets)

Specifically explain the error in the canvass or returns of votes:

My deposit of \$_____ is enclosed.

Signature of ballot question committee representative:

Date of signature: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 20____

Name of notary public: _____

Signature of notary public: _____

Notary public, State of Michigan, County of _____

Acting in the County of _____

My commission expires: _____

(4) Except as otherwise provided under subsection (5), a ballot question committee counter petition for a recount must be in the following form:

BALLOT QUESTION COMMITTEE COUNTER PETITION FOR A RECOUNT

I _____, an authorized representative of _____, counter petition the _____ (state/county) board of canvassers for a recount of the votes cast for the _____ (ballot question) at the election.

The ballot question committee requests that the additional following precincts, absent voter counting board (AVCB) precincts, and early voting precincts within the listed jurisdictions be recounted:

Precinct/AVCB Precinct/Early Voting Precinct
Number

Name of Jurisdiction

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(List additional precincts/vote centers on the back or attach additional sheets)

Specifically explain the error in the canvass or returns of votes:

My deposit of \$_____ is enclosed.

Signature of ballot question committee representative:

Date of signature: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 20____

Name of notary public: _____

Signature of notary public: _____

Notary public, State of Michigan, County of _____
Acting in the County of _____
My commission expires: _____

(5) The secretary of state shall modify the ballot question committee petition for a recount form under subsection (3) and the ballot question committee counter petition for a recount form under subsection (4) as appropriate to allow an elector to file either petition as authorized under sections 863 and 880.

History: 1954, Act 116, Eff. June 1, 1955;—Am. 2024, Act 74, Eff. Apr. 2, 2025.

Popular name: Election Code