HOUSE BILL No. 5669

February 28, 2018, Introduced by Rep. Miller and referred to the Committee on Elections and Ethics.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled

"Michigan election law,"

by amending sections 2, 497c, 523, 523a, 761, and 813 (MCL 168.2, 168.497c, 168.523, 168.523a, 168.761, and 168.813), section 2 as amended by 2003 PA 302, section 497c as added and sections 523, 761, and 813 as amended by 2012 PA 523, and section 523a as added by 2004 PA 92.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

Sec. 2. As used in this act:

(a) "Absent voter" is defined in section 758.

(b) "Ballot container" is defined in section 14a.

(c) "Business day" or "secular day" means a day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

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(d) "Clearly observable boundaries" is defined in section
 654a.

3 (e) "Election" means an election or primary election at which
4 the electors of this state or of a subdivision of this state choose
5 or nominate by ballot an individual for public office or decide a
6 ballot question lawfully submitted to them.

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(f) "Election precinct" is defined in section 654.

8 (g) "Fall" state and county conventions and "spring" state and9 county conventions are assigned meanings in section 596.

10 (h) "General election" or "general November election" means
11 the election held on the November regular election date in an even
12 numbered year.

(I) "IDENTIFICATION FOR ELECTION PURPOSES" MEANS, IF ISSUED TO
THE INDIVIDUAL PRESENTING THE CARD OR DOCUMENT AND IF PRESENTED FOR
VOTING PURPOSES THE NAME ON THE CARD OR DOCUMENT SUFFICIENTLY
MATCHES THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME IN HIS OR HER VOTER REGISTRATION
RECORD SO AS TO ACCURATELY IDENTIFY THE INDIVIDUAL AS THE
REGISTERED ELECTOR, OR IF ISSUED TO THE INDIVIDUAL PRESENTING THE
CARD OR DOCUMENT AND IF PRESENTED FOR VOTER REGISTRATION PURPOSES,
ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

21 (i) AN OPERATOR'S OR CHAUFFEUR'S LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THE
22 MICHIGAN VEHICLE CODE, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 TO 257.923.

23 (*ii*) AN OFFICIAL STATE PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED
24 UNDER 1972 PA 222, MCL 28.291 TO 28.300.

25 (*iii*) A CURRENT OPERATOR'S OR CHAUFFEUR'S LICENSE ISSUED BY
26 ANOTHER STATE.

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(iv) a current state personal identification card issued by

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1 ANOTHER STATE.

2 (v) A CURRENT STATE GOVERNMENT ISSUED PHOTO IDENTIFICATION
3 CARD.

4 (vi) A CURRENT UNITED STATES PASSPORT OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
5 ISSUED PHOTO IDENTIFICATION CARD.

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(vii) A CURRENT MILITARY PHOTO IDENTIFICATION CARD.

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(viii) A CURRENT TRIBAL PHOTO IDENTIFICATION CARD.

8 (*ix*) A CURRENT STUDENT PHOTO IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY A 9 HIGH SCHOOL IN THIS STATE, AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN 10 THIS STATE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 4, 5, OR 6 OF ARTICLE VIII OF THE 11 STATE CONSTITUTION OF 1963, A JUNIOR COLLEGE OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE 12 ESTABLISHED UNDER SECTION 7 OF ARTICLE VIII OF THE STATE 13 CONSTITUTION OF 1963, OR ANOTHER ACCREDITED DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE 14 GRANTING COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY, JUNIOR COLLEGE, OR COMMUNITY 15 COLLEGE LOCATED IN THIS STATE.

16 (J) (i) "Immediate family" means an individual's father, 17 mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, and spouse and a relative 18 of any degree residing in the same household as that individual.

19 Sec. 497c. (1) Beginning on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section, SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (2), 20 21 a person who applies in person to register to vote at a department 22 of state office, a designated voter registration agency, the office 23 of a county clerk, or the office of the clerk of the city or 24 township in which the applicant resides shall identify himself or 25 herself by presenting an official state identification card issued to that person under 1972 PA 222, MCL 28.291 to 28.300, an 26 27 operator's or chauffeur's license issued to that person under the

Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, or other
 generally recognized picture identification card.IDENTIFICATION FOR
 ELECTION PURPOSES.

4 (2) If a person who applies in person to register to vote as 5 provided in subsection (1) does not have an official state 6 identification card, an operator's or chauffeur's license, or other generally recognized picture identification card as required under 7 subsection (1), POSSESS IDENTIFICATION FOR ELECTION PURPOSES, the 8 person may sign an affidavit to that effect and be allowed to 9 register to vote. HOWEVER, THE PERSON REMAINS SUBJECT TO ANY 10 APPLICABLE FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE HELP 11 12 AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2002 UNTIL THOSE IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS ARE SATISFIED. 13

Sec. 523. (1) At-EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION 14 15 (2), AT each election, before being given a ballot, each registered elector offering to vote shall MUST identify himself or herself by 16 17 presenting an official state identification card issued to that 18 individual under 1972 PA 222, MCL 28.291 to 28.300, an operator's or chauffeur's license issued to that individual under the Michigan 19 20 vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, or other generally 21 recognized picture identification card IDENTIFICATION FOR ELECTION 22 PURPOSES, and by executing an application, on a form prescribed by 23 the secretary of state, in the presence of an election official 24 which THAT includes all of the following: (a) The name of the elector. 25

26 (b) The elector's address of residence.

27 (c) The elector's date of birth.

(d) An affirmative statement by the elector that is included
 in the signature statement indicating that he or she is a citizen
 of the United States.

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(e) The elector's signature or mark.

5 (2) If an elector's signature contained in the qualified voter 6 file is available in the polling place, the election official shall compare the signature upon the application with the digitized 7 signature provided by the qualified voter file. If an elector's 8 signature is not contained in the qualified voter file, the 9 10 election official shall process the application in the same manner as applications are processed when a voter registration list is 11 used in the polling place. If voter registration lists are used in 12 13 the precinct, the election inspector shall determine if the name on the application to vote appears on the voter registration list. If 14 15 the name appears on the voter registration list, the elector shall provide further identification or other information stated upon the 16 17 voter registration list. If the signature or an item of information 18 does not correspond, the vote of the person shall MUST be 19 challenged, and the same procedure shall MUST be followed as 20 provided in this act for the challenging of an elector. If the 21 elector does not have an official state identification card, 22 operator's or chauffeur's license, or other generally recognized picture identification card IDENTIFICATION FOR ELECTION PURPOSES as 23 24 required under this subsection, SECTION, the individual shall sign 25 an affidavit to that effect before an election inspector and be allowed to vote as otherwise provided in this act. However, an 26 27 elector being allowed to vote without the identification FOR

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ELECTION PURPOSES AS required under this subsection SECTION is
 subject to challenge as provided in section 727.

3 (3) If, upon a comparison of the signature or other 4 identification as required in this section, it is found that the 5 applicant is entitled to vote, the election officer having charge 6 of the registration list shall approve the application and write his or her initials on the application, after which the number on 7 the ballot issued shall MUST be noted on the application. The 8 application shall serve SERVES as 1 of the 2 poll lists required to 9 10 be kept as a record of a person who has voted. The application shall MUST be filed with the township, city, or village clerk. If 11 12 voter registration cards are used in the precinct, the date of the election shall MUST be noted by 1 of the election officials upon 13 the precinct registration card of each elector voting at an 14 election. If voter registration lists are used in the precinct, the 15 16 election official shall clearly indicate upon the list each elector voting at that election. The clerk of a city, village, or township 17 18 shall maintain a record of voting participation for each registered 19 elector.

Sec. 523a. (1) If an individual who has applied to register to vote on or before the close of registration appears at a polling place on election day and completes an application under section 523 is not listed on the voter registration list, the election inspector shall issue a ballot to the individual as follows:

(a) For an individual who presents a receipt issued by a
department of state office, a designated voter registration agency,
or the elector's county, city, or township clerk's office verifying

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1 the acceptance of a voter registration application before the close 2 of registration and completes a new voter registration application, 3 the election inspector shall allow the individual to vote a ballot 4 in the same manner as an elector whose name is listed on the voter 5 registration list.

6 (b) For an individual who does not present a receipt verifying 7 the acceptance of a voter registration application under subdivision (a), the election inspector shall determine whether the 8 9 individual is in the appropriate polling place based on residence 10 information provided by the individual. The election inspector shall review any documents or maps in the polling place or 11 12 communicate with the city or township clerk to verify the appropriate polling place for the individual. The election 13 14 inspector shall direct an individual who is not in the appropriate 15 polling place to the appropriate polling place. If the individual 16 refuses to go to the appropriate polling place, the election 17 inspector shall issue the individual a provisional ballot that 18 shall be IS processed according to subsection (5).

19 (2) Except for an individual who produces a receipt under 20 subsection (1)(a), the election inspector shall require an 21 individual who is not listed on the voter registration list to 22 execute a sworn statement affirming that the individual submitted a 23 voter registration application before the close of registration and 24 is eligible to vote in the election. An individual who provides 25 false information in a signed sworn statement under this subsection 26 is guilty of perjury. An individual signing a sworn statement shall 27 complete a new voter registration application. The individual shall

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1 state the approximate date and in what manner the registration
2 application was submitted:

3 (a) To a department of state office.

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(b) To a designated voter registration agency.

5 (c) To the office of his or her county, city, or township6 clerk.

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(d) By a mailed application.

8 (3) The election inspector shall contact the city or township
9 clerk to verify whether the individual who signed the sworn
10 statement UNDER SUBSECTION (2) is listed in the registration
11 records of the jurisdiction or whether there is any information
12 contrary to the content of the sworn statement.

(4) If the city or township clerk verifies the elector 13 14 information and finds no information contrary to the information provided by the individual in the sworn statement and the 15 16 individual presents a Michigan operator's or chauffeur's license, 17 department of state issued personal identification card, other 18 government issued photo identification card, or a photo 19 identification card issued by an institution of higher education in 20 this state described in section 6 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963 or a junior college or community college 21 established under section 7 of article VIII of the state 22 23 constitution of 1963-IDENTIFICATION FOR ELECTION PURPOSES that 24 contains a current residence address to establish his or her identity and residence address, the individual shall be IS 25 permitted to vote a provisional ballot on election day. Before the 26 27 provisional ballot is tabulated on election day, THAT IS TABULATED

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ON ELECTION DAY IN THE SAME MANNER AS AN ELECTOR WHOSE NAME IS
 LISTED ON THE VOTER REGISTRATION LIST, EXCEPT THAT THE election
 inspectors shall process the ballot as a challenged ballot under
 sections 745 and 746.

5 (5) If FOR AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2), IF the 6 election inspector is not able to contact the city or township clerk, the individual is not in the correct precinct, **OR** the 7 individual presents identification other than a Michigan operator's 8 or chauffeur's license, department of state issued personal 9 10 identification card, other government issued photo identification card, or a photo identification card issued by an institution of 11 12 higher education in this state described in section 6 of article 13 VIII of the state constitution of 1963 or a junior college or community college established under section 7 of article VIII of 14 the state constitution of 1963 IS UNABLE TO PRESENT IDENTIFICATION 15 16 FOR ELECTION PURPOSES that contains a current residence address, or the individual is unable to present any identification, the 17 18 individual shall MUST be issued a provisional ballot that is not 19 tabulated on election day but is secured for verification after the 20 election. A provisional ballot shall also be issued under this 21 subsection to a voter who presents a Michigan operator's license, 22 chauffeur's license, department of state personal identification 23 card, other government issued photo identification card, or a photo 24 identification card issued by an institution of higher education in this state described in section 6 of article VIII of the state 25 constitution of 1963 or a junior college or community college 26 27 established under section 7 of article VIII of the state

1 constitution of 1963 that does not bear the voter's current

2 residence address, if the voter also presents a document to

3 establish the voter's current residence address. The election

4 inspector shall accept a document containing the name and current

5 residence address of the voter as sufficient documentation to issue

6 a provisional ballot if it is 1 of the following documents:

7 (a) A current utility bill.

8 (b) A current bank statement.

9 (c) A current paycheck, government check, or other government
10 document.

(6) A provisional ballot shall MUST be placed in a provisional
ballot return envelope prescribed by the secretary of state and
delivered to the city or township clerk after the polls close in a
manner as prescribed by the secretary of state.

(7) For a provisional ballot voted under subsection (4), the 15 16 election inspector shall provide the voter with a notice that his or her ballot has been tabulated. For a provisional ballot voted 17 18 under subsection (5), the election inspector shall provide the 19 voter with a notice that the voter's information will be verified by the clerk of the jurisdiction within 6 days after the election 20 21 to determine whether the ballot will be tabulated and, if the ballot is not tabulated, to determine the reason it was not 22 23 tabulated. A clerk of a jurisdiction shall provide a free access 24 system for the voter to determine whether the ballot was tabulated. 25 The free access system may include a telephone number that does not require a toll charge, a toll-free telephone number, an internet 26 27 website, or a mailed notice.

(8) As used in this section and sections 813 and 829,
 "provisional ballot" means a special ballot utilized for an
 individual who is not listed on the voter registration list at the
 polling place that is tabulated only after verification of the
 individual's eligibility to vote.

6 Sec. 761. (1) If the clerk of a city, township, or village 7 receives an application for an absent voter ballot from a person registered to vote in that city, township, or village and if the 8 9 signature on the application agrees with the signature for the 10 person contained in the qualified voter file or on the registration card as required in subsection (2), the clerk immediately upon 11 12 receipt of the application or, if the application is received before the printing of the absent voter ballots, as soon as the 13 ballots are received by the clerk, shall forward by mail, postage 14 prepaid, or shall deliver personally 1 of the ballots or set of 15 ballots if there is more than 1 kind of ballot to be voted to the 16 applicant. Subject to the identification requirement in subsection 17 18 (6), absent voter ballots may be delivered to an applicant in 19 person at the office of the clerk.

20 (2) The qualified voter file shall MUST be used to determine 21 the genuineness of a signature on an application for an absent 22 voter ballot. Signature comparisons shall MUST be made with the 23 digitized signature in the qualified voter file. If the qualified 24 voter file does not contain a digitized signature of an elector, or 25 is not accessible to the clerk, the city or township clerk shall compare the signature appearing on the application for an absent 26 27 voter ballot to the signature contained on the master card.

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1 (3) Notwithstanding section 759, providing that no absent 2 voter applications shall be received by the clerk after 2 p.m. on the Saturday before the election, and subject to the identification 3 requirement in subsection (6), a person qualified to vote as an 4 5 absent voter may apply in person at the clerk's office before 4 6 p.m. on a day before the election except Sunday or a legal holiday 7 to vote as an absent voter. The applicant shall receive his or her absent voter ballot and vote the ballot in the clerk's office. All 8 9 other absent voter ballots, except ballots delivered pursuant to an 10 emergency absent voter ballot application under section 759b, shall MUST be mailed or delivered to the registration address of the 11 12 applicant unless the application requests delivery to an address 13 outside the city, village, or township or to a hospital or similar 14 institution, in which case the absent voter ballots shall MUST be mailed or delivered to the address given in the application. 15 16 However, a clerk may mail or deliver an absent voter ballot, upon 17 request of the absent voter, to a post office box if the post 18 office box is where the absent voter normally receives personal 19 mail and the absent voter does not receive mail at his or her 20 registration address.

(4) Absent voter ballots shall MUST be issued in the same order in which applications are received by the clerk of a city, township, or village, as nearly as may be, and each ballot issued shall MUST bear the lowest number of each kind available for this purpose. However, this provision does not prohibit a clerk from immediately issuing an absent voter ballot to an absent voter who applies in person in the clerk's office for absent voter ballots.

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The clerk shall enclose with the ballot or ballots a return
 envelope properly addressed to the clerk and bearing upon the back
 of the envelope a printed statement in substantially the following
 form:

5		IO BE COMPLETED
6	BY THE CLERK	
7 8	Name of Voter	Street Address or R.R.
9 10	City, Township or Villad	ge County
11	Ward Precinct	Date of Election
12		
13	TO BE COMPLI	ETED BY THE ABSENT VOTER

I assert that I am a United States citizen and a qualified and registered elector of the city, township, or village named above. I am voting as an absent voter in conformity with state election law. Unless otherwise indicated below, I personally marked the ballot enclosed in this envelope without exhibiting it to any other person.

I further assert that this absent voter ballot is being returned to the clerk or an assistant of the clerk by me personally; by public postal service, express mail service, parcel post service, or other common carrier; by a member of my immediate family; or by a person residing in my household.

31 TO BE COMPLETED ONLY IF VOTER IS ASSISTED IN VOTING

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1 I assisted the above named absent voter who is disabled or otherwise unable to mark the ballot in marking his or her absent 2 3 voter ballot pursuant to his or her directions. The absent voter 4 ballot was inserted in the return envelope without being exhibited 5 to any other person.

6 7 Signature of Person Street Address City, Twp., or 8 Assisting Voter Village or R.R. 9 10 Printed Name of Person Assisting Voter 11 A PERSON WHO ASSISTS AN ABSENT VOTER AND WHO KNOWINGLY MAKES A 12 FALSE STATEMENT IS GUILTY OF A FELONY. 13 _____ 14

WARNING

PERSONS WHO CAN LEGALLY BE IN POSSESSION OF AN ABSENT VOTER 15 BALLOT ISSUED TO AN ABSENT VOTER ARE LIMITED TO THE ABSENT VOTER; A 16 17 PERSON WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE ABSENT VOTER'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY OR RESIDES IN THE ABSENT VOTER'S HOUSEHOLD AND WHO HAS BEEN ASKED BY 18 19 THE ABSENT VOTER TO RETURN THE BALLOT; A PERSON WHOSE JOB IT IS TO 20 HANDLE MAIL BEFORE, DURING, OR AFTER BEING TRANSPORTED BY A PUBLIC 21 POSTAL SERVICE, EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE, PARCEL POST SERVICE, OR 22 COMMON CARRIER, BUT ONLY DURING THE NORMAL COURSE OF HIS OR HER EMPLOYMENT; AND THE CLERK, ASSISTANTS OF THE CLERK, AND OTHER 23 24 AUTHORIZED ELECTION OFFICIALS OF THE CITY, TOWNSHIP, VILLAGE, OR SCHOOL DISTRICT. ANY OTHER PERSON IN POSSESSION OF AN ABSENT VOTER 25 26 BALLOT IS GUILTY OF A FELONY.

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(5) An absent voter who knowingly makes a false statement on

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the absent voter ballot return envelope is guilty of a misdemeanor.
 A person who assists an absent voter and who knowingly makes a
 false statement on the absent voter ballot return envelope is
 guilty of a felony.

5 (6) If an elector obtains his or her absent voter ballot in 6 person from the clerk of the city, township, or village in which he 7 or she is registered, the clerk of the city, township, or village shall not provide an absent voter ballot to that elector until the 8 9 elector identifies himself or herself to the clerk by presenting an official state identification card issued to that elector under 10 1972 PA 222, MCL 28.291 to 28.300, an operator's or chauffeur's 11 12 license issued to that elector under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, or other generally recognized 13 picture identification card. IDENTIFICATION FOR ELECTION PURPOSES. 14 If an elector does not have an official state identification card, 15 16 operator's or chauffeur's license, or other generally recognized picture identification card, IDENTIFICATION FOR ELECTION PURPOSES, 17 the elector may sign an affidavit to that effect before the clerk 18 19 of the city, township, or village and be allowed to obtain his or 20 her absent voter ballot in person from the clerk. The clerk of the 21 city, village, or township shall indicate to each elector who IS 22 REGISTERED IN THAT CITY, VILLAGE, OR TOWNSHIP AND WHO obtains his 23 or her absent voter ballot in person from the clerk that the 24 elector may sign an affidavit indicating that the elector does not 25 have an official state identification card, operator's or 26 chauffeur's license, or other generally recognized picture 27 identification card IDENTIFICATION FOR ELECTION PURPOSES in order

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1 to obtain his or her absent voter ballot in person from the clerk. 2 However, if an elector obtains his or her absent voter ballot in person from the clerk and votes by absent voter ballot without 3 providing the identification FOR ELECTION PURPOSES required under 4 this subsection, the absent voter ballot of that elector shall MUST 5 6 be prepared as a challenged ballot as provided in section 727 and 7 shall MUST be counted as any other ballot is counted unless determined otherwise by a court of law under section 747 or 748 or 8 9 any other applicable law.

10 Sec. 813. (1) Within 6 days after an election, for each provisional ballot that was placed in a provisional ballot return 11 12 envelope, the city or township clerk shall determine whether the 13 individual voting the provisional ballot was eligible to vote a ballot and whether to tabulate the provisional ballot. In making 14 15 this determination, the city or township clerk shall not open the 16 provisional ballot return envelope. A provisional ballot shall MUST only be tabulated if a valid voter registration record for the 17 18 elector is located or if the identity and residence of the elector 19 is established using a Michigan operator's license, chauffeur's 20 license, personal identification card, other government issued 21 photo identification card, or a photo identification card issued by 22 an institution of higher education in this state described in 23 section 6 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963 or a 24 junior college or community college established under section 7 of 25 article VIII of the state constitution of 1963 IDENTIFICATION FOR ELECTION PURPOSES, along with a CURRENT UTILITY BILL, BANK 26 27 STATEMENT, PAYCHECK, GOVERNMENT CHECK, OR OTHER GOVERNMENT document

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to establish the voter's current residence address as provided in
 section 523a(5). IF THE IDENTIFICATION FOR ELECTION PURPOSES USED
 BY THE ELECTOR DOES NOT CONTAIN THE VOTER'S CURRENT RESIDENCE
 ADDRESS. Before the provisional ballot is tabulated, election
 officials shall process the ballot as a challenged ballot under
 sections 745 and 746.

7 (2) Within 7 days after an election, but sooner if
8 practicable, the city or township clerk shall transmit the results
9 of provisional ballots tabulated after the election to the board of
10 county canvassers. The results shall MUST be transmitted in a form
11 prescribed by the secretary of state.

12 (3) Within 7 days after an election, the city or township 13 clerk shall transmit to the county clerk a provisional ballot report for each precinct in the jurisdiction. The report shall MUST 14 include for each precinct the number of provisional ballots issued, 15 16 the number of provisional ballots tabulated on election day, the 17 number of provisional ballots forwarded to the clerk to be 18 determined after the election, the number of provisional ballots 19 tabulated by the clerk after election day, and any additional 20 information concerning provisional ballots as required by the 21 secretary of state.

(4) Within 7 days after an election, the city or township
clerk shall transmit to the county clerk an affidavit report that
includes the number of affidavits signed by voters under section
523(2). The affidavit report shall MUST be transmitted to the
county clerk in a form prescribed by the secretary of state.
Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days

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1 after the date it is enacted into law.