



# HOUSE BILL No. 4726

April 25, 1995, Introduced by Rep. Law and referred to the Committee on Local Government.

A bill to amend Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954,  
entitled as amended  
"Michigan election law,"  
as amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan  
Compiled Laws, by adding section 22.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Section 1. Act No. 116 of the Public Acts of 1954, as  
2 amended, being sections 168.1 to 168.992 of the Michigan Compiled  
3 Laws, is amended by adding section 22 to read as follows:

4 SEC. 22. (1) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PREPARE AN INFOR-  
5 MATIONAL BALLOT PAMPHLET FOR EACH ELECTION AT WHICH A STATEWIDE  
6 BALLOT PROPOSAL IS PLACED BEFORE THE VOTERS OF THIS STATE. THE  
7 SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PROVIDE THE INFORMATIONAL BALLOT  
8 PAMPHLET TO CIVIC GROUPS AND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS TO  
9 ENSURE A WIDESPREAD CIRCULATION OF THE BALLOT PAMPHLET BEFORE THE

1 ELECTION. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL MAIL AN INFORMATIONAL  
2 BALLOT PAMPHLET TO EVERY REGISTERED ELECTOR IN THIS STATE 7 BUSI-  
3 NESS DAYS OR MORE BEFORE THE ELECTION. THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
4 SHALL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE INFORMATIONAL  
5 BALLOT PAMPHLET IN OTHER MEDIA FOR CITIZENS OF THIS STATE WHO CAN  
6 NOT READ THE INFORMATIONAL BALLOT PAMPHLET.

7 (2) THE INFORMATIONAL BALLOT PAMPHLET SHALL CONTAIN ALL OF  
8 THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH BALLOT PROPOSAL:

9 (A) THE OFFICIAL TITLE AND A SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSAL THAT  
10 WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL PRE-  
11 PARE THE SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSAL, WHICH SUMMARY SHALL BE IN 100  
12 WORDS OR LESS.

13 (B) A FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ESTIMATING THE FINANCIAL  
14 EFFECT ON STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, OR BOTH.

15 (C) IF A VOTE BY THE LEGISLATURE PLACED THE PROPOSAL ON THE  
16 BALLOT, THE VOTE OF EACH MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE.

17 (D) A LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS SUMMARIZING THE BACKGROUND AND  
18 DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSAL AND ITS FISCAL EFFECTS. THE ANALYSIS  
19 SHALL BE CLEARLY WRITTEN USING WORDS THAT HAVE A COMMON, EVERYDAY  
20 MEANING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. THE LANGUAGE USED SHALL NOT  
21 CREATE PREJUDICE FOR OR AGAINST THE PROPOSAL.

22 (E) THE ENTIRE TEXT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, STATU-  
23 TORY PROPOSAL, OR BOND PROPOSAL.

24 (F) IN 250 WORDS OR LESS, ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE PRO-  
25 POSAL AS PROVIDED TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE BY LEGISLATORS, INDIV-  
26 IDUALS, OR INTEREST GROUPS.

1 (G) NOT MORE THAN 3 NAMES AND AFFILIATIONS OF SUPPORTERS OF  
2 THE PROPOSAL.

3 (H) IN 250 WORDS OR LESS, ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE PROPOSAL AS  
4 PROVIDED TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE BY LEGISLATORS, INDIVIDUALS,  
5 OR INTEREST GROUPS.

6 (I) NOT MORE THAN 3 NAMES AND AFFILIATIONS OF OPPONENTS OF  
7 THE PROPOSAL.

8 (J) IF THE STATEWIDE BALLOT PROPOSAL IS A BOND PROPOSAL, AN  
9 OVERVIEW OF THIS STATE'S CURRENT BOND DEBT, INCLUDING A DISCUS-  
10 SION OF THE IMPACT THAT THE BOND PROPOSAL, IF APPROVED, WOULD  
11 HAVE UPON THIS STATE'S INDEBTEDNESS.

12 (3) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL PREPARE THE INFORMATIONAL  
13 BALLOT PAMPHLET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE CONTENT OF BALLOT  
14 IS KNOWN. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL ESTABLISH A PROCEDURE AND  
15 PROVIDE NOTICE OF DATES BY WHICH LEGISLATORS, INDIVIDUALS, AND  
16 INTEREST GROUPS ARE TO PROVIDE THE ARGUMENTS AND SUPPORTERS AND  
17 OPPONENTS ARE TO PROVIDE NAMES AND AFFILIATIONS THAT MAY BE  
18 INCLUDED IN THE BALLOT PAMPHLET.