

HOUSE BILL No. 4351

February 27, 2001, Introduced by Reps. Cameron Brown, Dennis, Julian, Gielegem, Richardville, Kolb, Vander Veen, Lipsey, Faunce, Kooiman, Schauer, Spade, Vander Roest, Switalski, Gosselin, Mead, Ehardt, Pappageorge, Birkholz, Vear, Allen and Voorhees and referred to the Committee on Redistricting and Elections.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending sections 560, 666, 706, and 777 (MCL 168.560, 168.666, 168.706, and 168.777), section 706 as amended by 1985 PA 160.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 560. (1) ~~Such ballots~~ THE OFFICIAL PRIMARY ELECTION
2 BALLOT shall contain the instructions as to the method of
3 voting.

4 (2) Ballots other than those furnished by the board of elec-
5 tion commissioners ~~—~~ according to the provisions of this act
6 ~~—~~ shall not be used, cast, or counted in any election precinct
7 at ~~any such~~ A primary election.

1 (3) The size of all official ballots shall be ~~such~~ as
2 PRESCRIBED BY the board of election commissioners. ~~shall~~
3 ~~prescribe.~~

4 (4) THE INSTRUCTIONS SHALL STATE BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

5 (A) IF THE VOTER DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE BALLOT, THE VOTER
6 SHALL ASK AN ELECTION OFFICIAL FOR ASSISTANCE.

7 (B) IF THE VOTER MAKES A MISTAKE IN VOTING THE BALLOT, THE
8 VOTER SHALL RETURN THE SPOILED BALLOT TO AN ELECTION OFFICIAL AND
9 OBTAIN A NEW BALLOT.

10 Sec. 666. At ~~any~~ A federal, state, district, or county
11 primary ~~or~~ ELECTION, SPECIAL ELECTION, OR GENERAL election, the
12 secretary of state shall furnish to the county clerk of each
13 county at the expense of the state the following:

14 (a) ~~The secretary of state shall have printed for distribu-~~
15 ~~tion and shall furnish a~~ A copy of the Michigan election law and
16 A COPY of the manual of instructions for each precinct board of
17 election inspectors in the state. ~~→~~

18 (b) Prior to each primary, general, or special election at
19 which state, district, or county officers are to be nominated or
20 elected, ~~the secretary of state shall procure~~ a supply of
21 self-sealing metal sealing devices adapted and suitable for seal-
22 ing the ballot boxes used at ~~such~~ THE election. ~~Said~~ THE
23 sealing devices shall have the words "State of Michigan" and
24 serial numbers stamped ~~thereon, and at least 30 days before any~~
25 ~~such election he shall cause to be transmitted to the several~~
26 ~~county clerks such number of said metal sealing devices as will~~
27 ON THEM. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL provide a sufficient

1 number of ~~such seals~~ SELF-SEALING METAL SEALING DEVICES for
2 each voting precinct within the county ~~;~~ AT LEAST 30 DAYS
3 BEFORE AN ELECTION.

4 (c) ~~The secretary of state shall furnish a~~ A substantial
5 supply of red gummed paper seals for use of the precinct boards
6 of election inspectors in sealing ~~such~~ THE package of ballots
7 and the envelopes containing the tally sheets or books and the
8 statement of returns. Each ~~such~~ seal shall have inscribed
9 ~~thereon~~ ON IT the words "Election Seal--State of Michigan" and
10 the date of the primary or election at which it is to be used. A
11 space shall also be provided ~~thereon~~ ON THE SEAL in which 2
12 members of the board of election inspectors shall write their
13 initials after the seal has been applied. ~~;~~

14 (d) ~~The secretary of state shall furnish uniform~~ UNIFORM
15 printed instructions to electors printed in large type upon
16 cards, containing any information that will assist electors in
17 marking their ballots and correctly designating their choices.
18 Two ~~such~~ placards of instructions shall be conspicuously dis-
19 played in each polling place. ~~;~~ and THE PRINTED INSTRUCTIONS
20 SHALL STATE BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

21 (i) IF AN ELECTOR DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE BALLOT, THE ELEC-
22 TOR SHALL ASK AN ELECTION OFFICIAL FOR ASSISTANCE.

23 (ii) IF AN ELECTOR MAKES A MISTAKE IN VOTING THE BALLOT, THE
24 ELECTOR SHALL RETURN THE SPOILED BALLOT TO AN ELECTION OFFICIAL
25 AND OBTAIN A NEW BALLOT.

26 (e) ~~The secretary of state shall furnish to the various~~
27 ~~county clerks suitable~~ SUITABLE blank forms for use by the

1 ~~various~~ county boards of canvassers in making returns of the
2 canvass required by ~~law, and the various~~ THIS ACT. EACH county
3 ~~boards~~ BOARD of canvassers shall use the blanks furnished by
4 the secretary of state in making returns of the canvass.

5 Sec. 706. The arrangement of the ballot containing the
6 names of candidates for office shall conform as nearly as possi-
7 ble to the ~~following plan,~~ FORMAT SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION and
8 shall contain the specific instructions ~~there set forth~~
9 CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION and no others:

10

11

OFFICIAL BALLOT

12 County of Date

13 INSTRUCTIONS - To vote a straight party ticket make a cross
14 (X) or check mark (Q/) in the circle under the name of your
15 party. Nothing further need be done. To vote for a candidate
16 not on your party ticket, make a cross (X) or a check mark (Q/)
17 in the square [] before the candidate's name. Candidates for
18 president and vice-president must be voted for as a unit, and the
19 vote cannot be split. Candidates for governor and lieutenant
20 governor must be voted for as a unit, and the vote cannot be
21 split.

22 If 2 or more candidates are to be elected to the same office
23 and you desire to vote for candidates not on your party ticket,
24 make a cross (X) or a check mark (Q/) in the square [] before the
25 names of the candidates for whom you desire to vote on the other

1 ticket, and strike out an equal number of names on your party
2 ticket, for that office.

3 If you do not desire to vote ~~any~~ A party ticket, do not
4 make a cross (X) or check mark (Q/) in the circle at the head of
5 ~~any~~ A PARTY ticket, but make a cross (X) or a check mark (Q/)
6 in the square [] before the name of each candidate for whom you
7 desire to vote.

8 If you wish to vote for a candidate not on ~~any~~ A PARTY
9 ticket, write or place the name of that candidate on your ballot
10 opposite the name of the office.

11 IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE BALLOT, YOU SHALL ASK AN ELEC-
12 TION OFFICIAL FOR HELP. IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE IN VOTING THE
13 BALLOT, YOU SHALL RETURN THE SPOILED BALLOT TO AN ELECTION OFFI-
14 CIAL AND YOU WILL RECEIVE A NEW BALLOT.

15 Before leaving the booth, fold the ballot so that the face
16 of the ballot is not exposed and so that the numbered corner is
17 visible.

18 =====

19 Name of	Vignette	Vignette	Vignette
20 Offices	with	with	with
21 Voted For:	Name of Party	Name of Party	Name of Party
22	[]	[]	[]
23 =====			
24	Name of	Name of	Name of
25 PRESIDENTIAL	Candidate for	Candidate for	Candidate for
26 Electors of	President.	President.	President.
27 President			
28 and Vice-	[] Name of	[] Name of	[] Name of
29 President of	Candidate for	Candidate for	Candidate for
30 the United	Vice-President.	Vice-President.	Vice-President.
31 States			

1				
2		Governor	Governor	Governor
3	STATE	Name of	Name of	Name of
4	Governor and	Candidate	Candidate	Candidate
5	Lieutenant	<input type="checkbox"/> Lieut. Governor	<input type="checkbox"/> Lieut. Governor	<input type="checkbox"/> Lieut. Governor
6	Governor	Name of	Name of	Name of
7		Candidate	Candidate	Candidate
8				
9		Secretary of	Secretary of	Secretary of
10		State	State	State
11	Secretary of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of
12	State	Candidate	Candidate	Candidate
13	=====			
14	CONGRESSIONAL	U.S. Senator	U.S. Senator	U.S. Senator
15	United States	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of
16	Senator	Candidate	Candidate	Candidate
17				
18	Represent-	U.S. Repre-	U.S. Repre-	U.S. Repre-
19	ative in	sentative	sentative	sentative
20	Congress	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of
21	.....District	Candidate	Candidate	Candidate
22	=====			
23	LEGISLATIVE	State Senator	State Senator	State Senator
24	Senator	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of
25	.....District	Candidate	Candidate	Candidate
26				
27		State Repre-	State Repre-	State Repre-
28	Represent-	sentative	sentative	sentative
29	ative	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of
30	.....District	Candidate	Candidate	Candidate
31	=====			
32	COUNTY	Pros. Attorney	Pros. Attorney	Pros. Attorney
33	Prosecuting	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of
34	Attorney	Candidate	Candidate	Candidate
35				
36		Sheriff	Sheriff	Sheriff
37	Sheriff	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of	<input type="checkbox"/> Name of
38		Candidate	Candidate	Candidate
39	=====			
40				

41 Sec. 777. A model representing a portion of the face of the
42 machine and containing fictitious names ~~must~~ SHALL be delivered
43 to each board of election inspectors for use on election day, and
44 one of ~~said~~ THE board OF ELECTION INSPECTORS, or ~~some one~~
45 SOMEONE appointed by ~~said~~ THE board OF ELECTION INSPECTORS,
46 shall offer to exhibit and explain the operation of the voting
47 machine, by use of the model, to each voter before such voter

1 ~~shall be~~ IS allowed to vote. Printed instructions on how to
2 vote, circulated to voters, must conform to the instructions
3 approved by the official providing ballots, and adapted to the
4 machine used. THE PRINTED INSTRUCTIONS SHALL STATE BOTH OF THE
5 FOLLOWING:

6 (A) IF A VOTER DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE BALLOT, THE VOTER
7 SHALL ASK AN ELECTION OFFICIAL FOR ASSISTANCE.

8 (B) IF A VOTER MAKES A MISTAKE IN VOTING THE BALLOT, THE
9 VOTER SHALL RETURN THE SPOILED BALLOT TO AN ELECTION OFFICIAL AND
10 OBTAIN A NEW BALLOT.