SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 4825

<<A bill to amend 1909 PA 279, entitled
 "The home rule city act,"
 by amending sections 3, 8, 11, 21, 25, and 26, (MCL 117.3,
 117.8, 117.11, 117.21, 117.25, 117.26), section 3 as
 amended by 2002 PA 201, section 25 as amended by 1982 PA 200.>>

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

Sec. 3. Each city charter shall provide for all of the
 following:

3 (a) The election of a mayor, who shall be the chief executive
4 officer of the city, and of a body vested with legislative power,
5 and for the election or appointment of a clerk, a treasurer, an
6 assessor or board of assessors, a board of review, and other
7 officers considered necessary. The city charter may provide for
8 the selection of the mayor by the legislative body. Elections

1 may be by a partisan, nonpartisan, or preferential ballot, or by any other legal method of voting. Notwithstanding - any other 2 another law or charter provision to the contrary, a city having a 3 1970 official population of more than 150,000, whose charter 4 5 provides for terms of office of less than 4 years, and in which the term of office for the mayor and the governing body are of 6 the same length, may provide by ordinance for a term of office of 7 up to 4 years for mayor and other elected city officials. 8 The ordinance shall provide that the ordinance shall take effect 60 9 days after it is enacted unless within the 60 days a petition is 10 submitted to the city clerk signed by not less than 10% of the 11 12 registered electors of the city requesting that the question of approval of the ordinance be submitted to the electors at the 13 next regular election or a special election called for the 14 purpose of approving or disapproving the ordinance. 15

16 (b) The nomination of elective officers by partisan or17 nonpartisan primary, by petition, or by convention.

18 (c) The time, manner, and means of holding elections and the
19 registration of electors, subject to section 26 and other
20 applicable requirements of law.

(d) The qualifications, duties, and compensation of the city's officers. If the city has an appointed chief administrative officer, the legislative body of the city may enter into an employment contract with the chief administrative officer extending beyond the terms of the members of the legislative body unless the employment contract is prohibited by the city charter. An employment contract with a chief

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1 administrative officer shall be in writing and shall specify the compensation to be paid to the chief administrative officer, any 2 procedure for changing the compensation, any fringe benefits, and 3 -any other conditions of employment. The contract shall state 4 5 if the chief administrative officer serves at the pleasure of the legislative body, and the contract may provide for severance pay 6 or other benefits in the event the chief administrative officer's 7 employment is terminated at the pleasure of the legislative 8 body. 9

(e) The establishment of 1 or more wards, and if the members
of the city's legislative body are chosen by wards, for equal
representation for each ward in the legislative body.

13 (f) That the subjects of taxation for municipal purposes are 14 the same as for state, county, and school purposes under the 15 general law.

(g) The annual laying and collecting taxes in a sum, except 16 as otherwise provided by law, not to exceed 2% of the taxable 17 value of the real and personal property in the city. Unless the 18 charter provides for a different tax rate limitation, the 19 20 governing body of a city may levy and collect taxes for municipal purposes in a sum not to exceed 1% of the taxable value of the 21 real and personal property in the city. As used in this 22 subdivision, "taxable value" is that value determined under 23 section 27a of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, 24 MCL 211.27a. 25

26 (h) An annual appropriation of money for municipal purposes.27 (i) The levy, collection, and return of state, county, and

school taxes in conformance with the general laws of this state,
 except that the preparation of the assessment roll, the meeting
 of the board of review, and the confirmation of the assessment
 roll may be at the times provided in the city charter.

5 (j) The public peace and health and for the safety of persons and property. In providing for the public peace, health, and 6 safety, a city may expend funds or enter into contracts with a 7 private organization, the federal or state government, a county, 8 village, or township, or another city for services considered 9 necessary by the legislative body. Public peace, health, and 10 safety services may include the operation of child guidance and 11 12 community mental health clinics, the prevention, counseling, and treatment of developmental disabilities, the prevention of drug 13 abuse, and the counseling and treatment of drug abusers. 14

15 (k) Adopting, continuing, amending, and repealing the city ordinances and for the publication of each ordinance before it 16 becomes operative. Whether or not provided in its charter, 17 instead of publishing a true copy of an ordinance before it 18 becomes operative, the city may publish a summary of the 19 20 ordinance. If the city publishes a summary of the ordinance, the city shall include in the publication the designation of a 21 location in the city where a true copy of the ordinance can be 22 inspected or obtained. Any A charter provision to the contrary 23 notwithstanding, a city may adopt an ordinance punishable by 24 imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than 25 \$500.00, or both, if the violation substantially corresponds to a 26 27 violation of state law that is a misdemeanor for which the

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1 maximum period of imprisonment is 93 days. Whether or not provided in its charter, a city may adopt a provision of -any- a 2 state statute for which the maximum period of imprisonment is 93 3 days, the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 4 5 257.923, or a law, code, or rule that has been promulgated and adopted by an authorized agency of this state pertaining to fire, 6 fire hazards, fire prevention, or fire waste, and a fire 7 prevention code, plumbing code, heating code, electrical code, 8 building code, refrigeration machinery code, piping code, boiler 9 code, boiler operation code, elevator machinery code, or a code 10 pertaining to flammable liquids and gases or hazardous chemicals, 11 12 that has been promulgated by this state, by a department, board, or other agency of this state, or by an organization or 13 association that is organized and conducted for the purpose of 14 developing the code, by reference to the law, code, or rule in an 15 adopting ordinance and without publishing the law, code, or rule 16 in full. The law, code, or rule shall be clearly identified in 17 the ordinance and its purpose shall be published with the 18 adopting ordinance. Printed copies of the law, code, or rule 19 20 shall be kept in the office of the city clerk, available for inspection by, and distribution to, the public at all times. 21 The 22 publication shall contain a notice stating that a complete copy of the law, code, or rule is made available to the public at the 23 office of the city clerk in compliance with state law requiring 24 that records of public bodies be made available to the general 25 public. A city shall not enforce <u>any</u> **a** provision adopted by 26 27 reference for which the maximum period of imprisonment is greater

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1 than 93 days.

(1) That the business of the legislative body shall be
conducted at a public meeting held in compliance with the open
meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. All records of
the municipality shall be made available to the general public in
compliance with the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442,
MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

8 (m) Keeping in the English language a written or printed9 journal of each session of the legislative body.

10 (n) A system of accounts that conforms to a uniform system of11 accounts as required by law.

12 Sec. 8. (1) - Said petition Subject to subsections (2) and (3), a petition filed under section 6 shall be addressed to the 13 14 which the territory to be affected by -such - the proposed 15 incorporation, consolidation, or change of boundaries is located, 16 and shall be filed with the clerk of -said board the county 17 board of commissioners not less than 30 days before the convening 18 of -such - the board in regular session, or in any special session 19 20 called for the purpose of considering -said the petition. -, and 21 if, before final action thereon, it shall appear to said board or a majority thereof that said petition or the signing thereof does 22 not conform to this act, or contains incorrect statements, no 23 further proceedings pursuant to said petition shall be had, but, 24 if it shall appear that said petition conforms in all respects to 25 26 the provisions of this act, and that the statements contained 27 therein are true, said board of supervisors The county board of

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1 commissioners shall by resolution determine whether the petition complies with the requirements of this act and whether the 2 statements contained in the petition are correct. If a majority 3 of the board determines that the petition does not comply with 4 the requirements of this act or that the statements contained in 5 the petition are not correct, the board shall not conduct further 6 proceedings on the petition. Subject to subsection (4), if the 7 board determines that the petition complies with the requirements 8 of this act and that the statements contained in the petition are 9 correct, the board shall, by resolution, provide that the 10 question of making the proposed incorporation, consolidation, or 11 12 change of boundaries -shall be submitted to the qualified 13 electors of the district to be affected at the next general election -, occurring in not less than 40 days after the adoption 14 15 of such resolution, and if no general election is to occur within 16 90 days, said resolution may fix a date preceding said general election for a special election on such question: Provided, 17 however, That whenever or at a special election before the next 18 general election. The question shall not be submitted at an 19 20 election to be held less than 60 days after the adoption of the resolution. 21

(2) If it is proposed to incorporate an incorporated village
as a city without change of boundaries, <u>the</u> both of the
following apply:

25 (a) The initiatory petition <u>herein</u> provided for under
26 section 6 shall be addressed to the village council or other
27 legislative body of <u>such</u> the village and shall be filed with

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1 the village clerk at least 30 days before final action is taken
2 thereupon and in such case all acts and duties provided in this
3 act to be performed by the board of supervisors shall be
4 performed by the common council of such village and all acts and
5 duties provided in this act to be performed by the clerk of the
6 board of supervisors shall be performed by the village clerk:
7 Provided further, That a on the petition.

8 (b) The powers and duties of the county board of 9 commissioners and county clerk under subsection (1) are assigned 10 to the village council and village clerk, respectively.

(3) A petition covering the same territory, or part - thereof 11 12 of the same territory, shall not be considered by the county board of -supervisors oftener commissioners more often than once 13 in every 2 years, unless -such the petition -shall have been is 14 signed by -a number not less than 35% of taxpayers -assessed for 15 real property taxes within the area proposed to be annexed whose 16 names appear on the latest assessment rolls -therein- under the 17 18 requirements of the general property tax -, equal to 35% of the total number of names which appear on the assessment rolls 19 20 prepared pursuant to said act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.1 to 211.157, as being assessed for real property taxes within the 21 area proposed to be annexed. -, and it shall be the duty of the 22 The assessing officers who are charged with the duty of assessing 23 real property within the area proposed to be annexed -to- shall 24 report as of the date on which the petition is filed the total 25 number of names on -such the rolls, within -such that area, to 26 27 the clerk of the board of supervisors county board of

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3 (4) A vote is not required if the city owns the land sought4 to be annexed.

5 (5) After the adoption of -such a resolution under subsection (1) submitting a question to a vote of the electors, 6 neither the sufficiency nor legality of the petition -on which it 7 is based under section 6 may be questioned in any proceeding. 8 Sec. 11. (1) - When- If the territory to be affected by 9 -any- a proposed incorporation, consolidation, or change of 10 11 boundaries is situated in more than 1 county, the petition 12 -hereinbefore provided under section 6 shall be addressed and presented to the secretary of state. -, with The petition shall 13 be accompanied by 1 or more affidavits - attached thereto sworn 14 15 to by 1 or more of the signers of -said the petition -r

16 showing <u>that</u> all of the following:

17 (a) That the statements contained in <u>said</u> the petition are
18 true. <u>, that</u>

19 (b) That each signature affixed <u>thereto</u> to the petition is 20 the <u>genuine</u> actual signature of a qualified elector residing in 21 a city, village, or township to be affected by the carrying out 22 of the purposes of the petition. <u>and that</u>

23 (c) That not less than 25 of <u>such</u> the petition signers
24 reside in each city, village, or township to be affected.
25 <u>thereby</u>.

26 (2) The secretary of state shall examine <u>such</u> the petition
27 and the accompanying affidavit or affidavits. <u>annexed</u>, and if he

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1 shall find that the same conforms to the provisions If the secretary of state finds that the petition and accompanying 2 affidavit or affidavits comply with the requirements of this act, 3 he or she shall so certify --- and shall transmit the certificate 4 5 and a certified copy of -said the petition and the accompanying affidavit or affidavits to the clerk of each city, village, or 6 township to be affected by the *carrying out of the purposes of* 7 such petition proposal, together with his certificate as above 8 provided, and a notice directing that at the next general 9 election occurring not less than 40 days thereafter the question 10 of making the incorporation, consolidation, or change of 11 12 boundaries petitioned for - shall be submitted to the electors of the district to be affected. -, and if no general election is 13 to be held within 90 days the resolution may fix a date preceding 14 the next general election for a special election on the 15 question. If he shall find that said The notice shall provide 16 that the question shall be submitted at the next general election 17 or at an election before the next general election. However, the 18 question shall not be submitted at an election to be held less 19 20 than 60 days after the date of transmittal of the certificate. 21 (3) If the secretary of state finds that the petition and the accompanying affidavit or affidavits - annexed thereto - do not 22 -conform to the provisions comply with the requirements of this 23 act, he or she shall certify to that fact --- and shall return 24 -said the petition and affidavits to the person from whom they 25 were received, -together along with -such the certificate. 26 27 (4) The -several city, village, and township clerks who

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shall receive from the secretary of state the copies and
 certificates <u>above</u> provided for in subsection (2) shall give
 notice of the election to be held on the question of making the
 proposed incorporation, consolidation, or change of boundaries as
 provided for in section 10. <u>of this act.</u>

6 Sec. 21. (1) -Any An amendment to an existing city charter, whether passed pursuant to the provisions of the 7 charter was adopted under this act or -heretofore- formerly 8 granted or passed by the legislature for the government of a 9 city, - may from time to time be amended in the manner following: 10 An amendment may be proposed by the legislative body of a city 11 12 on a 3/5 vote of the members-elect or by an initiatory petition. 13 -as herein provided, and in case the same If the amendment is proposed by the legislative body of the city, -then the same the 14 amendment shall be submitted to the electors of -such- the city 15 at the next regular municipal or general state election, or at a 16 special election, to be held in such city held not less than 60 17 days after the proposal of -such the amendment. -, and in case 18 If the amendment is proposed by an initiatory petition, -as 19 20 herein provided, then the same the amendment shall be submitted to the electors of such city as herein provided the city at the 21 next regular municipal or general state election held in -such 22 the city which shall occur not less than 90 days -following 23 after the filing of -such petitions - the petition. 24

(2) Proposed charter amendments and other questions to be
submitted to the electors shall be published in full with
existing charter provisions -which- that would be altered or

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1 abroquted -thereby- by the proposed charter amendment or other The purpose of any such the proposed charter 2 question. amendment or question shall be designated on the -ballots -ballot 3 in not more than 100 words, exclusive of caption, which that 4 5 shall consist of a true and impartial statement of the purpose of the amendment or question in -such language -as shall that does 6 not create -no- prejudice for or against -such- the amendment or 7 question. -, and the The text of -such the statement shall be 8 submitted to the attorney general for approval as to compliance 9 with this requirement before being printed. -: Provided, That 10 In addition, the proposed charter amendment in full shall be 11 12 posted in a conspicuous place in each polling place. The form in 13 which <u>any</u> a proposed charter amendment or question shall appear on the ballot, unless provided for in the initiatory petition, 14 shall be determined by resolution of the legislative body, and 15 -when if provided for by the initiatory petition, the 16 legislative body may add <u>such</u> an explanatory caption. as shall 17 be deemed advisable. Any proposed 18

19 (3) A proposed charter amendment shall be confined to 1 20 subject. and in case a subject should embrace If the subject of a charter amendment includes more than 1 related proposition, 21 each proposition shall be separately stated to afford an 22 opportunity for an elector to vote for or against each -such 23 proposition. -: Provided, That If a proposed charter amendment 24 -failing of adoption at any election is rejected at an election, 25 the amendment shall not be resubmitted for a period of 2 years. 26 27 -: Provided further, That in any city in which a city election

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1 is held in April, the legislative body thereof may amend the
2 charter of said city by resolution so as to provide that there
3 shall be nominated on the third Monday in February preceding any
4 April election, by direct vote of the registered and qualified
5 voters within such city, candidates for ward and city offices to
6 be voted for at the next April election: Provided further, That
7 any

(4) A city charter <u>heretofore</u> formerly granted by a 8 different act of the state legislature, -not pursuant to the 9 provisions of this act, including charters of cities the 10 charter of a city of the fourth class, amended as herein 11 12 provided, by adopting or coming that adopts or comes under any part of this act by amendment under this section, and not by 13 14 general revision, adoption, or incorporation under this act, may 15 again be amended <u>hereunder</u> under this section, as to <u>such</u> the 16 part or parts <u>so</u> that are amended, by re-enacting <u>hereunder</u>, under this section that part or parts of the original act of 17 incorporation - which - that existed before any amendment was made 18 -hereunder, and such under this act. The part or parts of the 19 20 original act of incorporation -so- that are re-enacted shall not 21 be - considered or - construed as operating or coming under the provisions of this act in any manner, it being the intention to 22 permit a city -operating under such a charter described in this 23 subsection, to adopt by amendment any part of the provisions of 24 this act permissible -and thereafter or to withdraw from the 25 26 provisions of this act.

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(5) Propositions and questions shall be proposed, initiated,

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submitted and canvassed in a manner similar to that provided for
 charter amendments.

Sec. 25. (1) An initiatory petition authorized by this act 3 shall be addressed to and filed with the city clerk. 4 The 5 petition shall state what body, -or- organization, -if any, or if no body or organization, then what persons are or person is 6 primarily interested in and responsible for the circulation of 7 the petition and the securing of the amendment. Each sheet of 8 the petition shall be verified by the affidavit of the person who 9 obtained the signatures to the petition. -and - The petition shall 10 be signed by at least 5% of those persons residing in the 11 12 qualified and registered to vote in electors of the 13 municipality. -, the charter of which is to be amended, as of the date when they signed the petition. Each signer of the petition 14 shall - inscribe upon it also write, immediately after his or her 15 signature, the date of signing and his or her street address. 16 -Any signatures A signature obtained more than 1 year before the 17 filing of the petition with the city clerk shall not be counted. 18 The petition is subject to the requirements of section 25a. 19 20 (2) The verification shall state that the petition was circulated at the request of and pursuant to the directions of 21 the association, organization, or persons desiring the amendment 22 23 and shall also state that the signatures were obtained by the 24 person verifying the petition; that the signatures are the signatures of the persons purporting to sign the same and that 25

26 each of them signed in his or her presence; and that the person

27 verifying the petition has good reason to believe and verily does

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believe that the signers of the petition are duly registered
 electors of the municipality and are the identical persons their
 signatures purport them to be.

4 (2) (3) Any A person who shall wilfully affix willfully affixes another's signature, or <u>subscribe and swear</u> subscribes 5 and swears to a verification that is false in any material 6 particular, is guilty of perjury. -; and any A person who -shall 7 take the oath of another to the petition not knowing him 8 or her to be the -identical same person he or she represents 9 himself or herself to be or knowing that the petition or any part 10 -thereof of it is false or fraudulent in any material 11 12 particular, or who shall falsely represent represents that 13 the proposed amendment is proposed by parties persons other than the true sponsors, is guilty of a felony and -shall be is 14 liable <u>to</u> for the same punishment as provided for perjury. 15

(3) -(4) Upon receipt of the petition, the city clerk shall 16 canvass it to ascertain if it has been is signed by the 17 requisite number of registered electors. For the purpose of 18 determining the validity of the petition, the city clerk may 19 20 -cause check any doubtful signatures -to be checked against the registration records of the city. Within 45 days from the date 21 of the filing of the petition, the city clerk shall certify the 22 sufficiency or insufficiency -thereof of the petition. If the 23 petition contains the requisite number of signatures of 24 registered electors, the clerk shall -cause submit the proposed 25 amendment to be submitted to the electors of the city at the 26 27 next regular municipal or general state election held in the city

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which shall occur not less than 90 days following the filing of
 the petition.

(4) (5) When If the petition shall contain contains the 3 -number of signatures -equal to or in excess of 20% -of those 4 5 or more of the persons residing in and registered to vote in the city as of the date when they signed it, and -when- the petition 6 -shall request that requests submission of the proposal 7 -petitioned for shall be submitted at a special election, -to be 8 called for the purpose of submitting the same, the city clerk, 9 within 90 days -of- after the date of the filing of the petition, 10 shall call a special election to be held - not less than 120 days 11 12 nor more than 130 days after the date of filing the petition 13 unless a primary or regular election shall occur or a special election shall have been or shall be called for other purposes to 14 15 be held within 150 days after the date of the filing of the 16 petition. In that event the proposal shall be submitted at such primary, regular, or special election and a special election 17 shall not be so called. on the next regular election date that 18 is not less than 120 days after the petition was filed. Other 19 20 proposals, whether initiated by a 5% petition or proposed by the legislative body within the times within this act provided, may 21 be submitted at -such special that election. A proposal 22 submitted to the electors by the initiative and receiving an 23 affirmative majority of the votes cast -thereon on the proposal 24 shall not be held unconstitutional, invalid, or void on account 25 of the insufficiency of the petition by which -submission of the 26 27 -same proposal was -procured submitted.

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(5) (6) Except as provided by subsection (7) (6), any
 proposal contemplating adopted by the electors that
 contemplates increased expenditure of funds by the municipality
 shall become effective , if adopted by the electors, only at
 the beginning of that fiscal year of the municipality commencing
 not earlier than 60 days following the election at which the
 proposal was approved by the electors.

(6) -(7) If a proposal -which that increases the city's ad 8 valorem property tax limitation applies, by its terms, for a 9 specific year or period commencing before the date the proposal 10 would otherwise take effect under subsection -(6) (5), the 11 12 proposal shall be effective both from the date it is approved by the electors and retroactively for the year or period specified 13 in the proposal. Notwithstanding -any **a** charter provision to 14 the contrary, if a proposal is approved by the electors and given 15 effect under this subsection after the city has levied its ad 16 valorem property tax levy for the fiscal year and if the adopted 17 18 proposal authorizes the levy of a millage rate for the fiscal year during which the proposal was approved in excess of the rate 19 20 the city was authorized to levy before adoption of the proposal, the city may levy an additional tax. -to- The additional tax 21 **shall** be collected either by a supplementary billing by the city 22 or at the same time and in the same manner the county's ad 23 valorem property tax levy is collected. 24

25 (7) (8) Any A person aggrieved by any an action, or
26 failure of action, of the city clerk may bring an action against
27 the clerk in the circuit court for writ of mandamus or for other

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18 House Bill No. 4825 as amended December 17, 2003 1 appropriate relief.

Sec. 26. 2 (1) All elections held <u>hereunder</u> under this act shall be paid for by the locality where held. -, and except as 3 now Except as otherwise provided by law or ordinance, shall 4 5 receive such the legislative body of the city shall determine the publication and notice -as the legislative body may 6 7 determine, and shall be arranged for, held and conducted by the same officers and in the same manner as near as may be as general 8 biennial fall elections of the election. 9 (2) Notwithstanding another provision of this act or a 10 charter provision, an election under this act is subject to 11 12 section 641 of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, 13 MCL 168.641. 14 << 15 16 17 18 19 20 >> Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 21 22 January 1, 2005. Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take 23 effect unless all of the following bills of the 92nd Legislature 24 are enacted into law: 25 (a) Senate Bill No. 877. 26 27 (b) House Bill No. 4820.

1		ll No. House				December	11,	2003
2	(d)	House	Bill	No.	4823.			
3	(e)	House	Bill	No.	4824.			
4	(f)	House	Bill	No.	4826.			
5	(g)	House	Bill	No.	4827.			
6	(h)	House	Bill	No.	4828.			
7	<<					>>		