

HOUSE BILL No. 6497

September 14, 2006, Introduced by Rep. Stahl and referred to the Committee on House Oversight, Elections, and Ethics.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending section 509v (MCL 168.509v), as added by 1994 PA 441.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 509v. (1) A person who is not registered to vote at the
2 address where he or she resides may apply to register to vote by
3 submitting an application at any of the following locations:

4 (a) The office of the clerk of a county or the office of the
5 clerk of the city or township in which the applicant resides,
6 during regular office hours of that clerk.

7 (b) A department of state office.

8 (c) A designated voter registration agency when submitting an
9 application, recertification, renewal, or change of address at the

1 voter registration agency.

2 (2) A person who is not registered to vote at the address
3 where he or she resides may apply for registration by submitting a
4 completed mail registration application. A person may request a
5 mail registration application from and submit the application to
6 any of the following:

7 (a) The secretary of state.

8 (b) The clerk of the county, city, or township in which the
9 applicant resides.

10 (c) A designated voter registration agency.

11 (D) A THIRD-PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION.

12 (3) BEFORE ENGAGING IN ANY VOTER REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES, A
13 THIRD-PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION SHALL REGISTER WITH THE
14 COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWNSHIP CLERK WHERE THE VOTER REGISTRATION
15 ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE. THE REGISTRATION APPLICATION SHALL
16 INCLUDE THE NAMES OF THE OFFICERS OF THE THIRD-PARTY VOTER
17 REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION OR THE NAMES OF THE PERSONS IN THE THIRD-
18 PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION WHO HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO
19 SUPERVISE THE INDIVIDUALS COLLECTING VOTER REGISTRATION
20 APPLICATIONS FOR THE ORGANIZATION.

21 (4) A THIRD-PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION SHALL NOT
22 PAY A PERSON TO SOLICIT, COLLECT, OR ASSIST IN COLLECTING VOTER
23 REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS IF THE AMOUNT OF THE PAYMENT IS BASED ON
24 THE NUMBER OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS COLLECTED. A THIRD-
25 PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION THAT VIOLATES THIS SUBSECTION
26 IS LIABLE FOR A CIVIL FINE OF \$10,000.00 FOR EACH VIOLATION.

27 (5) A THIRD-PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION SHALL

1 ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO REVIEW ALL OF THE VOTER REGISTRATION
2 APPLICATIONS COLLECTED FOR POTENTIAL FRAUD. IF A THIRD-PARTY VOTER
3 REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION FINDS THAT ANY OF THE VOTER REGISTRATION
4 APPLICATIONS COLLECTED ARE OR COULD BE FRAUDULENT, THEN THE THIRD-
5 PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION SHALL REPORT THAT INFORMATION
6 TO THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FOR THAT COUNTY AND TO THE COUNTY
7 CLERK.

8 (6) A THIRD-PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION SHALL
9 DELIVER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE OR THE CLERK OF THE COUNTY, CITY,
10 TOWNSHIP, OR VILLAGE A VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION COLLECTED BY
11 THE ORGANIZATION NO LATER THAN THE LAST DAY FOR ACCEPTING VOTER
12 REGISTRATIONS BEFORE AN ELECTION AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 497, OR 10
13 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION IS
14 COLLECTED, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER. A THIRD-PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION
15 ORGANIZATION THAT VIOLATES THIS SUBSECTION IS LIABLE FOR A CIVIL
16 FINE OF \$10,000.00 FOR EACH VIOLATION.

17 (7) IF A THIRD-PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION DELIVERS
18 A VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE OR THE
19 CLERK OF THE COUNTY, CITY, TOWNSHIP, OR VILLAGE AFTER THE LAST DAY
20 FOR ACCEPTING VOTER REGISTRATIONS BEFORE AN ELECTION AS PROVIDED IN
21 SECTION 497, THE PERSON OR PERSONS NAMED ON THE ORGANIZATION'S
22 REGISTRATION APPLICATION AS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (3) ARE
23 GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE
24 THAN 93 DAYS OR A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$500.00, OR BOTH.

25 (8) IF A THIRD-PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION FAILS TO
26 DELIVER A VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE
27 OR THE CLERK OF THE COUNTY, CITY, TOWNSHIP, OR VILLAGE, THE PERSON

1 OR PERSONS NAMED ON THE ORGANIZATION'S REGISTRATION APPLICATION AS
2 REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (3) ARE GUILTY OF A FELONY PUNISHABLE BY
3 IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 5 YEARS OR A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN
4 \$1,000.00, OR BOTH.

5 (9) A PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY FORGES A SIGNATURE ON A VOTER
6 REGISTRATION APPLICATION IS GUILTY OF FORGERY PUNISHABLE AS
7 PROVIDED IN SECTION 937.

8 (10) A PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY SUBMITS A FRAUDULENT OR FORGED
9 VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE OR A
10 COUNTY, CITY, TOWNSHIP, OR VILLAGE CLERK IS GUILTY OF A FELONY
11 PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 5 YEARS OR A FINE OF
12 NOT MORE THAN \$1,000.00, OR BOTH.

13 (11) A CIVIL FINE ORDERED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE
14 DEPOSITED IN THE GENERAL FUND OF THIS STATE.

15 (12) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "THIRD-PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION
16 ORGANIZATION" MEANS A PERSON, COMPANY, ENTITY, FIRM, OR
17 ORGANIZATION THAT SOLICITS OR COLLECTS VOTER REGISTRATION
18 APPLICATIONS. A THIRD-PARTY VOTER REGISTRATION ORGANIZATION DOES
19 NOT INCLUDE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

20 (A) THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

21 (B) A COUNTY, CITY, TOWNSHIP, OR VILLAGE CLERK OR ASSISTANT
22 CLERK.

23 (C) A DESIGNATED VOTER REGISTRATION AGENCY AS DEFINED IN
24 SECTION 509M.

25 (D) A PERSON WHO REGISTERS VOTERS OR WHO COLLECTS VOTER
26 REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS AS AN EMPLOYEE OR AGENT OF THE SECRETARY
27 OF STATE, A COUNTY, CITY, TOWNSHIP, OR VILLAGE CLERK, OR A

1 DESIGNATED VOTER REGISTRATION AGENCY.

2 (E) A POLITICAL PARTY.