

HOUSE BILL NO. 6459

December 01, 2020, Introduced by Rep. Anthony and referred to the Committee on Elections and Ethics.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending section 662 (MCL 168.662), as amended by 2004 PA 92.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 662. (1) The legislative body in each city, village, and
2 township shall designate and prescribe the place or places of
3 holding an election for a city, village, or township election, and
4 shall provide a suitable polling place in or for each precinct
5 located in the city, village, or township for use at each election.
6 Except as otherwise provided in this section, school buildings,

1 fire stations, police stations, and other publicly owned or
2 controlled buildings ~~shall~~**must** be used as polling places. If it is
3 not possible or convenient to use a publicly owned or controlled
4 building as a polling place, the legislative body of the city,
5 township, or village may use as a polling place a building owned or
6 controlled by an organization that is exempt from federal income
7 tax as provided by section 501(c), other than 501(c)(4), (5), or
8 (6), of the internal revenue code of 1986, ~~or any successor~~
9 ~~statute.~~**26 USC 501.** The legislative body of a city, township, or
10 village shall not designate as a polling place a building that is
11 owned by a person who is a sponsor of a political committee or
12 independent committee. A city, township, or village shall not use
13 as a polling place a building that does not meet the requirements
14 of this section. As used in this subsection, "sponsor of a
15 political committee or independent committee" means a person who is
16 described as being a sponsor under section 24(3) of the Michigan
17 campaign finance act, 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.224, and includes a
18 subsidiary of a corporation or a local of a labor organization, if
19 the corporation or labor organization is considered a sponsor under
20 section 24(3) of the Michigan campaign finance act, 1976 PA 388,
21 MCL 169.224.

22 (2) The legislative body in each city, village, and township
23 shall make arrangements for the rental or erection of suitable
24 buildings for use as polling places if publicly owned or controlled
25 buildings are not available, and shall have the polling places
26 equipped with the necessary facilities for lighting and with
27 adequate facilities for heat and ventilation. The legislative body
28 may establish a central polling place or places for 6 precincts or
29 less if it is possible and convenient for the electors to vote at

1 the central polling place. The legislative body may abolish other
2 polling places not required as a result of the establishment of a
3 central polling place.

4 (3) The legislative body of a city, village, or township may
5 establish a polling place at a for profit or nonprofit residence or
6 facility in which 150 persons or more aged 62 or older reside or at
7 an apartment building or complex in which 150 persons or more
8 reside. A township board may provide polling places located within
9 the limits of a city that has been incorporated from territory
10 formerly a part of the township, and the electors of the township
11 may cast their ballots at those polling places. If 2 contiguous
12 townships utilize a combined township hall or other publicly owned
13 or controlled building within 1 of the township's boundaries and
14 outside of the other township's boundaries, and there is not
15 another publicly owned or controlled building or a building owned
16 or controlled by an organization that is exempt from federal income
17 tax, as provided by section 501(c), other than 501(c)(4), (5), or
18 (6), of the internal revenue code of 1986, **26 USC 501**, available or
19 suitable for a polling place within the other township, then each
20 township board may provide a polling place in that publicly owned
21 building for 1 or more election precinct.

22 (4) The legislative body of a city, village, or township shall
23 not establish, move, or abolish a polling place less than 60 days
24 before an election unless necessary because a polling place has
25 been damaged, destroyed, or rendered inaccessible or unusable as a
26 polling place.

27 (5) The legislative body of a city, village, or township shall
28 ensure that a polling place established under this section is
29 accessible and complies with the voting accessibility for the

1 elderly and handicapped act and the help America vote act of 2002.
2 **In addition, the legislative body of a city, village, or township**
3 **shall ensure that each polling place established under this section**
4 **has proper signage that identifies the route for an individual with**
5 **a disability to use from the parking area to the entrance of the**
6 **polling place. If an individual with a disability is required to**
7 **navigate a hallway or corridor to reach the voting area inside a**
8 **polling place, the route to the voting area must be marked with**
9 **large print signs.**

10 (6) As used in this section, "accessible" means the removal or
11 modification of policies, practices, and procedures that deny an
12 individual with a disability the opportunity to vote, including the
13 removal of physical barriers as identified in section 261(b) of the
14 help America vote act of 2002, ~~42 USC 15421~~, **52 USC 21021**, so as to
15 ensure individuals with disabilities the opportunity to participate
16 in elections in this state.