

HOUSE BILL NO. 4200

February 10, 2021, Introduced by Reps. Slagh, Yaroch, Steven Johnson, Brann, Bezotte, Carra, Outman, Beson, Green and Fink and referred to the Committee on Elections and Ethics.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending section 477 (MCL 168.477), as amended by 2018 PA 608.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 477. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection,
2 the board of state canvassers shall make an official declaration of
3 the sufficiency or insufficiency of a petition under this chapter
4 at least 2 months before the election at which the proposal is to
5 be submitted. The board of state canvassers shall make an official

1 declaration of the sufficiency or insufficiency of an initiative
2 petition no later than 100 days before the election at which the
3 proposal is to be submitted. The board of state canvassers may not
4 count toward the sufficiency of a petition described in this
5 section any valid signature of a registered elector from a
6 congressional district submitted on that petition that is above the
7 15% limit described in section 471. If the board of state
8 canvassers declares that the petition is sufficient, the secretary
9 of state shall send copies of the statement of purpose of the
10 proposal as approved by the board of state canvassers to the
11 several daily and weekly newspapers published in this state, with
12 the request that the newspapers give as wide publicity as possible
13 to the proposed amendment or other question. Publication of any
14 matter by any newspaper under this section must be without expense
15 or cost to this state.

16 (2) For the purposes of the second paragraph of section 9 of
17 article II of the state constitution of 1963, a law that is the
18 subject of the referendum continues to be effective until the
19 referendum is properly invoked, which occurs when the board of
20 state canvassers makes its official declaration of the sufficiency
21 of the referendum petition. The board of state canvassers shall
22 complete the canvass of a referendum petition within 60 days after
23 the petition is filed with the secretary of state, except that 1
24 15-day extension may be granted by the secretary of state if
25 necessary to complete the canvass.

26 **(3) Subject to the 100 day deadline in subsection (1), and**
27 **except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the bureau of**
28 **elections shall review initiative petition signatures and the board**
29 **of state canvassers shall complete the canvass of the initiative**

1 petition within 90 days after the initiative petition is filed with
2 the secretary of state. If an initiative petition is filed with the
3 secretary of state 45 days or fewer before a November election, the
4 bureau of elections shall review the initiative petition signatures
5 and the board of state canvassers shall complete the canvass of the
6 initiative petition within 120 days after the initiative petition
7 is filed with the secretary of state.