

Legislative Analysis



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House Bill 4534 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Lori Stone
Committee: Elections
Revised 8-15-23

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4534 would amend the Corrections Code to require the Michigan Department of Corrections to provide prisoners with information about Michigan's voter registration and election processes as part of the department's community reentry assistance requirements. The Department of Corrections would have to provide information about how the Michigan Election Law does not prohibit an individual from voting once that person is no longer in prison, specific information about how to register to vote and how to cast an absentee ballot, and information about Michigan's regular election dates.

The bill also would remove a provision that currently requires a prisoner's refusal to obtain personal identification documents (such as a Social Security card or state identification card) to be included in that prisoner's parole eligibility report.

MCL 791.234c et seq.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4534 would have no fiscal impact on the state or on local units of government. The Department of Corrections currently provides every individual leaving prison with information on voting. A document that describes voting eligibility and the local clerk's office, and that gives a website address and a phone number for more detailed information, is provided to each person upon release from prison. Under the bill, the department would be required to provide election dates and information about absentee voting. Revising the current document to include the additional information would have a minimal cost to the department that could be absorbed by existing appropriations.

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