



## Written Statement: House Hearing, Sept. 21, 2021

<p>Presenters: <b>Namrata Carolan</b> Pure Integrity for Michigan Elections <a href="https://pureintegritymichiganelections.org">https://pureintegritymichiganelections.org</a>, <a href="mailto:purintegrityforme@gmail.com">purintegrityforme@gmail.com</a>,</p> <p>In support: Eaton County Republican Women's Alliance</p>	<p>Before the Michigan House Standing Committee on Elections and Ethics, <b>Representative Ann Bollin, Chair</b> Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2021, 12:00 p.m., Room 326, House Office Building, Lansing, MI Committee Clerk, Amy Rostkowycz, (517) 373-1260, <a href="mailto:arostkowycz@house.mi.gov">arostkowycz@house.mi.gov</a></p>
--	--

**Pure Integrity for Michigan Elections** is a grassroots group composed of more than 300 supporters, located primarily in Ingham, Eaton, and Jackson counties. In order to achieve its mission, which is to help restore election integrity to Michigan Elections, PIME analyzes current election bills and laws with an eye toward closing gaps and opportunities for abuse by those who would undermine free and fair elections.

We appreciate our legislators' hard work and seek to work alongside them to achieve maximum transparency, checks and balances, ethics, and integrity in election law.

PIME is an issue-based, nonpartisan political movement that welcomes all who support election integrity and the US and Michigan Constitutions.

First, supporters of Pure Integrity for Michigan Elections wish to express their appreciation to representatives Calley, Slagh, Koleszar, and Beeler for introducing sound legislation designed to make our elections more efficient, fair, and free.

### Agenda:

1. HB 5258 (Rep. Koleszar, D) Elections; candidates; transmission of proof copies of the ballot to candidates; allow clerks to email.

**PIME Position:** No position.

2. HB 5252 (Rep. Slagh, R) Elections; ballot proposals; secretary of state to post on the departments website a summary of and the date a ballot petition is received; require.

**PIME Position:** Support with amendment

Question: In addition to the summary, the SOS should be required to post the complete text of the amendment in order to avoid unintentional errors or bias in the summary.

AMEND Section 475 (1): **In addition, upon the filing of a petition under this chapter, the secretary of state shall immediately post on the**

department of state's website a summary and the complete text of the proposed amendment or question proposed and the date the petition was filed with the secretary of state.

3. HB 5288 (Rep. Beeler, R) Elections; absent voters; use of a digital or electronic signature to sign an absent voter ballot application; prohibit.

*PIME Position:* Support with amendment

AMEND: Recommend adding *in person* to the text and defining 'physical' to pertain exclusively to the living and breathing registered voter. The term, **physical**, shall exclude the use of an autopen using a regular ink pen to duplicate signatures, a printer that physically applies ink to paper, or any signatory method other than at the undertaking of the individual, in-person voter.

4) An applicant for an absent voter ballot shall ~~must~~ physically sign the application in person. An applicant for an absent voter ballot is not authorized to use a digital or electronic signature to sign the application. The secretary of state, a county, city, or township clerk, an organization, and any individual employed by, contracted by, or associated with an organization, is not authorized to provide an online absent voter ballot application that does not require the applicant to physically sign the application in person. Subject to section 761(2), a clerk or assistant clerk shall not deliver an absent voter ballot to an applicant who does not physically and in person sign the application.

The term 'physical' pertains exclusively to the living and breathing registered voter and excludes the use of an autopen utilizing a regular ink pen to duplicate signatures, a printer that physically applies ink to paper, or any signatory method except that of the individual, in-person voter applying his or her mark.

4. HB 5268 (Rep. Calley, R) Elections; absent voters; sending unsolicited absent voter ballot applications; prohibit.

*PIME Position:* Recommend AMENDMENT. Prohibit both the county clerk and secretary of state from providing absent voter applications. Remove support for 'permanent absentee' list.

(10) Each ~~county, city,~~ and township clerk is prohibited from sending an absent voter ballot application to an elector unless the elector applies for an absent voter ballot as provided under subsection (1) or (2) ~~or unless the elector has requested to be placed on a permanent absent voter application list maintained by a~~

~~city or township clerk.~~ The secretary of state, ~~an assistants to~~  
~~the secretary of state, county clerks, and assistants to the county~~  
~~clerks is~~are prohibited from sending an absent voter ballot  
application to an elector.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrice Johnson, Chair, Pure Integrity for Michigan Elections	Katherine Schmidt and Libby Ranshaw, Eaton County Republican Women's Alliance
--	--

