



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS
REP. PENELOPE TSERNOGLOU
CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023 10:30 AM Room 327, House Office Building

The House Committee on Elections was called to order by Chair Tsernoglou.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches, Smit, DeBoyer.

Absent: None.

Excused: None.

Representative Churches moved to adopt the meeting minutes from May 16, 2023. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid HB 4536, HB 4567, HB 4568, HB 4569, HB 4570 and HB 4594 before the committee:

HB 4536 (Rep. Aragona)

A bill to amend 1966 PA 293, entitled "An act to provide for the establishment of charter counties; to provide for the election of charter commissioners; to prescribe their powers and duties; to prohibit certain acts of a county board of commissioners after the approval of the election of a charter commission; to prescribe the mandatory and permissive provisions of a charter; to provide for the exercise by a charter county of certain powers whether or not authorized by its charter; and to prescribe penalties and provide remedies," (MCL 45.501 to 45.521) by adding section 14b.

HB 4567 (Rep. Tsernoglou)

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending sections 497 and 761 (MCL 168.497 and 168.761), section 497 as amended by 2018 PA 603 and section 761 as amended by 2020 PA 302.

HB 4568 (Rep. Whitsett)

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending section 931 (MCL 168.931), as amended by 1996 PA 583.

HB 4569 (Rep. Coffia)

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending sections 495, 509o, 509q, 509r, 509gg, and 516 (MCL 168.495, 168.509o, 168.509q, 168.509r, 168.509gg, and 168.516), section 495 as amended by 2018 PA 603, section 509o as amended by 2022 PA 195, section 509q as amended by 2020 PA 302, sections 509r and 516 as amended by 2018 PA 125, and section 509gg as amended by 2014 PA 94, and by adding section 496a.

HB 4570 (Rep. Rogers)

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending section 759 (MCL 168.759), as amended by 2020 PA 302.

HB 4594 (Rep. Wegela)

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending section 764c (MCL 168.764c), as amended by 2018 PA 120.

Representative Aragona testified in support of HB 4536. Questions and discussion followed.

Representative Wegela testified in support of HB 4594. Questions and discussion followed.

Representative Whitsett testified in support of HB 4568. Questions and discussion followed.

Representative Coffia testified in support of HB 4569. Questions and discussion followed.

At 10:58 AM, the Chair laid the committee at ease.

At 10:58 AM, Majority Vice Chair Wegela called the committee back to order.

Representative Tsernoglou testified in support of HB 4567 and HB 4570. Questions and discussion followed.

At 11:13 AM, Majority Vice Chair Wegela laid the committee at ease.

At 11:13 AM, the Chair called the committee back to order.

Marie Wicks, representing the City of East Lansing, testified in support of HB 4567. Questions and discussion followed.

Jacqueline Beaudry, representing the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, testified in support of HB 4567. Questions and discussion followed.

Chris Swope, representing the City of Lansing, testified in support of HB 4567, HB 4568, HB 4569, HB 4570 and HB 4594. Questions and discussion followed.

Michael Siegrist, representing the Canton Township Clerk's Office, testified in support of HB

4569.

Melanie Macey, representing Promote the Vote, testified in support of HB 4567, HB 4568, HB 4569, HB 4570 and HB 4594.

Kim Murphy-Kovalick and Ricky Bicknell, representing Voters Not Politicians, testified in support of HB 4567, HB 4568, HB 4569, HB 4570 and HB 4594.

The following person submitted a card in opposition to HB 4536, HB 4567, HB 4569 and HB 4594, but did not wish to speak:

Bill Richardson, representing Pure Integrity Michigan Elections.

The following person submitted a card in support of HB 4536, HB 4567, HB 4568, HB 4569, HB 4570 and HB 4594, but did not wish to speak:

Angela Ardis, representing Next Gen America.

The following person submitted a card in support of HB 4567, HB 4569, HB 4570 and HB 4594, but did not wish to speak:

Bill Zaagman, representing the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks.

The following person submitted a card in support of HB 4567, HB 4568, HB 4569 and HB 4570, but did not wish to speak:

Emily Broder, representing the Anti-Defamation League of Michigan.

The following person submitted a card in opposition to HB 4567, HB 4568, HB 4569 and HB 4570, but did not wish to speak:

Stephanie Kreuz, representing Heritage Action for America.

The following people submitted a card in support of HB 4567, HB 4568, HB 4569, HB 4570 and HB 4594, but did not wish to speak:

Christina Schlitt and Paula Bowman, representing the League of Women Voters of Michigan.

Kelsey Rogers, representing the Campaign Legal Center.

Brooke Harris, representing the Michigan League of Conservation Voters.

Quentin Turner, representing Common Cause Michigan.

Merissa Kovach, representing the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan.

Erin Schor, representing the Michigan Department of State.

Rusty Merchant, representing Secure Democracy.

John Fournier, representing the City of Ann Arbor.

Olivia Luckett, representing the Michigan Democratic Party.

The following people submitted a card in support of HB 4568, but did not wish to speak:

Rachel Prevatt, representing Disability Rights Michigan.

Landon Myers, representing the Fair Election Center's Campus Vote Project.

The following person submitted a card with a neutral position on HB 4568 and HB 4570, but did not wish to speak:

Bill Richardson, representing Pure Integrity Michigan Elections.

The following person submitted a card in support of HB 4568, HB 4569 and HB 4594, but

did not wish to speak:

Matt Patton, representing Protect Democracy.

The following people submitted a card in support of HB 4569, but did not wish to speak:

Shakti Rambarran, representing the Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health.

Vic Gipson, representing themselves.

Landon Myers, representing the Fair Election Center's Campus Vote Project.

The following person submitted a card in support of HB 4569, HB 4570 and HB 4594, but did not wish to speak:

Bill Zaagman, representing the Michigan Association of County Clerks.

The following person submitted a card in support of HB 4570 and HB 4594, but did not wish to speak:

John Lindback, representing the National Vote at Home Institute.

The following people submitted a card in support of HB 4594, but did not wish to speak:

Mike Batterbee, representing the Michigan Townships Association.

Amy O'Leary, representing the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition.

Representative Smit offered the following amendment to HB 4594:

1. Amend page 1, line 5, after "**shall**" by inserting a comma and "**pursuant to rules promulgated under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328,**".

Representative Smit moved to adopt the amendment to HB 4594. The motion did not prevail 2-6-0:

UNFAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Smit, DeBoyer.

Nays: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches.

Pass: None.

Representative Wegela offered the following amendments to HB 4594:

1. Amend page 3, line 2, after "**envelope**" by inserting a comma and striking out the balance of the line through "**ballot,**" on line 3.

2. Amend page 3, following line 29, by inserting:

"**(4) An email address or phone number provided by an elector in order to receive notifications from the electronic tracking system is confidential and exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.**".

Representative Wegela moved to adopt the amendment to HB 4594. The motion prevailed 8-0-0:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches, Smit, DeBoyer.

Nays: None.

Pass: None.

Representative Hope moved to report out HB 4594 with recommendation, as amended, as substitute (H-1). The motion prevailed 6-2-0:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches.

Nays: Reps. Smit, DeBoyer.

Pass: None.

There being no further business before the committee, Chair Tsernoglou adjourned the meeting at 11:59 AM.

Representative Penelope Tsernoglou, Chair

Edward Sleeper
Committee Clerk
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