

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee on Elections Rep. Penelope Tsernoglou Chair

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 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. Absent: Rep. DeBoyer. Excused: None.

Representative Koleszar moved to adopt the meeting minutes from June 18, 2024. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid HB 5816, HB 6052, HB 6053, HB 6054 and HB 6055 before the committee:

HB 5816	(Rep. Tsernoglou)	A bill to amend 1909 PA 279, entitled "The home rule city act," by amending section 18 (MCL 117.18).
HB 6052	(Rep. Tsernoglou)	A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending sections 570, 795b, and 797a (MCL 168.570, 168.795b, and 168.797a), as amended by 2023 PA 81.
HB 6053	(Rep. Tsernoglou)	A bill to amend 1969 PA 161, entitled "An act to regulate the filing of certain actions involving elections," by amending section 1 (MCL 691.1031).
HB 6054	(Rep. Tsernoglou)	A bill to amend 1927 PA 175, entitled "The code of criminal procedure," by amending section 11d of chapter XVII (MCL 777.11d), as amended by 2024 PA 75.

HB 6055 (Rep. Tsernoglou)

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending sections 305, 497, 523b, 662, 664, 668b, 720d, 720e, 720f, 720g, 720j, 759, 759a, 759e, 761d, 764c, 765a, 768, 798b, 805, 807, 813, and 829 (MCL 168.305, 168.497, 168.523b, 168.662, 168.664, 168.668b, 168.720d, 168.720e, 168.720f, 168.720g, 168.720j, 168.759, 168.759a, 168.759e, 168.761d, 168.764c, 168.765a, 168.768, 168.798b, 168.805, 168.807, 168.813, and 168.829), section 305 as amended by 2010 PA 334, section 497 as amended by 2023 PA 184, sections 523b, 720d, 720e, 720f, and 720g as added and sections 662, 668b, 765a, 768, 798b, and 805 as amended by 2023 PA 81, section 720j as amended by 2023 PA 259, section 759 as amended by 2023 PA 270, section 759a as amended by 2023 PA 193, section 759e as added by 2023 PA 86, section 761d as amended by 2023 PA 85, section 764c as amended by 2023 PA 84, and sections 813 and 829 as amended by 2018 PA 603.

At 10:46 AM, the Chair laid the committee at ease.

At 10:47 AM, Majority Vice Chair Wegela called the committee back to order.

Chair Tsernoglou, joined by Erin Schor, gave testimony on HB 5816. Questions and discussion followed.

Erin Schor, representing the Michigan Department of State, joined to testify in support of HB 5816.

Chris Swope, the Lansing City Clerk, joined to testify in support of HB 5816.

Chair Tsernoglou, joined by Erin Schor, gave testimony on HB 6052. Questions and discussion followed.

At 10:53 AM, Majority Vice Chair Wegela laid the committee at ease.

At 10:54 AM, Majority Vice Chair Wegela called the committee back to order.

Chair Tsernoglou, joined by Erin Schor, gave testimony on HB 6053. Questions and discussion followed.

Chair Tsernoglou, joined by Erin Schor, gave testimony on HB 6054 and HB 6055. Questions and discussion followed.

Melanie Macy, representing Promote the Vote, joined to testify in support of HB 6052, HB 6054, and HB 6055.

At 11:08 AM, Majority Vice Chair Wegela laid the committee at ease.

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

Representative Bollin testified in opposition to HB 5816, HB 6052, HB 6053, HB 6054, and HB 6055. Questions and discussion followed.

Sheree Ritchie, representing Pure Integrity Michigan Elections, Michigan Fair Elections, Stand Up Michigan, Freedom Alliance Project, and Mid-Michigan Women for Conservative Values, testified in opposition to HB 5816, HB 6052, HB 6053, and HB 6055.

Sheree Ritchie, representing Pure Integrity Michigan Elections, Michigan Fair Elections, Stand Up Michigan, Freedom Alliance Project, and Mid-Michigan Women for Conservative Values, testified with a neutral position on HB 6045.

The following people submitted a card in support of HB 5816, but did not wish to speak: Kim Murphy-Kovalick, representing Voters Not Politicians Dave Hodgkins, representing the Michigan Municipal League

The following people submitted a card in support of HB 6052, HB 6053, HB 6054, and HB 6055, but did not wish to speak:

Kim Murphy-Kovalick, representing Voters Not Politicians Merissa Kovach, representing the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan

Representative Wegela moved to adopt substitute (H-1) to HB 5816. The motion prevailed 6-0-1:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches. Nays: None. Pass: Rep. Smit.

Representative Tsernoglou offered the following amendment to HB 5816 (H-1): 1. Amend page 3, line 20, after the first "the" by striking out "adoption of the proposition to revise," and inserting "**first meeting of the charter commission,**".

Representative Hope moved to adopt the amendment to HB 5816 (H-1). The motion prevailed 6-0-1:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches. Nays: None. Pass: Rep. Smit.

Representative Koleszar moved to report HB 5816 as amended, as substitute (H-2). The motion prevailed 6-0-1:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches. Nays: None. Pass: Rep. Smit. Representative Byrnes moved to report out HB 6052 with recommendation. The motion prevailed 6-1-0:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches. Nays: Rep. Smit. Pass: None.

Representative Churches moved to adopt substitute (H-1) to HB 6053. The motion prevailed 6-1-0:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches. Nays: Rep. Smit. Pass: None.

Representative Wegela moved to report out HB 6053 with recommendation, as substitute (H-1). The motion prevailed 6-1-0:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches. Nays: Rep. Smit. Pass: None.

Representative Hope moved to report out HB 6054 with recommendation. The motion prevailed 6-1-0:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches. Nays: Rep. Smit. Pass: None.

Representative Byrnes moved to report out HB 6055 with recommendation. The motion prevailed 6-1-0:

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Tsernoglou, Wegela, Hope, Koleszar, Byrnes, Churches. Nays: Rep. Smit. Pass: None.

There being no further business before the committee, Chair Tsernoglou adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM.

Representative Penelope Tsernoglou, Chair

Hazel Campbell-Crawley Committee Clerk hcrawley@house.mi.gov