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HOUSE BILL No. 4504

March 21, 2007, Introduced by Reps. Ward and LaJoy and referred to the Committee on Ethics and Elections.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled

"Michigan election law,"

by amending section 509aa (MCL 168.509aa), as amended by 2004 PA 92.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 509aa. (1) A clerk may use change of address information
- 2 supplied by the United States postal service or other reliable
- 3 information received by the clerk that identifies registered voters
- 4 whose addresses may have changed as provided in this section.
- 5 (2) Upon receipt of reliable information that a registered
 - voter has moved his or her residence within the city or township,
 - the clerk shall send by forwardable mail all of the following to
- 8 the voter:
 - (a) A notice that the clerk has received information

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- 1 indicating that the voter has moved his or her residence within the
- 2 city or township.
- 3 (b) A postage prepaid and preaddressed return card on which
- 4 the voter may verify or correct the address information.
- 5 (c) A notice explaining that, if the address information is
- 6 correct and the voter has moved his or her residence within the
- 7 city or township, the voter should complete and return the card to
- 8 the clerk with a postmark of 30 days or more before the date of the
- 9 next election. If the voter has moved his or her residence within
- 10 the city or township and does not complete and return the card to
- 11 the clerk with a postmark of 30 days or more before the date of the
- 12 next election, the voter will be required to vote in his or her
- 13 former precinct of residence in the city or township. The voter
- 14 will also be required to submit an address correction before being
- 15 permitted to vote.
- 16 (3) Upon the receipt of reliable information that a registered
- 17 voter has moved his or her residence to another city or township,
- 18 the clerk shall send by forwardable mail all of the following to
- 19 the voter:
- 20 (a) A notice that the clerk has received information
- 21 indicating that the voter has moved his or her residence to another
- 22 city or township.
- 23 (b) A postage prepaid and preaddressed return card on which
- 24 the voter may verify or correct the address information.
- 25 (c) A notice containing all of the following information:
- 26 (i) If the address information is incorrect and the voter has
- 27 not moved to another city or township and wishes to remain

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- 1 registered to vote, the voter should complete and return the card
- 2 to the clerk with a postmark of 30 days or more before the date of
- 3 the next election. If the card is not completed and returned with a
- 4 postmark of 30 days or more before the date of the next election,
- 5 the voter may be required to affirm his or her current address
- 6 before being permitted to vote. Further, if the voter does not vote
- 7 in an election within the period beginning on the date of the
- 8 notice and ending on the first business day JANUARY 10 immediately
- 9 following the second November general election that is held after
- 10 the date on the notice, the registration of the voter will be
- 11 canceled and his or her name will be removed from the registration
- 12 record of that city or township.
- (ii) If the voter has moved his or her residence to another
- 14 city or township, information on how the voter can become
- 15 registered to vote at the next election in his or her new city or
- 16 township.
- 17 (4) If a notice sent under this section is returned to the
- 18 clerk by the post office as undeliverable, the clerk shall identify
- 19 the registration record of a voter as challenged as provided in
- 20 this act. The clerk shall instruct the board of election inspectors
- 21 to challenge that voter at the first election at which the voter
- 22 appears to vote. If in response to the challenge the voter
- 23 indicates that he or she resides at the registration address or has
- 24 changed addresses within the city or township, the voter shall be
- 25 permitted to vote a regular ballot rather than a challenged ballot.
- 26 The voter shall complete a change of address form at the polling
- 27 place, if applicable. If the person does not appear to vote in an

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- 1 election within the period beginning on the date of the notice and
- 2 ending on the first business day JANUARY 10 immediately following
- 3 the second November general election that is held after the date of
- 4 the notice, the clerk shall cancel the registration of the voter
- 5 and remove his or her name from the registration record of the city
- 6 or township.
- 7 (5) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL CREATE AN INACTIVE VOTER FILE
- 8 IN THE OUALIFIED VOTER FILE. THE INACTIVE VOTER FILE SHALL CONTAIN
- 9 A RECORD FOR EACH VOTER WHO IS SENT A NOTICE UNDER THIS SECTION.
- 10 (6) THE RECORD OF A VOTER SHALL REMAIN IN THE INACTIVE VOTER
- 11 FILE UNTIL THE VOTER VOTES AT AN ELECTION, UNTIL THE VOTER CORRECTS
- 12 OR CONFIRMS HIS OR HER VOTER REGISTRATION ADDRESS, OR UNTIL JANUARY
- 13 10 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SECOND NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION THAT
- 14 IS HELD AFTER THE DATE ON THE NOTICE SENT UNDER THIS SECTION,
- 15 WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST.
- 16 (7) IF A VOTER REMAINS IN THE INACTIVE VOTER FILE ON JANUARY
- 17 10 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SECOND NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION THAT
- 18 IS HELD AFTER THE DATE ON THE NOTICE SENT UNDER THIS SECTION, THE
- 19 REGISTRATION OF THE VOTER SHALL BE CANCELED AS PROVIDED IN
- 20 SUBSECTION (3).
- 21 (8) WHILE THE RECORD OF A VOTER IS IN THE INACTIVE VOTER FILE,
- 22 THE VOTER REMAINS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND HIS OR HER NAME SHALL APPEAR
- 23 ON THE PRECINCT VOTER REGISTRATION LIST.
- 24 (9) THE RECORD OF A VOTER IN THE INACTIVE VOTER FILE SHALL NOT
- 25 BE COUNTED FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 4(E), 24A, 381, 656, 658, 659,
- 26 661, OR 796A OR R 168.774 OF THE MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.