

**MICHIGAN ELECTION LAW (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 116 of 1954**

**168.975e Recall of governor; statement of reason; condensed statement; justification of conduct in office; submission by governor; printing on special recall election ballot; certain words on ballot prohibited; question.**

Sec. 975e. (1) Each reason for demanding the recall of the governor as set forth in the recall petition shall be printed on the special recall election ballot used at the special recall election in not more than 200 words. If the statement of reason set forth in the petition contains more than 200 words, then the statement shall be condensed by the sponsor of the recall petition for use on the special recall election ballot. If the sponsor fails to furnish the condensed statement within 48 hours following written demand, then the statement shall be condensed by the official preparing the special recall election ballots.

(2) The official preparing the special recall election ballot shall provide in writing to the governor the statement of reason which shall appear on the special recall election ballot. The governor, in not more than 200 words, may submit a justification of his or her conduct in office. The justification shall be submitted to the official preparing the special recall election ballot within 72 hours after receipt of the notification. If submitted in the prescribed time, the justification shall be printed on the special recall election ballot.

(3) The statement "Vote no on the recall" or "Vote yes on the recall" or words of similar import shall not be permitted on the special recall election ballot. A part of the reason for demanding the recall of the governor or the governor's justification of conduct in office shall not be emphasized by italics, underscoring, or in any other manner.

(4) There shall be printed on the special recall election ballot the following question:

Shall (Name the person against whom the recall petition is filed) be recalled from the office of governor?  
Printed below the question in separate lines in clearly legible type shall be the words "Yes" [ ] and "No" [ ] or in a form as prescribed by the secretary of state.

**History:** Add. 2012, Act 417, Imd. Eff. Dec. 20, 2012.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 2 of Act 417 of 2012 provides:

"Enacting section 2. As provided in section 5 of 1846 RS 1, MCL 8.5, this act is severable."

Enacting section 3 of Act 417 of 2012 provides:

"Enacting section 3. The legislature recognizes the importance of the electoral process, and it is the intent of the legislature that this amendatory act uphold each of the following:

- (a) Section 4 of article II of the state constitution of 1963.
- (b) Section 8 of article II of the state constitution of 1963.
- (c) Section 26 of article V of the state constitution of 1963."

**Popular name:** Election Code