

SENATE BILL NO. 300

March 24, 2021, Introduced by Senators SCHMIDT, LASATA, HORN, BARRETT and VANDERWALL and referred to the Committee on Elections.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending sections 720 and 735 (MCL 168.720 and 168.735), section 735 as amended by 2004 PA 92, and by adding section 720a.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 720. **(1)** On the day of ~~any~~**an** election, the polls ~~shall~~
2 ~~be opened~~**must open** at 7 ~~o'clock in the forenoon,~~**a.m.** and shall
3 **must** be continuously open until 8 ~~o'clock in the afternoon and no~~
4 ~~longer.~~ ~~Every~~**p.m.** **Each** qualified elector present and in line at

1 the polls at ~~the hour prescribed for the closing thereof shall time~~
2 **must** be allowed to vote.

3 (2) For early voting under section 720a, the polls must be
4 open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the second Saturday before election
5 day. The city or township clerk shall provide notice to the
6 electors as provided in section 653a of the date, time, and places
7 at which early voting will be held in the city or township. Before
8 early voting begins, the city or township clerk shall post notice
9 at the clerk's office that includes both of the following:

10 (a) The time that the polling places will be open on the
11 second Saturday before election day.

12 (b) The location of the polling places designated by the city
13 or township clerk to be used on the second Saturday before election
14 day.

15 Sec. 720a. (1) Each city or township must provide early voting
16 at 1 or more polling places designated by the city or township
17 clerk on the second Saturday before election day.

18 (2) The secretary of state shall cooperate with each city and
19 township conducting early voting and provide technical assistance
20 to each city or township that requests technical assistance.

21 (3) Except as otherwise provided, all of the following
22 provisions of this act apply to early voting:

23 (a) Election inspectors.

24 (b) Challenges to voters.

25 (c) Poll book and poll list.

26 (d) Notices and instructions.

27 (e) Security for the electronic voting system.

28 (f) Ballot security, ballot containers, ballot counting, and
29 ballot preservation.

1 (g) Spoiled ballots.

2 (4) The poll book and poll list for each precinct must be
3 maintained in accordance with section 735.

4 (5) Early voting ballots must be processed in the same manner
5 as ballots cast on election day.

6 (6) An individual who knowingly tampers with a ballot
7 container containing ballots voted on the second Saturday before
8 election day is guilty of a felony.

9 (7) If at any time beginning on the second Saturday before
10 election day and before the close of the polls on election day an
11 individual discloses an election result or in any manner
12 characterizes how any ballot was voted on the second Saturday
13 before election day, that individual is guilty of a felony.

14 Sec. 735. (1) At each primary and election, election
15 inspectors shall keep 1 poll book and 1 poll list. An election
16 inspector shall enter in the poll book, in the order in which
17 electors are given ballots, the name of each elector who is given a
18 ballot and immediately after the name, on the same line, shall
19 enter the number of the ballot given to the elector. For an absent
20 voter ballot, when an election inspector removes the ballot from
21 the sealed absent voter envelope, the election inspector shall
22 enter in the poll book the name of the absent voter and the number
23 of the ballot.

24 (2) For early voting under section 720a, the poll book must be
25 divided by date and separate records must be maintained for early
26 voting on the second Saturday before election day.

27 (3) ~~(2)~~—If an elector is issued a provisional ballot, an
28 election inspector shall enter a proper designation in the poll
29 book, including whether the provisional ballot was tabulated in the

1 precinct or was secured for verification after the election.

2 **(4)** ~~(3)~~—At the completion of the precinct canvass, an election
3 inspector shall record on the certificate provided in the poll book
4 the number of each metal seal used to seal voting equipment and
5 ballot containers. Each member of the board of election inspectors
6 ~~shall~~ **must** sign the certificate.