



**MEMBERS:**

SEN. ARLAN MEEKHOF, VICE CHAIRMAN  
SEN. JACK BRANDENBURG  
SEN. COLEMAN YOUNG II, MINORITY VICE CHAIR

**THE SENATE**  
**COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND**  
**ELECTIONS**  
**SENATOR DAVE ROBERTSON**  
**CHAIRMAN**

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**MINUTES**

**Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections**

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections was held on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 100 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg, and Young  
Members excused: None

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Senator Robertson announced the agenda for the day:

Adoption of May 2, 2012 minutes

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| HB 4653 Rep. Forlini  | Elections; polling places; displaying the name of any elected or appointed official on materials at public polling locations; prohibit.  |
| HB 4656 Rep. Forlini  | Elections; campaign practices; prohibition for politicians' names to be attached to certain election-related materials sent to voters; provide for.  |
| HB 5119 Rep. Outman   | Elections; election officials; jurisdiction in which a precinct election inspector may serve; expand.  |
| HB 5059 Rep. Tyler    | Campaign finance; statements and reports; ballot question and political party committee filing requirements; modify.   |
| HB 5061 Rep. Jacobsen | Elections; absent voters; photograph identification; require when obtaining an absentee ballot, require ballot tracker program to be used by local governments, and require secretary of state to develop information displays indicating that ballot coaching in residential care facilities is prohibited. |

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|--------------------------|---|
| HB 5062 Rep. Forlini     | Elections; other; postelection audits and continuing election education programs; add to the Michigan election law and make other miscellaneous changes to the Michigan election law. |
| HB 5142 Rep. Ouimet      | Economic development; corridor improvement; certain joint authorities; provide for.   |
| HB 5058 Rep. Knollenberg | Campaign finance; contributions and expenditures; expenditures by candidate committees to defend certain officials in criminal or civil actions; limit.                               |

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Senator Meekhof moved to adopt the minutes from May 2, 2012, by unanimous consent; being no objection, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Robertson announced the next order of business would be House Bills 4653 and 4656. Testimony had been taken on the bills at a previous meeting.

Bill Zaagman, representing MI Association of County Clerks, and the MI Association of Municipal Clerks, submitted a card in support of the bills but did not wish to speak.

Being no further testimony, Senator Brandenburg made a motion to report House Bill 4653 with recommendation.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: None

Pass: Senator Young

The motion prevailed.

Senator Meekhof made a motion to recommend immediate effect for House Bill 4653; being no objection, the motion prevailed.

Senator Meekhof made a motion to report House Bill 4656 with recommendation.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: None

Pass: Senator Young

The motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson made a motion to recommend immediate effect for House Bill 4656. Senator Young objected. Seeing as there was an objection, Senator Robertson asked the clerk to call the roll.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: Senator Young

Pass: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson announced the next order of business would be House Bill 5119. Testimony had been taken on the bill at a previous meeting.

Bill Zaagman, representing MI Association of County Clerks, and the MI Association of Municipal Clerks, submitted a card in support of the bills but did not wish to speak.

Being no further testimony, Senator Meekhof made a motion to report House Bill 5119 with recommendation.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: Senator Young

Pass: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Meekhof made a motion to recommend immediate effect for House Bill 5119; being no objection, the motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson announced the next order of business would be House Bill 5059. Testimony had been taken on the bill at a previous meeting.

Senator Robertson advised the members there was an S-1 before them.

Being no further testimony Senator Brandenburg made a motion to adopt the (S-1) version of House Bill 5059.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: None

Pass: Senator Young

The motion prevailed.

Senator Meekhof made a motion to report the (S-1) version of House Bill 5059 with recommendation.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: None

Pass: Senator Young

The motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson made a motion to recommend immediate effect for House Bill 5059; being no objection, the motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson announced the next order of business would be House Bills 5061-62. Testimony had been taken on the bills at a previous meeting.

Bill Zaagman, representing MI Association of County Clerks, and the MI Association of Municipal Clerks, submitted a card in support of the bills but did not wish to speak.

The following submitted cards in opposition to the bill but did not wish to speak:

- Felicia Wasson, AARP

- Judy Karandjeff, League of Women Voters of MI
- Anita Dawson, A. Philip Randolph Institute
- Brittany Smith and Daryl Newman, MI – AFL-CIO
- Harold Brown, UAW – 602
- Suzette Royston, Local 42 AFL-CIO
- Alejandro Hernanda, UAW
- Melvin Coleman, UAW
- Kevin Baker, UAW
- Doreen Howard, UAW
- Melanie McElroy, Common Cause
- Shelli Weisberg, ACLU of MI
- Patricia Sielby, Project Vote
- Roberta Cannon, A. Philip Randolph Institute
- Stephanie Sue Hills, resident of Lansing

Senator Robertson offered an amendment on HB 5061, and explained it to the members.

Senator Robertson made a motion to adopt the amendment to House Bill 5061.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: Senator Young

Pass: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson made a motion to report the House Bill 5061 as amended with recommendation.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: Senator Young

Pass: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson made a motion to recommend immediate effect for House Bill 5061; being no objection, the motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson requested a clean substitute from the Legislative Service Bureau.

Senator Robertson offered an amendment on HB 5062, and explained it to the members.

Senator Robertson made a motion to adopt the amendment to House Bill 5062.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: Senator Young

Pass: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson made a motion to report the House Bill 5062 as amended with recommendation.

Yeas: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, Brandenburg

Nays: Senator Young

Pass: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson made a motion to recommend immediate effect for House Bill 5062; being no objection, the motion prevailed.

Senator Robertson announced the next order of business would be House Bill 5142.

Jill Larder spoke on behalf of Representative Oiumet to provide members with an overview of the bill.

The following individuals spoke in support of the bill:

- Terri Blackmore, Washtenaw Area Transportation Study
- Tony Derezhinski, Ann Arbor City Council
- Jim McBryde, MI Economic Development Corp.

The following individuals submitted cards but did not wish to speak, their position is indicated below:

- Andy Schor, MI Municipal League – Support
- Kirk Profit, City of Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township, City of Ann Arbor, and Washtenaw County – Support
- Isabelle Terry, resident of Rockford – Opposed
- Tina Dupont, resident of Rockford – Opposed

Senator Robertson announced the next order of business would be House Bills 5058.

Representative Knollenberg gave members an overview of the bill.

Chris Hackbarth and Mike Batterbee, with the MI Secretary of State spoke in support of the bill.

Senator Robertson adjourned the committee without objection at 9:30 a.m.

**Date Approved by Committee: May 30, 2012**

\*\*An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.