

## Key Voting- and Election-Related Laws Effective in 2025

Below are some of the key voting- and election-related laws that will go into effect in 2025. If you have any questions, or would like additional information about any of these laws, please don't hesitate to contact PTV Voting Rights Counsel Bailey Rechler at [bailey@promotethevote.com](mailto:bailey@promotethevote.com).

Please note that the effective dates of the laws listed below are the legal effective dates. However—practically speaking—laws are not always implemented promptly. If we learn of any delays in implementation, we will update this document and inform partners as soon as possible.

### I. Laws that Affect How Michiganders Register and Vote

#### **Banning of firearms at polling places and other voting-related locations** (April 2)

- Starting April 2, firearms will be banned in and within 100 feet of early voting sites and polling places, within 100 feet of a drop box in the 40 days before an election, in and within 100 feet of a city or township clerk's office in the 40 days before an election, and in or within 100 feet of an absentee ballot counting place while absentee ballots are being processed.
- Exceptions include: members of law enforcement, people lawfully carrying on private property that is within 100 feet of the voting-related location, or concealed pistol license holders who are lawfully carrying.
- Citation: [HB 4127](#) (PA 157 of 2024) and [HB 4128](#) (PA 158 of 2024)

#### **Online voter registration without a Michigan driver's license or state ID** (June 30)

- Starting June 30, eligible voters without a Michigan driver's license or state ID must be able to register to vote online using only the last four digits of their Social Security number.
- Citation: [SB 594](#) (PA 257 of 2023)

#### **Secure Automatic Voter Registration (SAVR)** (June 30)

- By June 30, Michigan's existing automatic voter registration process must be updated and improved. Changes will include expanding automatic voter registration to additional state agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Corrections. Individuals who interact with designated state agencies and who provide verified documentation of their eligibility to vote in Michigan will be automatically registered to vote. The Secretary of State will then send them a notice informing them of their registration and providing an opportunity to decline to be registered.

- Citation: [HB 4983](#) (PA 268 of 2023), [HB 4984](#) (PA 260 of 2023), [HB 4985](#) (PA 261 of 2023), [HB 4986](#) (PA 262 of 2023)

### **Electronic absentee ballot return for active duty service members** (September 1)

- Starting September 1, active duty uniformed service members and merchant marines must be able to return their absentee ballots electronically.
- Citation: [SB 470](#) (PA 193 of 2023)

## **II. Laws that Change Rules and Procedures for Election Administrators**

### **Changes to Recount Rules and Processes** (April 2)

- Starting April 2, various recount-related rules and processes must change.
- Changes include different thresholds for automatic recounts, allowing ballot question committees to petition for recounts, requiring those petitioning for recounts to allege error, and that the recount petition include a sufficient number of votes to change the result of the election. The law also amends the requirements for when a precinct can be recounted in order to decrease the number of unrecountable precincts.
- Citation: [SB 603](#) (PA 74 of 2024) and [SB 604](#) (PA 75 of 2024)

### **Expanding the allowable use of ballot on demand machines** (April 2)

- Starting April 2, on-demand ballot printing systems may be used at Election Day Vote Centers and at clerks' offices on Election Day, and for translated ballots.
- Citation: [HB 6052](#) (PA 221 of 2024)

### **Changes to Canvasser Eligibility Requirements** (April 2)

- Starting April 2, people convicted of certain election-related crimes may no longer serve on the Board of State Canvassers or any Board of County Canvassers. Such crimes include intentionally disclosing the results of an election before the polls close on Election Day, making a false statement in an absentee ballot application, or making a false statement when registering to vote.
- Citation: [HB 5551](#) (PA 227 of 2024)

### **Changes to the Secretary of State's Procedures for Ballot Petitions** (April 2)

- Starting April 2, the Secretary of State must change some petition-related procedures, including how proposals are numbered for ballots, and must post status updates on ballot petitions at least once a month.
- Citation: [HB 5574](#) (PA 234 of 2024)