



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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Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections was held on Wednesday, November 2, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 100 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.

Members present: Senators Robertson, Meekhof, and Brandenburg
Members excused: Senator Young

Senator Robertson called the meeting to order.

Senator Robertson announced the agenda for the day:

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| SB 750 | Sen. Robertson | Campaign finance; statements and reports; failure to file certain campaign finance statements; modify penalties. |
| SB 751 | Sen. Robertson | Elections; qualified voter file; active and inactive qualified voter files; create, require ballot tracker program to be used by local governments, and require the secretary of state to send notice to an elector when receiving a surrendered state driver license of that elector. |
| SB 752 | Sen. Hansen | Elections; other; absent voting counting board; revise procedure, and require minor political parties to provide notice of county caucus or state convention to nominate candidates. |
| SB 753 | Sen. Brandenburg | Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; sentencing guidelines for certain campaign finance crimes; create. |
| SB 754 | Sen. Jansen | Elections; registration; photograph identification for in-person voter registration applicants; require, and provide registration and training of third-party voter registration organizations. |

Senator Robertson welcomed Senator Meekhof to the committee, announcing that he would be replacing Senator Hansen.

Senator Meekhof moved, supported by Senator Brandenburg, to adopt the minutes from September 28, 2011 by unanimous consent. By unanimous consent, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Meekhof moved to excuse absent members. Without objection, absent members were excused.

Senator Robertson placed before the committee Senate Bills 750-754 (Sens. Robertson, Hansen, Brandenburg, and Jansen) for testimony.

Senator Robertson then called forth Secretary of State Ruth Johnson to give testimony on the package of bills and answer questions from committee members. Secretary Johnson brought Chris Hackbarth and Chris Thomas from the Department of State to also give testimony and answer questions. Secretary Johnson also submitted written documents on file with clerk.

The following testified on Senate Bills 750-754 and answered questions from committee members:

- Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk and representing the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks—Support SB 752 with amendment, Support SB 751 with amendment, Neutral SB 754
- Susan Smith, representing the League of Women Voters of Michigan—Neutral (also submitted written testimony on file with clerk)
- Lawrence Kestenbaum, Washtenaw County Clerk and representing the Michigan Association of County Clerks—Support SBs 751, 752, & 754
- Christina Kuo, representing the Michigan Nonprofit Association—Oppose SBs 751 & 754

Senator Robertson adjourned the committee without objection at 3:59 p.m.

11/9/11

Date Approved by Committee

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