



**House  
Legislative  
Analysis  
Section**

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**SCHOOL ELECTIONS: REGISTRATION LISTS**

House Bill 4482 with committee amendment  
First Analysis (5-6-87)

**RECEIVED**

Sponsor: Rep. Victor C. Krause  
Committee: Elections

**MAY 22 1987**

Mich. State Law Library

H.B. 4482 (5-6-87)

***THE APPARENT PROBLEM:***

A 1978 amendment to the Michigan Election Law allowed election commissions in cities, villages, and townships to authorize the use of registration lists instead of precinct registration files (i.e. computerized lists rather than cards) at elections for administrative convenience. Some school districts reportedly also use these lists, which contain voters' birthdates for use in confirming the identity of voters rather than signatures. The election law, however, does not specifically permit school districts to use these lists at elections.

***THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:***

The bill would amend the Michigan Election Law to allow local and intermediate school districts to use registration lists rather than precinct registration files.

MCL 168.501a

***FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:***

There is no fiscal information at present.

***ARGUMENTS:***

***For:***

The bill would simply give intermediate and local school districts the same leeway to use computerized voter registration lists for checking voters at the polls that cities, villages, and townships have.

***Against:***

Some people have suggested that the School Code be amended instead of (or as well as) the election law to accomplish the bill's goals.

***Response:*** Section 1071 of the School Code (MCL 380.1071) says that the state's election law "shall govern" school elections where it is applicable and not inconsistent with the School Code, including provisions regarding "the preservation of the purity of elections and the prevention of fraud and corruption."

***POSITIONS:***

The Department of Education supports the bill. (5-5-87)

The Michigan Association of School Boards supports the bill. (5-5-87)