

Legislative Analysis



RECOUNT DEPOSIT

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House Bill 4801

Sponsor: Rep. David Law

Committee: House Oversight, Elections, and Ethics

Complete to 6-7-05

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4801 AS INTRODUCED 5-17-05

House Bill 4801 would amend the Michigan Election Law to increase a recount deposit from \$10 per precinct to an amount equal to 100 percent of the estimated cost of the recount.

Currently under the law, a candidate or elector who files a recount petition, either with the clerk of the appropriate board of canvassers (for local elections), or with the state Bureau of Elections (for state elections), must deposit a sum of \$10 for each precinct referred to in the recount petition. If the petitioner establishes fraud or mistakes and receives a certificate of election, then the money is refunded. House Bill 4801 would retain the provision assuring a refund; however, the petitioner would be required to deposit a sum equal to 100 percent of the estimated cost of the recount.

Under the bill, the Secretary of State would determine the estimated cost of a recount.

MCL 168.867 and 168.881

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