

# Legislative Analysis



## NOMINATING PETITIONS DEADLINE

Phone: (517) 373-8080  
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**Senate Bill 1095 (S-1) as reported from House committee**  
**Senate Bill 1127 as reported from House committee**  
**Sponsor: Sen. Wayne A. Schmidt**  
**House Committee: Elections and Ethics**  
**Senate Committee: Elections and Government Reform**  
**Complete to 12-19-18**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

## SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 1095 would amend the Michigan Election Law to set a deadline for nominating petitions of 4 p.m. on the fifteenth Tuesday before the election.

Senate Bill 1127 would amend the Community Colleges Act to set a deadline of 4 p.m. on the fifteenth Tuesday before the primary for nominating petitions for candidates for trustee on a community college board.

Legislation passed in 2012<sup>1</sup> moved the deadline for filing nominating petitions to at least 15 weeks before the August primary. In 2015<sup>2</sup> and 2017,<sup>3</sup> confusion over whether a city charter or state law governed the deadline necessitated bills fixing those specific situations. According to Senate committee testimony, these bills are intended as a permanent fix to prevent future confusion. Accordingly, HB 1095 lists all of the citations for nominating petitions throughout the Election Law, to make clear that state law governs the deadlines for nominating petitions.

MCL 168.321 and 168.646a  
MCL 389.83

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION:

The House Committee on Elections and Ethics reported the Senate-passed versions of the bills without amendment.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

The bills would have no impact on the state or local units of government.

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<sup>1</sup> House Fiscal Agency analysis for SB 823/PA 276 of 2012: <http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2011-2012/billanalysis/House/pdf/2011-HLA-0823-5.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> House Fiscal Agency analysis for SB 329/PA 43 of 2015: <http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2015-2016/billanalysis/House/pdf/2015-HLA-4589-0A9C6937.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> House Fiscal Agency analysis for HB 4892/PA 118 of 2017: <http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2017-2018/billanalysis/House/pdf/2017-HLA-4892-C3B2583D.pdf>

**POSITIONS:**

A representative of the Secretary of State testified in support of the bills. (12-19-18)

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