AS PROPOSED BY MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE ON JULY 31, 2024

PREPARED BY

PATRICK COLBECK
FORMER MICHIGAN STATE SENATOR

## By Patrick Colbeck

## **Table of Contents**

1	Introduction		.6		
2	Back	Background			
3 Governing Statutes					
	3.1	Referenced Statutes	3.		
	3.1.1	MCL 168.31	3.		
	3.1.2	MCL 168.37	lC		
	3.1.3	3 MCL 168.794	11		
	3.1.4	MCL 168.794c	11		
	3.1.5	MCL 168.797b	12		
	3.1.6	MCL 168.720c	12		
	3.2	Additional Applicable Statutes	12		
4	Rule	Adoption Timeline	13		
5	Key [	Definitions	15		
	5.1	Election Equipment	15		
	5.2	Election Management System	15		
	5.3	Program	15		
	5.4	Qualified Voter File	15		
	5.5	Tabulator	15		
	5.6	Voting Station	15		
6	Issue	es with Proposed MDOS Rule Changes	15		
	6.1	R 168.771 Definitions	15		
	6.1.1	Ballot	15		
	6.1.2	Status Report	16		
	6.1.3	3 Totals Tape	17		
	6.1.4	Voting System	17		
	6.1.5	Pollbook References	22		
	6.1.6	Election Materials	22		
	6.1.7	Summary Zero Report	23		
	6.1.8	Ballot Summary Page	23		
	6.1.9	Adjudication Equipment	24		

6.1.1	10	Vote Tally Equipment	.24
6.1.1	11	Networking Equipment	.25
6.1.1	12	Election Night Reporting	.25
6.1.1	13	Audit	.25
6.1.1	14	Electronic Pollbook Activity Log Report	.25
6.1.1	15	Electronic Pollbook Remarks Report	.26
6.1.1	16	Electronic Pollbook Voter List Report	.26
6.2	R	168.772 General Provisions	.26
6.2.	1	Proposed MDOS Rule	.26
6.2.2	2	Issue(s)	.27
6.2.3	3	Proposed Revision	.28
6.3	R	168.773 Preparation of Program	.29
6.3.	1	Proposed MDOS Rule	.29
6.3.2	2	Issue(s)	.50
6.3.3	3	Proposed Revision	.50
6.4	R	168.774 Preparation of Ballots	.71
6.4.	1	Proposed MDOS Rule	.71
6.4.2	2	Issue(s)	.73
6.4.3	3	Proposed Revision	.74
6.5	R	168.775 Preparation of Tabulators	.76
6.5.	1	Proposed MDOS Rule	.76
6.5.2	2	Issue(s)	.77
6.5.3	3	Proposed Revision	.78
6.6	R	168.776 Preparation of Official Test Deck	.80
6.6.	1	Proposed MDOS Rule	.80
6.6.2	2	Issue(s)	.82
6.6.3	3	Proposed Revision	.83
6.7	R	168.777 Preliminary Accuracy Test	.85
6.7.	1	Proposed MDOS Rule	.85
6.7.2	2	Issue(s)	.85
6.7.3	3	Proposed Revision	.85
6.8	R	168.778 Public Accuracy Test	.86

	6.8.1	F	Proposed MDOS Rule	86
	6.8.2		ssue(s)	
	6.8.3		Proposed Revision	
6.			68.779 Preparation and Delivery of Election Materials	
	6.9.1		Proposed MDOS Rule	
	6.9.2		· ssue(s)	
	6.9.3		Proposed Revision	
6.	10		68.780 Clerks and Election Inspectors; Duties Before Opening of Polls	
	6.10.		Proposed MDOS Rule	
	6.10.	2	Issue(s)	
	6.10.	3	Proposed Revision	94
6.	11	R 1	68.781 Conduct of elections and manner of voting	
	6.11.	1	Proposed MDOS Rule	95
	6.11.	2	Issue(s)	
	6.11.	3	Proposed Revision	
6.	12	R 1	68.782 Election Inspectors; Duties After Polls Are Closed	
6.			68.784 Processing Write-In Ballots	
6.			68.785 Duplication of Ballots	
6.			68.786 Absentee Ballots; Issuance, Processing and Tabulation	
6.	16	R 1	68.788 Receiving Station; Receiving Board	98
6.	17	R 1	68.789 Absent Voter Counting Board	98
	6.17.	1	Proposed MDOS Rule	98
	6.17.	2	Issue(s)	99
	6.17.	3	Proposed Revision	99
6.	18	R 1	68.790 Closing Procedures; Ballot Retention	100
	6.18.	1	Proposed MDOS Rule	100
	6.18.	2	Issue(s)	102
	6.18.	3	Proposed Revision	103
6.	19	R 1	68.791 Challengers	106
	6.19.	1	Proposed MDOS Rule	106
	6.19.	2	Issue(s)	106
	6.19.	3	Proposed Revision	107

	6.20	R 16	68.792 Canvass	107
	6.20	.1	Proposed MDOS Rule	107
	6.20	.2	Issue(s)	108
	6.20	.3	Proposed Revisions	108
	6.21	R 16	68.793 Recount	109
	6.21	.1	Proposed MDOS Rule	109
	6.21	.2	Issue(s)	110
	6.21	.3	Proposed Revision	111
7	Prop	osed	New Rules	112
	7.1	R 16	68.775a Preparation of Accessible Voting Device	112
	7.2		68.780a Early Voting	
	7.2.1	l P	Proposed MDOS Rule	112
	7.2.2	2 Is	ssue(s)	114
	7.2.3	3 P	Proposed Revision	115
	7.3	[Nev	w] User Account Security	117
	7.3.1	l Is	ssue(s)	117
	7.3.2	2 P	Proposed New Rule	117
	7.4	[Nev	w] Network Connections	118
	7.4.	l Is	ssue(s)	118
	7.4.2	2 P	Proposed New Rule	120
	7.5	[Nev	w] Election Night Reporting	121
	7.5.	l Is	ssue(s)	121
	7.5.2	2 P	Proposed New Rule	121
	7.6	[Nev	w] Software Configuration	122
	7.6.	l Is	ssue(s)	122
	7.6.2	2 P	Proposed New Rule	122
	7.7	[Nev	w] Preservation of Digital and Physical Records	122
	7.7.	l Is	ssue(s)	122
	7.7.2	2 P	Proposed New Rule	123
8	Prop	osed	l Rule Deletions	123
	8.1	R 16	68.783 Hanging Chads	123
	8.2	R 16	68.787 Delegate to County Convention	123
Pa	ige   4			August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

9	Fi	ndings	123
	9.1	Insufficient Rigor to Ensure Accuracy and Integrity of Elections	124
	9.2	Bias Towards Diminishing Rights of Voters	124
	9.3	Continued Abuse of Rule-Making Process	125
10	)	Conclusion	126

Page | 5 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

#### 1 Introduction

The Michigan Constitution guarantees our citizens the right to an audit of statewide election results sufficient to ensure the accuracy and integrity of those results. It goes on to assert that this right is self-executing and should be liberally construed in favor of voters' rights to effectuate its purpose. Clearly, it is incumbent upon the Michigan Secretary of State along with the Michigan Bureau of Elections to implement rules that comply with these important provisions of our Michigan Constitution. The enclosed report seeks to recalibrate the rules proposed by Michigan Secretary of State in order to comply with these provisions.

### 2 Background

On January 6, 2017, Election Infrastructure was designated by Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson as a Critical Infrastructure Subsector. This designation indicates that there needs to be a high degree of rigor applied to the security practices pertaining to the conduct of our elections. Upon issuing the designation, the federal government pursued the creation of an Election Integrity Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EI-ISAC). The EI-ISAC is dedicated to monitoring threats to our election infrastructure.

## Statement by Secretary Jeh Johnson on the Designation of Election Infrastructure as a Critical Infrastructure Subsector

Release Date: January 6, 2017

For Immediate Release Office of the Press Secretary Contact: 202-282-8010

I have determined that election infrastructure in this country should be designated as a subsector of the existing Government Facilities critical infrastructure sector. Given the vital role elections play in this country, it is clear that certain systems and assets of election infrastructure meet the definition of critical infrastructure, in fact and in law.

Figure 1DHS Press Release on Elections as Critical Infrastructure

Electronic voting systems introduce unique security concerns when it comes to ensuring the accuracy and integrity of our elections. On July 28, 2020, the Federal Cybersecurity and

Page | 6 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) released their Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Note addressing some of these concerns. The note (aka report) features a framework for evaluating the cybersecurity risks posed to our election system. The critical components of this system are defined in Figure 2. For each of these components, CISA has evaluated the risks to voter confidence, election integrity, and availability as a result of compromises to their security. The consequences of these risks would be significant. Any rules pertaining to our electronic voting systems should therefore seek to prevent these consequences or at least mitigate their severity.

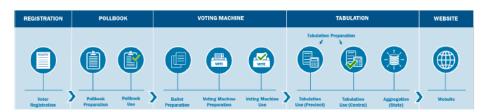


Figure 2 CISA Election System Functional Ecosystem

In October 2020, the Michigan Election Security Advisory Commission released their Report and Recommendations pertaining to election security (See Figure 3). Their recommendations included enhanced user account security protocols, expanded monitoring, enhanced Qualified Voter File (QVF) security, providing transparency, prohibiting connecting tabulators to the internet, phasing out "modeming in" of election night results, building redundancies into electronic reporting, observing best practices when using removable drives, enhanced vendor accountability and reporting, and prioritizing accuracy over speed when it comes to election night reporting.



Figure 3 October MESC Report and Recommendation

On July 31, 2024, LARA released a notice of public hearing regarding proposed rule changes by the Michigan Department of State governing electronic voting systems. The scope of the proposed rule changes features revisions to R 168.771, R 168.772, R 168.773, R 168.774, R 168.775, R 168.776, R

Page | 7 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

168.777, R 168.778, R 168.779, R 168.780, R 168.781, R 168.782, R 168.784, R 168.785, R 168.786, R 168.788, R 168.789, R 168.790, R 168.791, R 168.792, and R 168.793 of the Michigan Administrative Code, addition of R 168.775a and R 168.780a, and deletion of R 168.783 and R 168.787.

These proposed changes merit serious examination. Do they address the security risks identified by CISA? Do they address the MESC recommendations? Do they comply with the law?

This report is my attempt to answer these important questions. As the former Vice Chair of the Michigan Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee, I am very familiar with the statutory environment pertaining to elections and the obligations of the executive branch to conduct elections in accordance with these statutes. As a certified Microsoft Small Business Specialist, I am uniquely qualified to address concerns with the implementation and security of electronic voting systems. As a certified poll challenger in both the 2020 and 2022 elections, I am also equipped to address concerns as to how our elections are actually conducted in the field. I believe that most objective observers would agree that this background indicates the experience and expertise necessary to conduct such a professional review of the proposed rule changes for electronic voting systems.

## 3 Governing Statutes

Any rules issued by MDOS are subordinate to the Michigan Constitution and Michigan Compiled Law.

#### 3.1 Referenced Statutes

The statutes within this section were referenced in the MDOS proposed rule revisions.

#### 3.1.1 MCL 168.31

- (1) The secretary of state shall do all of the following:
- (a) Subject to subsection (2), issue instructions and promulgate rules pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, for the conduct of elections and registrations in accordance with the laws of this state.
- (b) Advise and direct local election officials as to the proper methods of conducting elections.
- (c) Publish and furnish for the use in each election precinct before each state primary and election a manual of instructions that includes specific instructions on assisting voters in casting their ballots, directions on the location of voting stations in polling places, procedures and forms for processing challenges, and procedures on prohibiting campaigning in the polling places as prescribed in this act.
- (d) Publish indexed pamphlet copies of the registration, primary, and election laws and furnish to the various county, city, township, and village clerks a sufficient number of copies for their own use

Page | 8 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

and to enable them to include 1 copy with the election supplies furnished each precinct board of election inspectors under their respective jurisdictions. The secretary of state may furnish single copies of the publications to organizations or individuals who request the same for purposes of instruction or public reference.

- (e) Prescribe and require uniform forms, notices, and supplies the secretary of state considers advisable for use in the conduct of elections and registrations.
- (f) Prepare the form of ballot for any proposed amendment to the constitution or proposal under the initiative or referendum provision of the constitution to be submitted to the voters of this state.
  - (g) Require reports from the local election officials the secretary of state considers necessary.
- (h) Investigate, or cause to be investigated by local authorities, the administration of election laws, and report violations of the election laws and regulations to the attorney general or prosecuting attorney, or both, for prosecution.
- (i) Publish in the legislative manual the vote for governor and secretary of state by townships and wards and the vote for members of the state legislature cast at the preceding November election, which shall be returned to the secretary of state by the county clerks on or before the first day of December following the election. All clerks shall furnish to the secretary of state, promptly and without compensation, any further information requested of them to be used in the compilation of the legislative manual.
- (j) Establish a curriculum for comprehensive training and accreditation of all county, city, township, and village officials who are responsible for conducting elections.
- (k) Establish a continuing election education program for all county, city, township, and village clerks.
- (I) Establish and require attendance by all new appointed or elected election officials at an initial course of instruction within 6 months before the date of the election.
  - (m) Establish a comprehensive training curriculum for all precinct inspectors.
- (n) Create an election day dispute resolution team that has regional representatives of the department of state, which team shall appear on site, if necessary.
- (2) Pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, the secretary of state shall promulgate rules establishing uniform standards for state and local nominating, recall, and ballot question petition signatures. The standards for petition signatures may include, but need not be limited to, standards for all of the following:
  - (a) Determining the validity of registration of a circulator or individual signing a petition.
- (b) Determining the genuineness of the signature of a circulator or individual signing a petition, including digitized signatures.

Page | 9 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

(c) Proper designation of the place of registration of a circulator or individual signing a petition.

#### 3.1.2 MCL 168.37

- (1) The secretary of state shall select a uniform voting system under the provisions of this section. The secretary of state shall convene an advisory committee on the selection of the uniform voting system, whose membership represents county, city, and township election officials and other relevant organizations. In addition, the speaker and minority leader of the house of representatives and the majority and minority leaders of the senate may each appoint 1 advisory committee member.
- (2) The secretary of state may conduct tests of a voting system in order to select the uniform voting system. The secretary of state shall not consider a voting system for selection as the uniform voting system unless the voting system is approved and certified as provided in section 795a. At the secretary of state's request, the board of state canvassers shall perform the approval and certification review, as provided in section 795a, of a voting system that the secretary of state wants to consider for selection as the uniform voting system.
- (3) When the uniform voting system is selected or at an earlier time that the secretary of state considers advisable, the secretary of state shall notify each county, city, and township about the selection or impending selection of the uniform voting system. A governmental unit that is notified under this subsection shall not purchase or enter into a contract to purchase a voting system other than the uniform voting system after receipt of the notice.
- (4) After selection of the uniform voting system, the secretary of state shall establish a schedule for acquisition and implementation of the uniform voting system throughout this state. The secretary of state may devise a schedule that institutes the uniform voting system over several election cycles. The secretary of state shall widely publicize the schedule and changes to the schedule. If, however, a jurisdiction has acquired a new voting system within 8 years before the jurisdiction receives notice from the secretary of state under subsection (3), that jurisdiction is not required to acquire and use the uniform voting system until the expiration of 10 years after the date of the original purchase of the equipment.
- (5) If, after selection of the uniform voting system, the secretary of state determines that the uniform voting system no longer serves the welfare of the voters or has become out of date in regards to voting system technology, the secretary of state may repeat the process for selecting the uniform voting system authorized under this section.
- (6) This section does not apply until money is appropriated for the purpose of selecting, acquiring, and implementing the uniform voting system. If federal money becomes available for the purposes described in this section, the secretary of state shall, and the legislature intends to, take the steps necessary to qualify for and appropriate that money for the purposes described in this section.

Page | 10 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

#### 3.1.3 MCL 168.794

- (1) Subject to this section, the board of commissioners of a county, the legislative body of a city or village, the township board of a township, or the school board of a school district, by a majority vote, may authorize, acquire by purchase, lease, or otherwise, adopt, experiment with, or abandon an electronic voting system approved for use in this state in an election, and may use the system in all or a part of the precincts within its boundaries, or in combination with other approved voting systems.
- (2) A new electronic voting system shall not be used at a general election in a county, city, or township unless, in addition to the other requirements of this act, all of the following requirements are met:
- (a) The county, city, or township purchases or otherwise acquires the electronic voting system 6 months or more before the next general election to be held in that county, city, or township.
- (b) The county, city, or township uses the electronic voting system at a primary, special, or other local election held in the county, city, or township before the general election.
- (3) The appropriate board of election commissioners shall provide for an accuracy test of an electronic voting system in the manner prescribed in rules promulgated by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures for preparing test decks and conducting accuracy tests for electronic voting systems in this state.
- (4) Before an election held in a county, city, township, village, or school district, the secretary of state may randomly select and test for accuracy an electronic voting system to be used by the county, city, township, village, or school district in that election. The secretary of state shall use the test decks prepared by the secretary of state to conduct the random tests allowed under this subsection.
- (5) A board of election commissioners shall not use in an election an electronic voting system that has failed the most recent accuracy test performed on that voting system under this act. An electronic voting system may be used after any necessary corrections are made and an accuracy test is passed on the system.
- (6) Subsection (1) does not apply to a county, city, village, township, or school district after the county, city, village, township, or school district receives the secretary of state's notice under section 37. Subsection (2) shall apply to a county, city, village, township, or school district after it receives the secretary of state's notice under section 37 if, at the time of the notice, the county, city, village, township, or school district is using an electronic voting system that is the same type as the uniform voting system.

#### 3.1.4 MCL 168.794c

Sec. 794c.

Page | 11 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

The provisions of sections 794 to 799a control with respect to elections where electronic voting systems are used, and shall be liberally construed so as to carry out the purpose of the provisions. A provision of law relating to the conduct of elections that conflicts with sections 794 to 799a does not apply to the conduct of elections with an approved electronic voting system. The secretary of state shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of sections 794 to 799a, in accordance with the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

#### 3.1.5 MCL 168.797b

Sec. 797b.

The secretary of state shall promulgate rules pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, governing the tabulation of ballots, certification of results, delivery of ballots and certified results, and sealing of devices and ballot boxes after the polls are closed.

#### 3.1.6 MCL 168.720c

- (4) The secretary of state shall provide guidance to county and municipal election officials regarding the process for securing equipment and ballots at the conclusion of each day of early voting.
- (5) The secretary of state shall issue instructions regarding ballots produced by an on-demand ballot printing system and that are subject to challenge.

#### 3.2 Additional Applicable Statutes

The following laws were not referenced in the MDOS proposed rules but compliance with them is as significant as compliance with the laws that were referenced.

- United States Code Title 52
- MI Constitution Article II Section 4
- Michigan Compiled Law
  - o Administrative Procedures Act
    - MCL 24.242
    - MCL 24.244
    - MCL 24.245
    - MCL 24.245a
    - MCL 168.765
    - MCL 168.794
    - MCL 168.795MCL 168.812
    - MOL 100.012
    - MCL 168.813

By Patrick Colbeck

## 4 Rule Adoption Timeline

All rules must go through the listed process which includes departmental review, public hearing, referral to JCAR, and filing with the secretary of state. This means that the rules cannot be filed with the secretary of state until they have gone through the whole process. This process is described in Figure 4.

Once the public hearing on August 16, 2024 has been completed, the rules can then be referred to JCAR Committee. After 15 joint session days (i.e. both the house and senate in session with a quorum), the rules are filed with the Secretary of State and enacted. The department (bureau of elections) can request that JCAR waive the remaining session days. The chair of JCAR then has to agree, holding a committee hearing, and vote with a majority to waive the remaining days. In light of the number of likely joint session days before the November 5, 2024 general election, we anticipate an attempt to expedite the enactment of these rules.

There are additional considerations pertinent to the rule adoption timeline including programming, ballot printing and ballot mailing timelines. This begs the question why these proposed rule changes were delayed in such a manner that would likely lead to timeline conflicts for these important election preparation activities.

Page | 13 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

#### **Rulemaking Process Summary**

The process for creating, amending, and rescinding administrative rules is governed by the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328. (Note this is an overview and does not include all required provisions)

R	F	R

- A department must submit a Request for Rulemaking (RFR) to MOAHR to begin the rulemaking process.
- MOAHR reviews and approves the RFR and notifies the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR).



### **Draft Rules** Agency: 90 days\*

- ▲ Rules are drafted by the agency and submitted by the agency's Regulatory Affairs
- Officer (RAO) to MOAHR to review for legal authority.

   MOAHR approves the draft rules and notifies JCAR. MOAHR sends the draft to the Legislative Service Bureau (LSB) for informal editing according to format and style requirements.
- ▲ The agency makes the suggested LSB edits to the draft rules and sends to MOAHR.



#### RIS Agency: 35 days\*

- ▲ A Regulatory Impact Statement & Cost-Benefit Analysis (RIS) is prepared by the agency and sent to MOAHR for approval 28 days prior to the public hearing. MOAHR notifies JCAR.

  A Notice of Public Hearing is prepared by the agency and sent to MOAHR. MOAHR
- **Public Hearing** Agency: 40 days
- ▲ The Notice is published in 3 newspapers, including 1 in the UP, not less than 10 days but no more than 60 days prior to the hearing. ▲ MOAHR publishes the Notice and draft rules in the Michigan Register.
- ▲ The agency holds a public hearing for public comment



#### JCAR Report

- ▲ The agency submits the final draft of the rules and the JCAR Report to MOAHR.
- Agency: 40 days\*
- MOAHR submits the final draft of the fules and the SCAR Report to MOAHR.
   MOAHR submits the final draft to LSB to formally certify the rules.
   MOAHR legally certifies the rules and sends the JCAR Report, including the final draft of the rules, certifications, RFR, and RIS to JCAR.



## **JCAR**

- ▲ The JCAR Report and rules must be submitted to JCAR within 1 year after the public hearing, or there must be a subsequent public hearing.

  A The JCAR Report summarizes the purpose of the draft rules and any comments made at
- the public hearing or submitted in writing
- ▲ The rules must be before JCAR for 15 session days, unless JCAR grants a waiver of the remaining days.

  A During those 15 days, JCAR may object to the rules, but then must introduce legislation
- within another 15 session days to stop or delay the rules.

  A Rules can be filed by MOAHR with the Office of the Great Seal after 15 session days
- expire or after JCAR has waived the 15 session day requirement.



#### Certificate of Adoption Agency: 25 days\*

Filing with Office of the Great Seal

- ▲ The agency director confirms the intent to adopt the rules by submitting a Certificate of Adoption to MOAHR.
- ▲ MOAHR files the final rules with the Office of the Great Seal.

  ▲ The rules may become effective immediately upon filing, or at a later date specified by
- the agency in the rules.

  A On the effective date, MOAHR amends the Michigan Administrative Code to reflect the

new language of the rules

Revised: January 31, 2020

Figure 4 https://www.michigan.gov/lara/-

/media/Project/Websites/lara/moahr/ARD/Education/Rulemaking\_Process\_Summary.pdf?rev=7450cb60e46f45b69bc4d 4b4edd8f796&hash=7EF8B9900A5F36281031A8AE68F2A4D7

Page | 14 August 16, 2024

<sup>\*</sup> Estimated number of days it takes for an agency to submit rulemaking document.

By Patrick Colbeck

## 5 Key Definitions

#### 5.1 Election Equipment

(k) "Election equipment" means equipment used in administering elections, including, but not limited to, a voting machine, voting device, or voting system.

#### 5.2 Election Management System

(l) "Election management system" means a system that has been approved by the board of state canvassers to produce a program and produce results.

#### 5.3 Program

(q) "Program" means the operating instructions for a voting system by which it examines, counts, tabulates, and produces the results of the votes cast on a ballot.

#### 5.4 Qualified Voter File

(r) "Qualified voter file" means the official file of voters for the conduct of all elections held in this state as described in section 5090 of the act. MCL 168.5090.

#### 5.5 Tabulator

(w) "Tabulator" means automatic tabulating equipment that scans and accumulates results.

#### 5.6 Voting Station

(y) "Voting station" or "voting booth" means a unit containing an accessible voting device or a surface that allows the voter to mark the ballot that provides privacy and blocks an individual's view on not less than 3 sides.

## 6 Issues with Proposed MDOS Rule Changes

This section reviews each of the proposed rule changes, highlights any issues with the proposed changes, and provides recommended revisions to the proposed rules or new rules as applicable.

#### 6.1 R 168.771 Definitions

#### 6.1.1 Ballot

#### 6.1.1.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

(e) "Ballot" means an approved paper form or a medium through which votes are recorded that is produced as a paper form.

Page | 15 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

#### 6.1.1.2 Issue(s)

Ballots have multiple states – Pre-Cast, Cast and Ballot Image. It is important to differentiate between each state as differentiating between these states is an important element of any professional audit of election results. Before they cast their vote, voters are handed a pre-cast ballot that includes a perforated seam that separates the section containing the ballot ID tracked in pollbooks (i.e. ballot stub) from the section of the ballot capturing voter intent for each ballot measure. Before a ballot is scanned and tabulated, the ballot stub is removed from the ballot making it impossible to connect an individual voter with the cast ballot. When the ballot stub is removed, the ballot is referred to as a cast ballot. Cast ballots are converted to ballot images by scanners. Scanners transfer these ballot images to tabulators. Ballot images are what tabulators read to determine voter intent during tabulation of votes, yet there are no references to ballot images in the proposed rule set. The rules also lack any reference to cast vote records which log such tabulation activities. As such, pre-cast ballots, cast ballots, ballot stubs, ballot images and cast vote records are critical components of the election record chain of custody and necessary for the conduct of any professional audit of election results.

#### 6.1.1.3 Proposed New Rules

\_(e) "Pre-Cast Ballot" means an approved paper form or a medium through which votes are recorded that is produced as a paper form and includes an attached ballot stub indicating a unique ballot id.

\_(cc) "Cast Ballot" means an approved paper form or a medium through which votes are recorded that is produced as a paper form and has been separated from the ballot stub indicating a unique ballot id.

(dd) "Ballot Stub" means the perforated paper stub containing a unique ballot id that is separated from a cast ballot.

(ee) "Cast Vote Records" means a log of tabulation activities including the following information as a minimum: Municipality, precinct, tabulator ID, ballot sequence id or batch id, ballot type ID, number of ballots in batch, beginning timestamp, end timestamp, ballot status, contest, contest vote tally, ballot or batch status.

(ff) "Ballot" means either a Pre-Cast Ballot or Cast Ballot when not specifically delimited as such.

#### 6.1.2 Status Report

#### 6.1.2.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

(v) "Status report" means a report generated from each tabulator or other election equipment at the close of each day of early voting.

#### 6.1.2.2 Issue(s)

There is insufficient clarity as to the contents of the status report. Without such clarity, it is impossible to discern if the report would contain data sufficient to support a professional audit of election records.

Page | 16 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

#### 6.1.2.3 Proposed Revision

(v) "Status report" means a report generated from each tabulator or other election equipment at the close of each day of early voting or on election day that includes the following information as a minimum: machine ID, election, timedate stamp, user account printing status report, machine model, software version, software installation date, machine serial number, and for each precinct the total scanned votes and total voters.

#### 6.1.3 Totals Tape

#### 6.1.3.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

(x) "Totals tape" or "results report" or "summary totals tape" means a report generated from each tabulator or other election equipment after the close of polls on election day.

#### 6.1.3.2 Issue(s)

There is insufficient clarity as to the contents of the totals tape. Without such clarity, it is impossible to discern if the tape would contain data sufficient to support a professional audit of election records.

#### 6.1.3.3 Proposed Revision

\_(x) "Totals tape" or "results report" or "summary totals tape" means a report generated from each tabulator or other election equipment after the close of polls on election day. that includes the following information as a minimum: machine ID, election, timedate stamp, user account printing status report, machine model, software version, software installation date, machine serial number, and, for each precinct, the total scanned votes, and total voters plus the following information for each ballot measure for each precinct: the total votes, number of overvotes, and number of undervotes.

#### 6.1.4 Voting System

#### 6.1.4.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

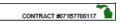
(z) "Voting system" means 1 or more pieces of automatic tabulating equipment that examines, tabulates, and counts votes recorded on ballots and produces results, as specified in sections 37 and 794a of the act, MCL 168.37 and 168.794a.

#### 6.1.4.2 Issue(s)

MCL 168.37 and MCL 168.794a refer to the electronic voting systems procured by the State of Michigan. The proposed MDOS rules appear to be constraining the definition of voting system so that it does not include all of the components featured in electronic voting system contracts with the State of Michigan. Per the Dominion Voting Systems contract with the State of Michigan, a voting system includes: tabulators, accessible voting system components, election event designer, mobile ballot printing, results transmission, election night reporting, results tally and reporting, networking equipment and Election Management System (EMS) software plus all of the hardware and software needed to satisfy voting system hardware, voting system election management system software, absentee voting, and accessible voting system component technical requirements.

Page | 17 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck



#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

Anting System Hardware, Firmware, Software and Service

SCHEDULE A STATEMENT OF WORK CONTRACT ACTIVITIES

This Contract is for voting systems approved for use in Michigan for the Michigan Department of State (MDOS) and includes hardware and firmware (labutators and all related components, including those for use by voters with disabilities); related Election Management System (EMS) software provided to counties and select local jurisdictions; initial and extended service and maintenance; training and training documentation for countylocal jurisdiction clerks and election staff and replacement components/consumables.

components consumations.

This is a multiple-vendor contract award with vendor selection coordinated at the county level and will be a gradual rollout. The rollout is articipated to begin in conjunction with the August 2017 election, with the anticipated statewide completion by the August 2016 primary election. These schedules will be coordinated at the country level. The accessible voting system component will be rolled out in conjunction with the new voting system. Ownership will be granted directly to the countries and local jurisdictions. Upon agreement with jurisdictions in a country, ownership may be granted to the country for jurisdictions within the country.

A detailed list of the voting system components covered by this Contract, along with associated firmware and EMS software (including version numbers), is included in Exhibit 1 to Schedule A, Federal Voting System Teding / Certification Matrix.

BACKGROUND

#### In Scope:

This Contract includes:

- Purchase of voting system tabulators and all related components (Election Day precincts: one tabulator per precinct; and Absent Voter Courting Board, based on a formula determined by the State.) In addition, one tabulator per courtly.
- Purchase of accessible voting system components, for use by voters with disabilities (one per Election Day polling location [with some exceptions]). In addition, one accessible device per county.
- Related Election Management System or 'EMS' software. Two EMS software options will be available at the county level:
  - 1) Full EMS ("Program Your Own"), for counties that fully program their elections internally (without reliance on the voting system Contractor/subcontractor for programming); and
  - 2) Accumulation-Only EMS, for counties that rely on the voting system Contractorisubcontractor for programming; the accumulation-only functionality for these counties includes the capability to burn media, read media, transmit results and produce accumulation reports.
- Initial training and training documentation for county/local jurisdiction cierks and election staff.
- Voting System component / consumables costs (replacement or additional components not already covered in initial purchase).

•



- Initial system/software service and maintenance (acquisition year + four years).
- Extended service and maintenance (after the expiration of the initial service and maintenance period, +5 years). Note: in the absence of a State appropriation, local counties and jurisdictions will be solely responsible for the cost of extended service and maintenance.
- Preventative maintenance (every two years).
- NOTE: The Contractor shall provide the State with one full set of all system components at no charge (precinct abulator; AVCB labulator, accessible voting device; full EMS software ("Program Your Own" version); all related training and documentation).

Figure 5 Pages 26-27 of Contract 071B7700117 between Dominion and State of Michigan

#### By Patrick Colbeck

### 1.2 Voting System ELECTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (EMS) SOFTWARE Technical Requirements

Exhibit 2, Attachment 1.2 to Schedule A lists detailed voting system Election Management System (EMS) software technical specifications and requirements. This attachment is broken into several categories, including:

- A. Election Management System (EMS) General Requirements
- B. EMS Programming Requirements
- C. Ballot Programming and Layout Requirements

27



- D. Election Night Reporting (ENR) Capabilities / Requirements
- E. Reports Requirements
- F. Audit Capabilities / Requirements
- G. System / Software Ownership Requirements

Refer to Exhibit 2, Attachment 1.2 to Schedule A for additional details of these requirements.

### 1.3 Voting System ABSENTEE VOTING (AV) Technical Requirements

Exhibit 2, Attachment 1.3 to Schedule A lists detailed voting system absentee voting (AV) technical specifications and requirements. This attachment is broken into the following categories:

- A. AV Processing General Requirements
- B. High Speed AVCB Tabulator Requirements

Refer to Exhibit 2, Attachment 1.3 to Schedule A for additional details of these requirements.

#### 1.4 Voting System ACCESSIBLE VOTING SYSTEM COMPONENT Technical Requirements

Exhibit 2, Attachment 1.4 to Schedule A lists detailed voting system Accessible Voting System Component technical specifications and requirements. This attachment is broken into several categories, including:

- A. Accessible Voting System General Requirements
- B. Accessible Voting System Use of Touch Screen Interface Requirements
- C. Accessible Voting System Use of Paper Ballots (Requirements related to 3 possible scenarios)
- D. Reliability Requirements

Figure 6 Pages 27-28 of Contract 071B7700117 between Dominion and State of Michigan

Page | 19 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck



Democracy Suite Election Management System – The engine that powers your entire election

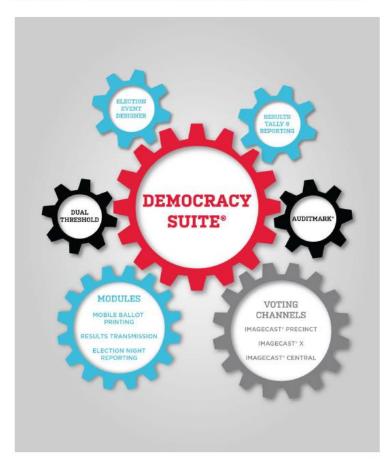


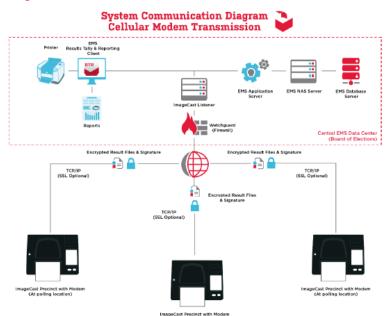
Figure 7 Page 76 of Contract 071B7700117 between Dominion and State of Michigan

Page | 20 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck



#### ImageCast Listener



The ImageCast Listener module is responsible for receiving and tracking encrypted results file transmissions from any ImageCast Election Day tabulator.

Unlike traditional results transmission using FTP/SFTP, the ImageCast Listener uses a secure and proprietary protocol for establishing an authenticated connection with the ImageCast tabulators. The ImageCast Listener verifies the signature of the results file upon receipt and immediately informs election officials whether the file is valid or if any suspicious activity is detected. Results files are encrypted using AES-128 or AES-256. They are signed with SHA-256.

Figure 8 Page 114 of Contract 071B7700117 between Dominion and State of Michigan

#### 6.1.4.3 Proposed Revision

\_(z) "Voting system" means all hardware and software components necessary to program election artifacts, print ballots, tabulate ballots, report election results and transfer election results as referenced electronic voting system contracts pertaining to sections 37 and 794a of the act, MCL 168.37 and 168.794a.

Page | 21 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

#### 6.1.5 Pollbook References

#### 6.1.5.1 Proposed MDOS Rules

- (n) "Electronic pollbook" means computer software that receives information from the qualified voter file and is used during elections to process voters and generate reports.
- (p) "Physical pollbook" means a paper pollbook in which the election inspectors in a precinct or early voting site shall enter, in the order in which electors are given ballots, the name of each elector who is given a ballot.

#### 6.1.5.2 Issue(s)

Electronic Pollbook, Physical Pollbook, Pollbook are all used throughout proposed rules. The proposed definitions are incomplete as they do not include all functions of a poll book notably the capture of poll challenger information and other notes regarding the conduct of elections that would be useful for canvassers evaluating the conduct of an election. Furthermore, the definition uses the term "precinct" to refer to polling location in what appears to be an effort to distinguish a polling location from an early voting site. Precincts are a common jurisdictional voter attribute across polling locations, early voting sites and absent voter counting boards (which were not referenced in definitions). Therefore, regardless of where used, pollbooks (be they electronic or physical) feature precinct-specific voter data used by election inspectors at polling locations, early voting sites and absent voter counting boards.

#### 6.1.5.3 Proposed Revision

(n) "Electronic pollbook" means hardware and software that receives qualified voter information from the state qualified voter file and is used by election inspectors to track precinct-specific allocation of ballots to voters, capture challenges, capture other notes, and generate reports based upon this information that would assist canvassers in the execution of their duties.

\_(p) "Physical pollbook" means a paper pollbook reflecting a printed extract of the state qualified voter file and is used by election inspectors to track precinct-specific allocation of ballots to voters, capture challenges, and capture other notes that would assist canvassers in the execution of their duties.

(bb) "Pollbook" refers to either electronic or physical pollbooks. All pollbooks shall contain the following information as a minimum: voter name, voter signature, voter birthdate, voter address, voter driver's license number, voting status flags, ballot number issued to voter, and challenges.

#### 6.1.6 Election Materials

#### 6.1.6.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

(m) "Election materials" mean materials used in administering elections, including, but not limited to, ballots, physical pollbooks, and other materials described in section 811 of the act, MCL 168.811. Election materials do not include ballot stubs.

Page | 22 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

#### 6.1.6.2 Issue(s)

Under Title 52 Section 20701 of the United States Code, ALL records and papers relating to any act requisite to voting shall be preserved for a period on not less than 22 months from the date of any election featuring federal candidates. ALL records means digital as well as physical records yet there is no reference to digital artifacts in the proposed definition of election materials. Furthermore, ballot stubs are critical elements of any professional audit of elections as they indicate the ballot ID's for all ballots cast in a given precinct. These ID's can be cross-referenced with pollbook data to ensure that only those ballots approved by poll workers using pollbook records are stored in the ballot container(s) for that precinct.

#### 6.1.6.3 Proposed Revision

\_(m) "Election materials" means all digital and physical records used in administering elections, including, but not limited to, ballots, ballot images, cast vote records, physical pollbooks, electronic pollbooks, databases, programs, flash drives, digital transaction logs, digital event logs and other materials described in section 811 of the act, MCL 168.811.

#### 6.1.7 Summary Zero Report

#### 6.1.7.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

(aa) "Zero tape" or "zero report" or "summary zero report" means a report generated from a tabulator or other election equipment that shows that no results have been accumulated before the tabulation of ballots.

#### 6.1.7.2 Issue(s)

There is insufficient clarity as to the contents of the summary zero report. Without such clarity, it is impossible to discern if the report would contain data sufficient to support a professional audit of election records.

#### 6.1.7.3 [New Rule] Summary Zero Report

\_(x) "Zero tape" or "zero report" or "summary zero report" means a report generated from each tabulator or other election equipment to show how many votes have been accumulated before the tabulation of ballots that includes the following information as a minimum: machine ID, election, timedate stamp, user account printing status report, machine model, software version, software installation date, machine serial number, and, for each precinct, the total scanned votes, and total voters plus the following information for each ballot measure for each precinct: the total votes, number of overvotes, and number of undervotes.

#### 6.1.8 Ballot Summary Page

#### 6.1.8.1 Issue(s)

Ballot Summary Page is referenced in multiple sections of proposed rules (Rule 168.780a(1)(d)(i), Rule 168.780a(1)(d)(v), Rule 168.780a(2)(b)(ii), Rule 168.780a(2)(c)(ii), and Rule 168.782(3)) yet there is no definition of the contents of a Ballot Summary Page.

Page | 23 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

On-demand ballot printing is now a standard feature of most early voting centers. In support of a professional audit evaluating the accuracy and integrity of a given election, the number of ballots printed in this manner must be tracked and reflected in official election records.

#### 6.1.8.2 [New Rule] Ballot Summary Page

(ff) "Ballot Summary Page" means a section of the Statement of Votes that includes the following information for a specific precinct, jurisdiction and election date: Number of official ballots delivered to precinct for each ballot style, the starting number for ballots delivered to precinct, number of absent voter return envelopes received by board, number of ballots tabulated, number of absent voter ballot envelopes delivered to precinct which did not contain a ballot, number of ballots reissued to voters who spoiled their ballot at the polling place, number of ballots used by election inspectors for ballot duplication, number of on-demand ballots printed, number of provisional ballots, and number of unused ballots.

#### 6.1.9 Adjudication Equipment

#### 6.1.9.1 Issue(s)

Adjudication equipment that is used to review scanned ballot images so as to determine voter intent is a key element of the vote tally chain of custody yet is not referred to at all in the proposed new rules.

#### 6.1.9.2 [New] Adjudication Equipment

\_(gg) "Adjudicating equipment" means all hardware and software components necessary to adjudicate voter intent via review of ballot images and adjust tabulated results from these images accordingly.

#### 6.1.10 Vote Tally Equipment

#### 6.1.10.1 Issue(s)

While tabulators are the starting points in the vote tally chain of custody, they are often not the devices which produce the official election results. In Detroit, for example, the official election results are produced by their Dominion Election Management System (EMS) Server. This server in turn receives data from Dominion ImageCast Precinct tabulators at each polling location and the Results and Tally Reporting (RTR) Server residing at their Absent Voter Counting Board. The RTR server in turn aggregates the vote tallies across all Dominion ImageCast Central tabulators and Adjudicator Workstations at the Absent Voter Counting Board.

#### 6.1.10.2 [New] Vote Tally Equipment

\_(hh) "Vote Tally Equipment" means all hardware and software components necessary to merge vote tally data from one or more tabulators and/or adjudicators.

Page | 24 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

#### 6.1.11 Networking Equipment

#### 6.1.11.1 Issue(s)

Networking equipment plays a central role in the transfer of digital election records. Seals and logs are associated with physical election records and election equipment, however, digital records are not secured with similar rigor.

#### 6.1.11.2 [New] Networking Equipment

<u>(ii) "Networking Equipment" means all hardware and software components necessary to transfer digital election record data from one storage device to another storage device.</u>

#### 6.1.12 Election Night Reporting

#### 6.1.12.1 Issue(s)

Election Night Reporting (ENR) is a component of the contracts for all of Michigan's electronic voting system vendors. ENR is arguably the most important component of the election process to candidates and voters alike is that of Election Night Reporting. The proposed rules, however, make zero mention of election night reporting.

#### 6.1.12.2 [New] Election Night Reporting

\_(ii) "Election Night Reporting" pertains to the transfer of vote tally election records from vote tally equipment to the general public, media and other stakeholders.

#### 6.1.13 Audit

#### 6.1.13.1 Issue(s)

The Michigan Constitution guarantees citizens the right to an audit of statewide election results. The MI Secretary of State has attempted to use Risk-Limiting Audits (RLA) to satisfy this provision of our constitution despite RLA's focus upon recounting a select number of ballots. RLA's are not of sufficient rigor to satisfy the constitutional requirement for audits that ensure the accuracy and integrity of our elections. Furthermore, all rights conferred under this provision of our Constitution are to be liberally construed in favor of voter rights.

#### 6.1.13.2 [New] Audit

\_(jj) "Audit" is an independent examination and thorough review of pre-election, absentee voting, early voting, and election day records to determine if procedures were properly followed according to the Constitution, state statute, governing regulations, and established procedures.

#### 6.1.14 Electronic Pollbook Activity Log Report

#### 6.1.14.1 Issue(s)

Electronic pollbooks are used to conduct of election operations. Every activity captured in the electronic pollbook becomes part of the election audit trail which must be preserved.

Page | 25 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

#### 6.1.14.2 [New] Electronic Pollbook Activity Log Report

\_(kk) "Electronic pollbook activity log report" is a record of all activities pertaining to the conduct of an election that were recorded on an electronic pollbook. It is a key component of an election audit trail.

#### 6.1.15 Electronic Pollbook Remarks Report

#### 6.1.15.1 Issue(s)

Electronic pollbooks are used to capture remarks regarding the conduct of election operations. All poll workers are instructed as to what remarks should be recorded in electronic pollbooks.

#### 6.1.15.2 [New] Electronic Pollbook Remarks Report

\_(II) "Electronic pollbook remarks report" is a record of all remarks entered by an election worker during the conduct of an election that were recorded on an electronic pollbook. It is a key component of an election audit trail.

#### 6.1.16 Electronic Pollbook Voter List Report

#### 6.1.16.1 Issue(s)

Electronic pollbooks are used to track which eligible voters have been allocated a ballot. The subsequent list of voters for a given election is a key component of the election audit trail.

#### 6.1.16.2 [New] Electronic Pollbook Voter List Report

\_(mm) "Electronic pollbook voter list report" is a record of all voters who were issued a ballot during an election. It is a key component of an election audit trail.

#### 6.2 R 168.772 General Provisions

#### 6.2.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

- Rule 2. (1) The paper ballot procedures in the act **are** shall be applicable in elections in which electronic voting systems are used, except where superseded by specific provisions of the act or these rules
- (2) A precinct in which electronic voting systems are used shall not contain more than the number of registered voters **allowed** permitted by the act in a precinct using voting machines.
- (3) Where the board of county commissioners provides for the purchase and use of an electronic voting system in a county, the county clerk shall have custody of the devices and beis responsible for their maintenance, repair, and preparation for elections.
- (4) Where the legislative body of a city, **or** township, <del>or village</del> provides for the purchase and use of an electronic voting system, the clerk of the city, **or** township, <del>or village</del> shall have custody of the devices and beis responsible for their maintenance, repair, and preparation for elections.
- (5) If a county owns the voting devices and the election is an election at which state or county offices or proposals are to be voted upon, or an election at which state, county, and local offices are to be voted upon, the county election commission shall provide programming and computer time and furnish the necessary supplies, including printing. Notwithstanding subrules (3) and (4) of this rule, maintenance, repair, and preparation of election equipment used in early

Page | 26 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

## voting must be conducted in accordance with applicable county or municipal early voting agreements.

- -(6) If a county owns the voting devices and the election is an election at which only local offices and proposals are to be voted upon, the county election commission shall provide programming and computer time and furnish the necessary supplies, including printing, and the local unit shall reimburse the county for the costs of the supplies; or the local unit may agree with the county that the local unit shall perform the functions required by this rule to be performed by the county.
- (7) If a city or township owns the voting devices and the election is an election at which state or county offices or proposals are to be voted upon, or an election at which state, county, and local offices and proposals are to be voted upon, the city election commission shall provide the devices, programming, and computer time, and the county election commission shall provide ballot cards, ballot envelopes, and the printing of the ballot labels. A city or township and a county may enter into a mutual agreement that the county shall provide programming or computer time, or both.
- -(8) If a city or township owns the voting devices and the election is an election at which only local offices and proposals are to be voted upon, the city or township election commission shall provide the devices, programming, computer time, ballot cards, ballot envelopes, and the printing of ballot labels. A city or township and a county may enter into a mutual agreement that the county shall provide programming or computer time, or both.
- -(9) A village or school district may contract with a city, county, or township for the use of voting devices, programming, and computer time.
- (106) Notwithstanding any other another provision of these rules, the election commissions of local units of government may enter into a mutual agreement for the joint use of a program and computer. The agreement shall state which the local unit units shall own has control of the programs and computer election management system. An agreement may be made with the county election commission stating and the control of the program and computer election management system shall be is vested in the county clerk. The county clerk or the county clerk's designee shall program the election management system and election equipment.
- (11) For the purpose of these rules, when a school election is conducted and the school district is supplying the program, the term "election commission" means the secretary and president of the school board and the superintendent of the school district.

#### 6.2.2 Issue(s)

#### 6.2.2.1 Compliance Measures Lacking

A precinct in which electronic voting systems are used shall not contain more than the number of registered voters allowed by the act in a precinct, yet there is insufficient information available to election observers to confirm compliance with this provision particularly in communities with AV Counting Boards covering multiple precincts.

#### 6.2.2.2 Local Units of Government Contract Conflicts

If local units of government purchase an electronic voting system, local clerks have custody of electronic voting system and are responsible for their maintenance, repair, and preparation for elections however, due to illusory provisions within the state contracts with electronic voting system vendors, they are not provided with the authority to engage vendors which they trust in the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

Page | 27 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

#### 6.2.2.3 County Contract Conflicts

If the county commissioners purchase an electronic voting system, local units of government own the programs and election management system, but the County Clerk is explicitly granted control over the program and election management system however, due to illusory provisions within the state contracts with electronic voting system vendors, they are not provided with the authority to engage vendors which they trust in the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

#### 6.2.3 Proposed Revision

- Rule 2. (1) The paper ballot procedures in the act **are** shall be applicable in elections in which electronic voting systems are used, except where superseded by specific provisions of the act or these rules.
- (2) A precinct in which electronic voting systems are used shall not contain more than the number of registered voters **allowed** permitted by the act in a precinct using voting machines. Polling locations, early voting sites, and Counting Boards within an Absent Voter Counting Board facility must provide a public display during the election period of the number of the number of registered voters for each precinct represented as specified in MCL 168.658.
- (3) Where the board of county commissioners provides for the purchase and use of an electronic voting system in a county, the county clerk shall have custody of the devices and beis responsible for their maintenance, repair, and preparation for elections regardless of any illusory provisions contained in contracts between units of government and electronic voting system vendors preventing such activities at the discretion of county officials.
- (4) Where the legislative body of a city, **or** township, or village provides for the purchase and use of an electronic voting system, the clerk of the city, **or** township, or village shall have custody of the devices and beis responsible for their maintenance, repair, and preparation for elections regardless of any illusory provisions contained in contracts between units of government and electronic voting system vendors preventing such activities at the discretion of county officials.
- (5) If a county owns the voting devices and the election is an election at which state or county offices or proposals are to be voted upon, or an election at which state, county, and local offices are to be voted upon, the county election commission shall provide programming and computer time and furnish the necessary supplies, including printing. Notwithstanding subrules (3) and (4) of this rule, maintenance, repair, and preparation of election equipment used in early voting must be conducted in accordance with applicable county or municipal early voting agreements.
- -(6) If a county owns the voting devices and the election is an election at which only local offices and proposals are to be voted upon, the county election commission shall provide programming and computer time and furnish the necessary supplies, including printing, and the local unit shall reimburse the county for the costs of the supplies; or the local unit may agree with the county that the local unit shall perform the functions required by this rule to be performed by the county.
- -(7) If a city or township owns the voting devices and the election is an election at which state or county offices or proposals are to be voted upon, or an election at which state, county, and local offices and proposals are to be voted upon, the city election commission shall provide the devices, programming, and computer time, and the county election commission shall provide ballot cards, ballot envelopes, and the printing of the ballot labels. A city or township and a county may enter into a mutual agreement that the county shall provide programming or computer time, or both.

Page | 28 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

- -(8) If a city or township owns the voting devices and the election is an election at which only local offices and proposals are to be voted upon, the city or township election commission shall provide the devices, programming, computer time, ballot cards, ballot envelopes, and the printing of ballot labels. A city or township and a county may enter into a mutual agreement that the county shall provide programming or computer time, or both.
- -(9) A village or school district may contract with a city, county, or township for the use of voting devices, programming, and computer time.
- (106) Notwithstanding any other another provision of these rules, the election commissions of local units of government may enter into a mutual agreement for the joint use of a program and computer. The agreement shall state which the local unit units shall own has control of the programs and computer election management system. An agreement may be made with the county election commission stating and the control of the program and computer election management system shall be is vested in the county clerk. The county clerk or the county clerk's designee shall program the election management system and election equipment.
- (11) For the purpose of these rules, when a school election is conducted and the school district is supplying the program, the term "election commission" means the secretary and president of the school board and the superintendent of the school district.

#### 6.3 R 168.773 Preparation of Program

#### 6.3.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

- Rule 3. (1) A program shall **must** be written so as to accurately tabulate a voter's choices for each candidate, office, and measure for which the voter is lawfully entitled to vote; in conformity with the act and these rules.
- -(2) A program shall include an instruction requiring that 2 identical header cards precede the deck of ballot cards for each precinct. The program shall provide that if 2 identical header cards do not appear in front of the ballot cards of a precinct, the counting of ballots for that precinct shall not take place. In programs to be used on a specialized computer, 1 header card is required, unless the function of the header card is performed by the program.
- -(3) An end card shall follow the ballots of each precinct. The program may provide that if a header card contains instructions to the computer that all ballots of the preceding precinct have been counted, a separate end card is not required. In a program to be used in a specialized computer, an end card is not required.
- -(4) A program may be maintained by a generally accepted method, within the computer industry, of input or output or a combination of methods.
- -(5) Two edit listings shall be prepared and, not less than 3 days before the preliminary accuracy test, shall be delivered to the election commission responsible for supplying the program.
- (62) The election commission responsible for supplying the program the election shall provide necessary information to the person or company designated county clerk to write or prepare the program.
- (73) The program for an election and a duplicate copy shall must be completed and delivered provided to the election commission responsible for supplying the program not less than 3 days before the election in a timely manner to allow for the preliminary accuracy test. A duplicate is not required where a specialized computer is used.

Page | 29 August 16, 2024

- -(8) If a program is written to be used on a general purpose computer, the person or company providing the program shall, at the time the program is delivered, submit to the election commission a certificate stating that the program was prepared from all relevant input data, describing the procedures which were used to determine its accuracy, and stating that the program has been written pursuant to the act and these rules.
- -(9) The person preparing the program shall submit to the election commission responsible for supplying the program instructions containing the information and procedures required to operate the program. The election commission shall make the instructions available to the computer operators.
- (104) The vote tabulation portion of the program shall must be written as follows:
- (a) To reflect the rotation sequence of the candidates' names and ballot position numbers as they appear on the ballot labels in the various precincts.
  - (b) To count valid votes cast by a voter for candidates for an office.
  - (c) To count valid votes cast by a voter for or against a any question-proposal.
- (d) So as not to count votes cast by a voter for an office or question if the number of votes cast by a voter exceeds the number which that the voter is entitled to vote for on that office or question proposal.
- (e) To ignore punches marks in on a ballot card in positions where a candidate's name or questions do not appear on the official ballot outside the target area. These punches marks must shall not have an effect on the ballot.
- (f) So that the partisan, nonpartisan, and proposal sections of the ballot are considered separate sections of the ballot. The action of a voter in 1 section of the ballot shall-does not affect the voter's action on another section of the ballot.
- (415) In addition to applicable requirements under subrule (4) of this rule, Ffor a partisan primary election, the vote tabulation section of the program shall must be written as follows:
- (a) To determine if a voter has cast votes for candidates of more than 1 political party.
- (b) To determine if a voter has east votes for a candidate of 1 or more political parties and a vote in the "party qualification section" of the ballot.
- (ea) To count the votes when they are recorded by a voter for candidates of 1 political party, only where a vote is not recorded in the "party qualification section" of the ballot; or to count the vote when it is recorded by the voter for 1 selection only in the "party qualification section" of the ballot and where a vote is not recorded for 1 or more partisan candidates, as in examples 1, 2, 3, and 4 as in example 1.
- (b) To reject all votes cast in the partisan section of the ballot if votes are cast for candidates of more than 1 political party, as in example 2.
  - Example 1: Count a vote for candidates A and  $\rightarrow$  C.
  - Example 2: Count a vote for candidates F and G no votes.

## By Patrick Colbeck

#### Example 1: Example 2:

Partisan Section - Vote (	Only 1 Party Section	Partisan Section - Vote Only 1 Party Section		
Party 1 Party Section	Party 2 Party Section	Party 1 Party Section	Party 2 Party Section Section Header	
Section Header	Section Header	Section Header		
Office 1 Vote for not more than 1	Office 1 Vote for not more than 1	Office 1 Vote for not more than 1	Office 1 Vote for not more than 1	
Candidate A	Candidate E	Candidate A	Candidate E	
Candidate B	Candidate F	Candidate B	Candidate F (	
Office 2 Vote for not more than 1	Office 2 Vote for not more than 1	Office 2 Vote for not more than 1	Office 2  Vote for not more than 1	
Candidate C	Candidate G	Candidate C	Candidate G	
Candidate D	Candidate H	Candidate D 🔘	Candidate H 🔘	

Example 3: Count a vote for party 4. Example 4: Count a vote for candidate D.

Figure for 168.773 (1-2)

Page | 31 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

×

		_			
PRI	MARY FOR PAP		्राधा	MARY FOR PARTY 1	
OFFICE 1	CAMP A		OFFICE 1	ANDIDATE	
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I	PATE B		VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I		
OFFICE 2	CANDIA.		OFFICE 2	ds.	
VOTE FOR MORE TAX 1	CANDIDATE I.		VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN	CANDIDATE D	
		_			
PRI	MARY FOR PARTY		PRI	MARY FOR PARTY 2	
OFFICE 1	CANDID		OFFICE 1	'ANDIDATE I	
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I	ATE F		VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1		
OFFICE 2	AL G		OFFICE 2	A .	$\boxtimes$
VOTE FOR MORE T	CANDIDATA		VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN	CANDIDATE H	
		]			
PARTY	VALIFICATION SCTION		PAR	QUALIFICATIO SECTION	
VOTE FOR NOT			VOTE FOR NOT	Ţ	
MORE THAN	<b>↑</b>		MORE THAN	A	
PARTY	PARTY 5		PARTY	PARTY 5	

×

Figure for 168.773 (3-4)

Page | 32 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

(X)

PRIMARY FOR PARTY 1	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 1
OFFICE 1 CANDIDA	OFFICE   CANDID A
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1
OFFICE 2 OD. 1 C	OFFICE 2 AM TE C
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN K CANDIDATE	VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN CANDIDA'S
PRIMARY FOR PARTY 2	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 2
OFFICE 1 VANDIDAY	OFFICE 1 DIDATE
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 C. LIFE F	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 CAN. É F
OFFICE 2 DIA G	OFFICE 2
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I CANDIDATE	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 CANDIDATE H
PART QUALIFICATION SECTION	PARTY CALIFICATION ACTION
VOTE FOR NOT RT	VOTE FOR NOT PA C
MORE THAN	MORE THAN PA
PARTY 5	PARTY ARTY 5

(≋)

(d) To reject all votes east in the partisan section of the ballot and the "party qualification section" of the ballot if votes are east for candidates of more than 1 political party; or if votes are east for candidates of 1 or more political parties and 1 or more votes are east in the "party qualification section" of the ballot; or if more than 1 vote is east in the "party qualification section" of the ballot, as in examples 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

Example 5: Count no votes.
Example 6: Count no votes.
Example 7: Count no votes.
Example 8: Count no votes.
Example 9. Count no votes.

Figure for 168.773 (5-7)

Page | 33 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

>	€	*		
PRIMARY FOR PA	ARTY I	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 1		
OFFICE 1 CANDIDA		OFFICE 1 CANDIDAY		
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1	TE B	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1		
OFFICE 2	E C	OFFICE 2 Oh C		
VOTE FOR NOT CANDIDAT		VOTE FOR NOT CANDIDATE CANDIDATE		
PRIMARY FOR PA	ARTY 2	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 2		
OFFICE 1 CAND	É E	OFFICE 1 CANDY & E		
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1	DE F	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1		
OFFICE 2 C. TAT	TE G	OFFICE 2 CA ATE G		
VOTE FOR D MORE TH. CANDIN	.н	VOTE FOR Y MORE THAT CANDIDA H		
	}	X		
PROVERY FOR PA	RTY	MARY FOR PAR		
OFFICE 1 VIDA		OFFICE 1 NDF & E		
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 CAY	ЕВ	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 7 ATE F		
OFFICE 2 NDIDAT		OFFICE 2 CANDIDA 6		
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 CANDIDATE	E D	VOTE FOR NOT CANDIDATE IS CANDIDATE IS		
	PAR QUALIFF	CATION		
VOTE FOR NOT S				
	MORE THAN			
	1			
	PARTY	1,		

Figure for 168.773 (8-9)

Page | 34 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

×	×
PRIMARY FOR PARTY 1	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 1
OFFICE 1 CANDIDATE	OFFICE   CANDIDATE
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1
OFFICE 2	OFFICE 2
VOTE FOR N MORE THA	VOTE FOR N MORE THA CANDIDATE D
PRIMARY FOR PARTY 2	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 2
OFFICE 1 CANDIDATE	OFFICE   CANDIDATE
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1
OFFICE 2	OFFICE 2 Oh, G
VOTE FOR NO CANDIDATE CANDIDATE	VOTE FOR NO MORE THA
PAR'Y QUALIFICATION S' CTION	P**YY QUALIFICATION **CTION
VOTE FOR NOT RTY	VOTE FOR NOT ARTY
MORE THAN	MORE THAN
PARTY PARTY 5	PARTY 5

(126) In addition to applicable requirements under subrule (4) of this rule, F-for a partisan general election, the vote tabulation section of the program shall must be written as follows:

(a) A vote **must** shall be counted for each candidate of the political party indicated by the voter's straight ticket vote, if any other another vote does not appear on the partisan portion of the ballot, as in example 103.

Figure for 168.773 (10-11)

Page | 35 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

<b>≫</b>	<b>≫</b>
STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET	STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET
VOTE FOR NOT RTY	VOTE FOR NOT RTY 1
MORE THAN 1	MORE THAN 1
PARTY 3	PARTY 3
OFFICE PARTY 1 - CANDIDATE A	OFFICE PARTY 1 - CANDIDATE A
MORE THAN 1 PARTY 2-C ATE B	MORE THAN 1 PARTY 2 - CA ATE B
ANDIDATE C	ANDIDATE C
OFFICE A NDIDATE D	OFFICE / IDIDATE D
MORE THA PARTY 2 - CAN VE E	MORE THAN PARTY 2 - CAN E.E.
PARTY 3-CANDIDATE F	PARTY 3 - CANDIDATE F

#### Example 10: Count a vote for candidates A and D.

(b) A vote shall not be counted if the voter has voted more than 1 straight ticket vote and another vote does not appear on the partisan section of the ballot, as in example 11 A vote must not be counted if the voter has voted more than 1 straight ticket vote and another vote does not appear on the partisan section of the ballot, as in example 4.

Example 3: Count a vote for candidates B and G.

Example 4: Do not count a vote for candidates of any party.

Page | 36 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Example 4:

Example 3:	
Dorticon Continu	

Partisan Section		Partisan Section	
Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1		Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	
Party 1	0	Party 1	0
Party 2		Party 2	
Party 3	0	Party 3	•
Party 4	0	Party 4	0
Party 5	0	Party 5	0
Party 6	0	Party 6	0
The second of th		The state of the s	
Congressional		Congressional	
United States Senator Vote for not more than 1		United States Senator Vote for not more than 1	
Candidate A Party 1	0	Candidate A Party 1	
Candidate B Party 2	0	Candidate B	
0 11 1 - 4 - 0		Party 2	$\circ$
Candidate C Party 3	0	Party 2 Candidate C Party 3	0
Party 3  Candidate D  Party 4	0	Candidate C Party 3 Candidate D	0 0
Party 3  Candidate D	0	Candidate C Party 3	0 0 0
Party 3 Candidate D Party 4 Candidate E Candidate E	0 0 0	Candidate C Party 3 Candidate D Party 4 Candidate E	0000
Party 3 Candidate D Party 4 Candidate E Candidate E	0 0 0	Candidate C Party 3 Candidate D Party 4 Candidate E	0 0 0
Party 3 Candidate D Party 4 Candidate E Party 5 Representative in Congress Xth District	0 0 0 0	Candidate C Party 3 Candidate D Party 4 Candidate E Party 5 Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1 Candidate F	0 0 0 0
Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1 Candidate F Party 5	0 0 0 0	Candidate C Party 3 Candidate D Party 4 Candidate E Party 5 Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1	0000
Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1 Candidate F Party 5  Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1 Candidate F Party 1 Candidate F Candidate F		Candidate C Party 3 Candidate D Party 4 Candidate E Party 5 Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1 Candidate F Party 1 Candidate F	

Example 11: Do not count a vote for candidates of any party.

(c) When only 1 candidate is to be elected to an office and the voter has voted a straight party ticket and voted for individual candidates, a vote shall  $\mathbf{must}$  be counted for each of the individual candidates voted for, and for each candidate of the party for which the straight party vote was voted and individual votes for candidates of other parties were not voted, as in examples  $\mathbf{42.5}$  and  $\mathbf{43.6}$ .

Example -125: Count a vote for candidates B and EG.

Example 136: Count a vote for candidates B and D F.

Page | 37 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

## Example 5:

# Partisan Section Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1 Party 1 Party 2 Party 3 Party 4 Party 5 Party 6

Andrew Market Market & Market Market	
Congressional	
United States Senator Vote for not more than 1	
Candidate A Party 1	0
Candidate B Party 2	
Candidate C Party 3	0
Candidate D Party 4	$\circ$
Candidate E Party 5	$\circ$
	$\circ$
Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1	
Candidate F Party 1	0
Candidate G Party 2	lacktriangle
Candidate H	$\overline{}$

## Example 6:

Partisan Section	
Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	
Party 1	•
Party 2	
Party 3	0
Party 4	$\circ$
Party 5	$\circ$
Party 6	0
And have been been been been been been been be	
Congressional	
United States Senator Vote for not more than 1	
Candidate A	
Candidate I	
Candidate C	3 0
Candidate I	
Candidate I Party	
	$\circ$
Representative in Congres Xth District Vote for not more than 1	s
Candidate F	
Candidate C	
Candidate I	1

Figure for 168.773 (12-13)

Page | 38 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

<b>X</b> (2)	œ
STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET	STPAIGHT PARTY TICKET
VOTE FOR NOT PARTY	VOTE FOR NOT
MORE THAN 1	MORE THAN 1
PARTY 3	ARTY 3
OFFICE PARTY 1 - CANDIDATE A	OFFICE PARTY 1 - CANDIDATE A
MORE THAN 1 PARTY 2 - CAND E B	WOTE FOR NOT ARTY 2-CAY AE B
V / ANDATE C	PA. ANDIDATE C
OFFICE P ANDIDATE D	OFFICE A SIDATE D
MORE THAN 2 ARTY 2 - CA TE E	MORE THAN 1 PARTY 2 - CANE.
PARTY 3 - CANDIDATE F	PARTY 3 - CANDIDATE F

(d) When 1 or more candidates are to be elected to an office and the voter has voted 2 or more straight party tickets and the individual votes for partisan candidates, a vote shall-must be counted for each individual candidate voted for when the number of votes for that office does not exceed the number for which the voter is entitled to vote, as in examples 147, 158, and 169.

Example 147: Count a vote for candidates A and D-G.

Example 158: Do not count a vote for candidates of any party.

Example 169: Count a vote for candidate F-H.

Page | 39 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Example 7: Example 8: Example 9:

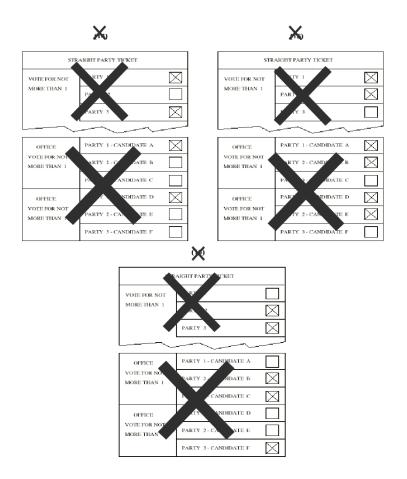
Partisan Section	Partisan Section	Partisan Section
Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1
Party 1	Party 1	Party 1
Party 2	Party 2	Party 2
Party 3	Party 3	Party 3
Party 4	Party 4	Party 4
Party 5	Party 5	Party 5
Party 6	Party 6	Party 6

Congressional	Congressional	Congressional
United States Senator Vote for not more than 1	United States Senator Vote for not more than 1	United States Senator Vote for not more than 1
Candidate A Party 1	Candidate A Party 1	Candidate A Party 1
Candidate B Party 2	Candidate B	Candidate B Party 2
Candidate C Party 3	Candidate C	Candidate C Party 3
Candidate D Party 4	Candidate D Party 4	Candidate D Party 4
Candidate E Party 5	Candidate E Party 5	Candidate E Party 5
0	0	C
Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1	Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1	Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1
Candidate F	Candidate F	Candidate F
Candidate G Party 2	Candidate G	Candidate G
Candidate H Party 3	Candidate H Party 3	Candidate H Party 3
0	0	C

Figure for 168.773 (14-16)

Page | 40 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck



(e) When 2 partisan candidates are to be elected to the same office and the voter has voted a straight party ticket for 1 political party and has voted individually for 2 candidates of a different political party for that office, a vote **must** shall be counted for each of the candidates for whom the individual votes were voted, but votes **must** shall not be counted for the candidates of the party indicated by the voter's straight party selection for that office, as in examples 4710, 4711, and 4912.

Example 4710: Count a vote for candidates A, B, H, and I.

Example 4711: Count a vote for candidates D, E, F, and G.

Page | 41 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Example 1912: Count a vote for candidates C, D, I, and J.

Example 10: Example 11: Example 12:

Partisan Section	Partisan Section	Partisan Section
Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1
Party 1	Party 1	Party 1
Party 2	Party 2	Party 2
Party 3 〇	Party 3	Party 3
Party 4	Party 4	Party 4
Party 5	Party 5	Party 5
Party 6	Party 6	Party 6
	manument in	men man and a ma
State Boards	State Boards	State Boards
Member of the State Board of Education Vote for not more than 2	Member of the State Board of Education Vote for not more than 2	Member of the State Board of Education Vote for not more than 2
Candidate A Party 1	Candidate A Party 1	Candidate A Party 1
Candidate B Party 1	Candidate B Party 1	Candidate B Party 1
Candidate C	Candidate C	Candidate C
Candidate D Party 2	Candidate D	Candidate D Party 2
Candidate E Party 3	Candidate E Perty 3	Candidate E Party 3
0	0	
0	0	
Regent of the University of Michigan Vote for not more than 2	Regent of the University of Michigan Vote for not more than 2	Regent of the University of Michigan Vote for not more than 2
Candidate F Party 1	Candidate F	Candidate F Party 1
Candidate G Party 1	Candidate G	Candidate G Party 1
Candidate H Party 2	Candidate H	Candidate H Party 2
Candidate I	Candidate I Party 2	Candidate I Party 2
Candidate J Party 3	Candidate J Party 3	Candidate J Party 3
0	0	C
	0	C

Figure for 168.773 (17-18)

Page | 42 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

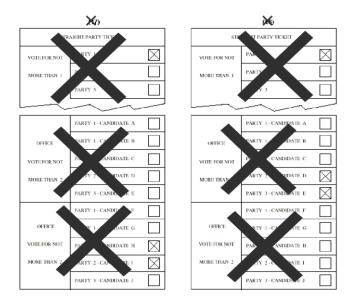
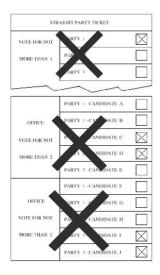


Figure for 168.773 (19)



Page | 43 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

(f) When 2 partisan candidates are to be elected to the same office and the voter has voted a straight party ticket for 1 political party and that party has 2 candidates for that office, and the voter has voted an individual vote for 1 candidate for that office in a different political party, a vote **must** shall be counted only for the candidate for whom the individual vote was made. Under these conditions, a vote **must** shall not be counted for a candidate for that office by virtue of the voter's straight party selection, as in examples 2013, 2114, 2215, and 2316.

Example 2013: Count a vote for candidate C only.

Example 2114: Count a vote for candidates A and B.

Example 2215: Count a vote for candidates B and C.

Example 2316: Count a vote for candidate E only.

Example 13:

Partisan Section

Straight Party Ticket
Vote for not more than 1

Party 1

Party 2

Party 3

Party 4

Party 5

Party 6

Party 6

State Boards

Member of the
State Board of Education
Vote for not more than 2

Candidate A
Party 1

Candidate B
Party 1

Candidate C
Party 2

Candidate C
Party 2

Candidate C
Candidate C
Party 2

Candidate C

Example 14:

	Party 1
	Party 2
	Party 3
	Party 4
	Party 5
	Party 6
~~~~	
State	Boards
Ottate	Dourds
Member State Board	er of the of Education t more than 2
Member State Board	er of the of Education t more than 2
Member State Board	er of the of Education t more than 2
Member State Board	er of the of Education to the form of the candidate A Party 1 Candidate B
Member State Board	er of the of Education t more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Party 1 Candidate C
Member State Board	er of the of Education t more than 2  Candidate A Party 1  Candidate B Party 1  Candidate C Party 2  Candidate C Candidate D Candidate D
Member State Board	er of the of Education t more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Party 2 Candidate C Party 2 Candidate D Party 2 Candidate C Candidate C Candidate C Candidate C

**Partisan Section** 

Straight Party Ticket

Page | 44 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Example 15:

Partisa	an Section
	Party Ticket not more than 1
	Party 1
	Party 2
	Party 3
	Party 4
	Party 5
	Party 6
State	Boards
State Boar	ber of the rd of Education not more than 2
	Candidate A Party 1
	Candidate B Party 1
	Candidate C
	Candidate D
	Candidate E Party 3

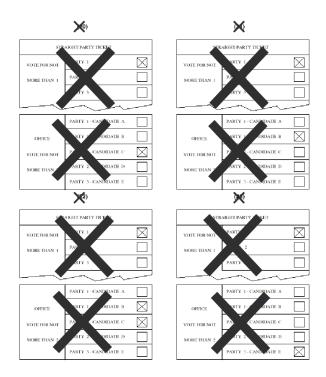
Example 16:

	Party Ticket t more than 1
	Party 1
	Party 2
	Party 3
	Party 4
	Party 5
	Party 6
100000000000000000000000000000000000000	Boards er of the
Memb State Board	Boards
Memb State Board	Boards er of the of Education t more than 2 Candidate A
Memb State Board	Boards er of the of Education t more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B
Memb State Board	Boards er of the of Education t more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Party 1 Candidate Ca
Memb State Board	Boards er of the of Education t more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Party 1
Memb State Board	Boards er of the of Education t more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Party 1 Candidate C Party 2 Candidate C Candidate C Candidate C Candidate C Candidate C Candidate D
Memb State Board	Boards er of the of Education t more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Candidate C Party 2 Candidate C Candidate D Candidate E

Figure for 168.773 (20-23)

Page | 45 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck



(g) When 2 partisan candidates are to be elected to the same office and the voter has voted a straight party ticket for 1 political party and that party has only 1 candidate for that office, a vote **must** shall be counted for the party candidate for that office as in example 2417, and if the voter has voted for a candidate of a different political party for that office, that vote **must** shall be counted, as in example 2518.

Example 2417: Count a vote for candidate E.

Example 2518: Count a vote for candidates B and E.

Page | 46 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

## Example 17:

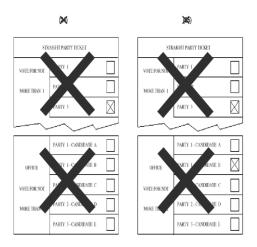
Straight Part Vote for not mo		
	Party 1	0
	Party 2	0
	Party 3	•
	Party 4	0
	Party 5	0
	Party 6	0
	~ arb~~	
State Bo	ards	
State Bo Member of State Board of Vote for not mo	f the Education	
Member of State Board of	of the Education re than 2 Candidate A	0
Member of State Board of	of the Education re than 2	00

## Example 18:

	arty Ticket more than 1
	Party 1
	Party 2
	Party 3
	Party 4
	Party 5
	Party 6
2000	or of the
	more than 2
300000000000000000000000000000000000000	Candidate A Party 1
	Candidate B
	Candidate C
	Candidate D
	Candidate E
	Party 3

Page | 47 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck



<sup>-</sup>Figure for 168.773 (24-25)

(h) When a voter has voted a straight party ticket for a political party and has voted individual votes for members of that party only, a vote **must** shall be counted for each candidate of that party. These conditions do not constitute an overvote, as in example 2619.

Example 2619: Count a vote for B-C and E-D.

Example 19:

Page | 48 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Partisar	Section
	arty Ticket more than 1
	Party 1
	Party 2
	Party 3
	Party 4
	Party 5
	Party 6
	Boards
Member State Board	
Member State Board	Boards er of the of Education more than 2 Candidate A
Member State Board	Boards or of the of Education more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B
Member State Board	Boards or of the of Education more than 2  Candidate A Party 1  Candidate B Party 1  Candidate C
Member State Board	Boards or of the of Education more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Party 2 Candidate C Party 2 Candidate D
Member State Board	Boards or of the of Education more than 2  Candidate A Party 1  Candidate B Party 2  Candidate C Party 2  Candidate D Party 2  Candidate D Candidate D Candidate D Candidate D Candidate D
Member State Board	Boards or of the of Education more than 2  Candidate A Party 1  Candidate B Party 1  Candidate C Party 2  Candidate C Party 2  Candidate D Party 2

Figure for 168.773 (26)

Page | 49 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

· ·	RAIGHT PARTY TO ST	
VOTE FOR NOT	RIA	
MORE THAN 1		$\boxtimes$
	PARTY 3	
OFFICE	PARTY 1 - CANDIDATE A	
VOTE FOR N	PARTY 2-9 DATE B	$\boxtimes$
MORE THAN 1	V CANDIDATE C	
OFFICE	CANDIDATE D	
VOTE FOR N	PARTY 2- VIDATE E	
MORE THAN 1	PARTY 3 - CANDIDATE F	

(26)

## 6.3.2 Issue(s)

#### 6.3.2.1 Lack of Transparency

The public has a right to understand how their votes are counted. All of the other rights listed in Article II Section 4 of the Michigan Constitution can be verified by voters, but section (c) cannot without inspection by the public. Illusory contract provisions notwithstanding, the program used to determine how votes are counted needs to be made available for public inspection prior to each election.

## 6.3.3 Proposed Revision

Rule 3. (1) A program shall **must** be written so as to accurately tabulate a voter's choices for each candidate, office, and measure for which the voter is lawfully entitled to vote, in conformity with the act and these rules. The program that determines how a voter's votes are counted must be available for public inspection upon request by any elector of this state.

-(2) A program shall include an instruction requiring that 2 identical header cards precede the deck of ballot cards for each precinct. The program shall provide that if 2 identical header cards do not appear in front of the ballot cards of a precinct, the counting of ballots for that precinct shall not

Page | 50 August 16, 2024

#### By Patrick Colbeck

take place. In programs to be used on a specialized computer, 1 header card is required, unless the function of the header card is performed by the program.

- -(3) An end card shall follow the ballots of each precinct. The program may provide that if a header card contains instructions to the computer that all ballots of the preceding precinct have been counted, a separate end card is not required. In a program to be used in a specialized computer, an end card is not required.
- -(4) A program may be maintained by a generally accepted method, within the computer industry, of input or output or a combination of methods.
- -(5) Two edit listings shall be prepared and, not less than 3 days before the preliminary accuracy test, shall be delivered to the election commission responsible for supplying the program.
- (62) The election commission responsible for supplying the program the election shall provide necessary information to the person or company designated county clerk to write or prepare the program.
- (73) The program for an election and a duplicate copy shall must be completed and delivered provided to the election commission responsible for supplying the program not less than 3 days before the election in a timely manner to allow for the preliminary accuracy test. A duplicate is not required where a specialized computer is used.
- (8) If a program is written to be used on a general purpose computer, the person or company providing the program shall, at the time the program is delivered, submit to the election commission a certificate stating that the program was prepared from all relevant input data, describing the procedures which were used to determine its accuracy, and stating that the program has been written pursuant to the act and these rules.
- -(9) The person preparing the program shall submit to the election commission responsible for supplying the program instructions containing the information and procedures required to operate the program. The election commission shall make the instructions available to the computer operators.
- (104) The vote tabulation portion of the program shall must be written as follows:
- (a) To reflect the rotation sequence of the candidates' names and ballot position numbers as they appear on the ballot <del>labels</del> in the various precincts.
  - (b) To count valid votes cast by a voter for candidates for an office.
  - (c) To count valid votes cast by a voter for or against a any question proposal.
- (d) So as not to count votes cast by a voter for an office or question if the number of votes cast by a voter exceeds the number which that the voter is entitled to vote for on that office or question proposal.
- (e) To ignore punches marks in on a ballot eard in positions where a candidate's name or questions do not appear on the official ballot outside the target area. These punches marks must shall not have an effect on the ballot.
- (f) So that the partisan, nonpartisan, and proposal sections of the ballot are considered separate sections of the ballot. The action of a voter in 1 section of the ballot shall-does not affect the voter's action on another section of the ballot.
- (1+5) In addition to applicable requirements under subrule (4) of this rule, Ffor a partisan primary election, the vote tabulation section of the program shall must be written as follows:
- (a) To determine if a voter has cast votes for candidates of more than 1 political party.

Page | 51 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

- (b) To determine if a voter has cast votes for a candidate of 1 or more political parties and a vote in the "party qualification section" of the ballot.
- (ea) To count the votes when they are recorded by a voter for candidates of 1 political party, only where a vote is not recorded in the "party qualification section" of the ballot; or to count the vote when it is recorded by the voter for 1 selection only in the "party qualification section" of the ballot and where a vote is not recorded for 1 or more partisan candidates, as in examples 1, 2, 3, and 4-as in example 1.
- (b) To reject all votes cast in the partisan section of the ballot if votes are cast for candidates of more than 1 political party, as in example 2.

Example 1: Count a vote for candidates A and D C.

Example 2: Count a vote for candidates F and G-no votes.

Example 3:

Example 4:

Partisan Section - Vote Only 1 Party Section		Partisan Section - Vote Only 1 Party Section	
Party 1 Party Section	Party 2 Party Section	Party 1 Party Section	Party 2 Party Section
Section Header	Section Header	Section Header Section Head	
Office 1 Vote for not more than 1	Office 1 Vote for not more than 1	Office 1 Vote for not more than 1	Office 1 Vote for not more than 1
Candidate A	Candidate E	Candidate A	Candidate E
Candidate B	Candidate F	Candidate B	Candidate F (
Office 2 Vote for not more than 1	Office 2 Vote for not more than 1	Office 2 Vote for not more than 1	Office 2 Vote for not more than 1
Candidate C	Candidate G	Candidate C	Candidate G
Candidate D	Candidate H	Candidate D 🔘	Candidate H (

Example 3: Count a vote for party 4.

Example 4: Count a vote for candidate D.

Figure for 168.773 (1-2)

Page | 52 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

×

PRIMARY FOR PAP	RIMARY FOR PARTY 1
OFFICE 1 CAND A	OFFICE 1 ANDIDATE
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1
OFFICE 2 CANDA 7	OFFICE 2
VOTE POR MORE TRAINED CANDIDATE IN CANDIDATE	VOTE FOR NOT CANDIDATE D
PRIMARY FOR PARTY	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 2
OFFICE 1 CANDID	OFFICE 1 ANDIDATE /
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1
OFFICE 2 AM. V G	OFFICE 2
VOTE FOR MORE TO CANDIDATA	VOTE FOR NOT CANDIDATE H
PARTY NUALIFICATION SCTION	PART QUALIFICATION SECTION
VOTE FOR NOT	VOTE FOR NOT
MORE THAN	MORE THAN
PARTY 5	PARTY 5

×

Figure for 168.773 (3-4)

Page | 53 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

<b>(</b> 8)			(X)	
PRIMARY FOR P.	ARTY 1	PRD	MARY FOR PARTY 1	
OFFICE 1 CANDIDA		OFFICE 1	CANDID A	$\boxtimes$
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1	TE B	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1	DATE B	$\boxtimes$
OFFICE 2	T C	OFFICE 2	AN TE C	
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I		VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN	CANDIDA:	$\overline{\boxtimes}$
PRIMARY FOR P.	ARTY 2	PRP	ARY FOR PARTY	
OFFICE 1 ANDIDA		OFFICE 1	DiDAT	
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I	TE F	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1	CAN. É F	
OFFICE 2	G	OFFICE 2	JEDA).	
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I CANDIDA	TE	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I	CANDIDATE H	
PART QUALIFICAT	SECTION	PARTY	CALIFICATION ACTION	
VOTE FOR NOT		VOTE FOR NOT	PA 13	
MORE THAN		MORE THAN	PAY	
PARTY 5		PARTY	ARTY 5	

(d) To reject all votes cast in the partisan section of the ballot and the "party qualification section" of the ballot if votes are cast for candidates of more than 1 political party; or if votes are cast for candidates of 1 or more political parties and 1 or more votes are east in the "party qualification section" of the ballot; or if more than 1 vote is cast in the "party qualification section" of the ballot, as in examples 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

Example 5: Count no votes. Example 6: Count no votes. Example 7: Count no votes. Example 8: Count no votes. Example 9. Count no votes.

Figure for 168.773 (5-7)

Page | 54 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

×	×
PRIMARY FOR PARTY 1	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 1
OFFICE 1 CANDIDA	OFFICE 1 CANDIDAY
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1
OFFICE 2	OFFICE 2 Dh C
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN CANDIDAT.	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 CANDIDATE.
PRIMARY FOR PARTY 2	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 2
OFFICE 1 CAND E E	OFFICE 1 CANDY & E
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 MALE F
OFFICE 2 C. DATE G	OFFICE 2 CA NTE G
VOTE FOR N CANDIN H	VOTE FOR Y CANDIDA H
	×
PY ARY FOR PARTY	MARY FOR PAR 2
OFFICE 1	OFFICE 1 VNDF Z E
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 CAY E B	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1
OFFICE 2 ADIDATA	OFFICE 2 CANDIDA G
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 CANDIDATE D	VOTE FOR NO. MORE THAN 1 CANDIDATE II
PAR QUAL	LIFICATIV SECTION
VOTE FOR NOT	
MORE THAN	
PARTY PA	ARTY 5

Figure for 168.773 (8-9)

Page | 55 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

×	×
PRIMARY FOR PARTY 1	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 1
OFFICE 1 CANDIDATE	OFFICE   CANDIDATE
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1
OFFICE 2	OFFICE 2
VOTE FOR N MORE THA	VOTE FOR N MORE THA CANDIDATE D
PRIMARY FOR PARTY 2	PRIMARY FOR PARTY 2
OFFICE 1 CANDIDATE	OFFICE   CANDIDATE
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN I	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1
OFFICE 2	OFFICE 2 Oh, G
VOTE FOR NO CANDIDATE CANDIDATE	VOTE FOR NO MORE THA
PAR'Y QUALIFICATION S' CTION	P**YY QUALIFICATION **CTION
VOTE FOR NOT RTY	VOTE FOR NOT ARTY
MORE THAN	MORE THAN
PARTY PARTY 5	PARTY 5

(126) In addition to applicable requirements under subrule (4) of this rule, F-for a partisan general election, the vote tabulation section of the program shall must be written as follows:

(a) A vote **must** shall be counted for each candidate of the political party indicated by the voter's straight ticket vote, if any other another vote does not appear on the partisan portion of the ballot, as in example 103.

Figure for 168.773 (10-11)

Page | 56 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

<b>≫</b>	≫
STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET	STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET
VOTE FOR NOT RTY 1	VOTE FOR NOT RTY 1
MORE THAN 1	MORE THAN 1
PARTY 3	JARTY 3
OFFICE PARTY 1 - CANDIDATE A	OFFICE PARTY 1 - CANDIDATE A
MORE THAN 1 PARTY 2-C ATE B	MORE THAN 1 PARTY 2 - CA ATE B
ANDIDATE C	ANDIDATE C
OFFICE A NDIDATE D	OFFICE DIDATE D
MORE THA PARTY 2 - CA. TE E	MORE THAN PARTY 2 - CAN YE E
PARTY 3 - CANDIDATE F	PARTY 3 - CANDIDATE F

#### Example 10: Count a vote for candidates A and D.

(b) A vote shall not be counted if the voter has voted more than 1 straight ticket vote and another vote does not appear on the partisan section of the ballot, as in example  $11\ A$  vote must not be counted if the voter has voted more than 1 straight ticket vote and another vote does not appear on the partisan section of the ballot, as in example 4.

Example 3: Count a vote for candidates B and G.

Example 4: Do not count a vote for candidates of any party.

Page | 57 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Example 3:	Example 4:
Partisan Section	Partisan Section
Straight Party Ticket	Straight Party Ticket

Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	Straight Party Ticket  Vote for not more than 1	
Party 1	Party 1	$\overline{}$
Party 2	Party 2	•
Party 3	Party 3	•
Party 4	Party 4	0
Party 5	Party 5	0
Party 6	Party 6	
was more than the same	The state of the s	
Congressional	Congressional	
United States Senator Vote for not more than 1	United States Senator  Vote for not more than 1	
Candidate A Party 1	Candidate A	<u></u>
Candidate B Party 2	Candidate B	$\overline{}$
Candidate C Party 3	Candidate C Party 3	$\overline{}$
Candidate D Party 4	Candidate D	$\overline{}$
Candidate E Party 5	Candidate E Party 5	$\overline{}$
0	(	$\overline{\mathcal{O}}$
Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1	Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1	
Candidate F Party 1	Candidate F Party 1	0
Candidate G Party 2	Candidate G Party 2	0
Candidate H Party 3	Candidate H Party 3	0

Example 11: Do not count a vote for candidates of any party.

(c) When only 1 candidate is to be elected to an office and the voter has voted a straight party ticket and voted for individual candidates, a vote shall  $\mathbf{must}$  be counted for each of the individual candidates voted for, and for each candidate of the party for which the straight party vote was voted and individual votes for candidates of other parties were not voted, as in examples  $\mathbf{42.5}$  and  $\mathbf{43.6}$ .

Example -125: Count a vote for candidates B and EG.

Example 136: Count a vote for candidates B and D F.

Page | 58 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

## Example 5:

# Partisan Section Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1 Party 1 Party 2 Party 3 Party 4 Party 5 Party 6

And have been been been been been been been be	
Congressional	
United States Senator Vote for not more than 1	
Candidate A Party 1	$\circ$
Candidate B Party 2	•
Candidate C Party 3	0
Candidate D Party 4	$\circ$
Candidate E Party 5	$\circ$
	$\bigcirc$
Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1	
Candidate F Party 1	0
Candidate G Party 2	•
Candidate H	-

## Example 6:

	Section
Straight Pa Vote for not n	
	Party 1
	Party 2
	Party 3
	Party 4
	Party 5
	Party 6
and the same	V VIII VIII VIII
Congres	ssional
United State Vote for not n	
	Candidate A Party 1
	Candidate B Party 2
	Candidate C Party 3
	Candidate D Party 4
	Party 4 Candidate E
Representative Xth Dis	Party 4  Candidate E Party 5  in Congress strict
Xth Dis	Party 4  Candidate E Party 5  in Congress strict
Xth Dis	Party 4  Candidate E Party 5  e in Congress strict nore than 1  Candidate F

Figure for 168.773 (12-13)

Page | 59 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

<b>X</b> (2)	<b>∂</b> ×€
STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET	STPAIGHT PARTY TICKET
VOTE FOR NOT VARTY	VOTE FOR NOT
MORE THAN 1	MORE THAN 1
PARTY 3	ARTY 3
OFFICE PARTY 1 - CANDIDATE A	OFFICE PARTY 1 - CANDIDATE A
MORE THAN 1 PARTY 2 - CANP E B	MORE THAN 1 RTY 2 - CAY AE B
V 2 ADIDATE C	PA. "SDIDATE C
OFFICE P ANDIDATE D	OFFICE 1 NDATE D
MORE THAN 1 ARTY 2 - CA TE E	VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1 PARTY 2 - CANEA E
PARTY 3 - CANDIDATE F	PARTY 3 - CANDIDATE F

(d) When 1 or more candidates are to be elected to an office and the voter has voted 2 or more straight party tickets and the individual votes for partisan candidates, a vote shall-must be counted for each individual candidate voted for when the number of votes for that office does not exceed the number for which the voter is entitled to vote, as in examples 147, 158, and 169.

Example 147: Count a vote for candidates A and D-G.

Example 158: Do not count a vote for candidates of any party.

Example 169: Count a vote for candidate F-H.

Page | 60 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Example 7: Example 8: Example 9:

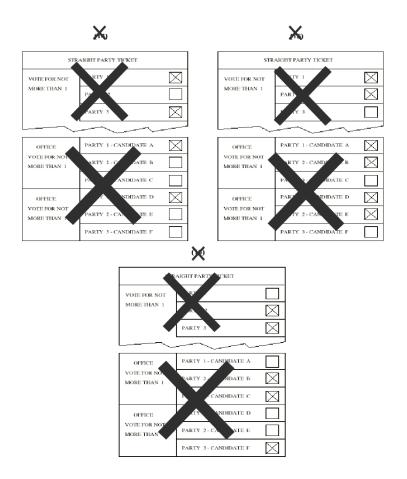
Partisan Section	Partisan Section	Partisan Section
Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1
Party 1	Party 1	Party 1
Party 2	Party 2	Party 2
Party 3	Party 3	Party 3
Party 4	Party 4	Party 4
Party 5	Party 5	Party 5
Party 6	Party 6	Party 6
- Line symmetry a server	مر اهر موسعسور و رو سو .	- programme a resume

Congressional	Congressional	Congressional
United States Senator Vote for not more than 1	United States Senator Vote for not more than 1	United States Senator Vote for not more than 1
Candidate A Party 1	Candidate A Party 1	Candidate A
Candidate B Party 2	Candidate B	Candidate B
Candidate C Party 3	Candidate C Party 3	Candidate C Party 3
Candidate D Party 4	Candidate D Party 4	Candidate D
Candidate E Party 5	Candidate E Party 5	Candidate E Party 5
0	0	
Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1	Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1	Representative in Congress Xth District Vote for not more than 1
Candidate F Party 1	Candidate F	Candidate F
Candidate G Party 2	Candidate G	Candidate G Party 2
Candidate H Party 3	Candidate H Party 3	Candidate H Party 3
0	0	

Figure for 168.773 (14-16)

Page | 61 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck



(e) When 2 partisan candidates are to be elected to the same office and the voter has voted a straight party ticket for 1 political party and has voted individually for 2 candidates of a different political party for that office, a vote **must** shall be counted for each of the candidates for whom the individual votes were voted, but votes **must** shall not be counted for the candidates of the party indicated by the voter's straight party selection for that office, as in examples 4710, 4711, and 4912.

Example 4710: Count a vote for candidates A, B, H, and I.

Example 4711: Count a vote for candidates D, E, F, and G.

Page | 62 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Example 1912: Count a vote for candidates C, D, I, and J.

Example 10: Example 11: Example 12:

Partisan Section	Partisan Section	Partisan Section
Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1	Straight Party Ticket Vote for not more than 1
Party 1	Party 1	Party 1
Party 2	Party 2	Party 2
Party 3 🔾	Party 3	Party 3
Party 4	Party 4	Party 4
Party 5	Party 5	Party 5
Party 6	Party 6	Party 6
	manument in	man
State Boards	State Boards	State Boards
Member of the State Board of Education Vote for not more than 2	Member of the State Board of Education Vote for not more than 2	Member of the State Board of Education Vote for not more than 2
Candidate A Party 1	Candidate A Party 1	Candidate A Party 1
Candidate B Party 1	Candidate B Party 1	Candidate B Party 1
Candidate C Party 2	Candidate C	Candidate C
Candidate D Party 2	Candidate D	Candidate D Party 2
Candidate E Party 3	Candidate E Party 3	Candidate E Party 3
0	0	C
0	0	
Regent of the University of Michigan Vote for not more than 2	Regent of the University of Michigan Vote for not more than 2	Regent of the University of Michigan Vote for not more than 2
Candidate F Party 1	Candidate F	Candidate F Party 1
Candidate G	Candidate G	Candidate G Party 1
Candidate H Party 2	Candidate H	Candidate H Party 2
Candidate I	Candidate I O	Candidate I Party 2
Candidate J Party 3	Candidate J Party 3	Candidate J Party 3
0	0	(
0	0	

Figure for 168.773 (17-18)

Page | 63 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

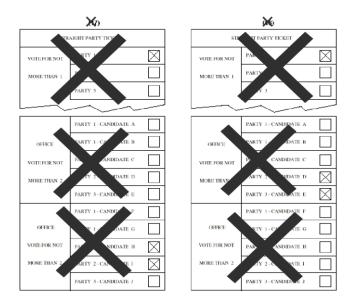
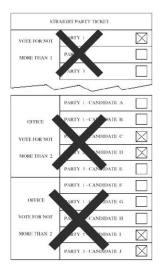


Figure for 168.773 (19)



Page | 64 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

(f) When 2 partisan candidates are to be elected to the same office and the voter has voted a straight party ticket for 1 political party and that party has 2 candidates for that office, and the voter has voted an individual vote for 1 candidate for that office in a different political party, a vote **must** shall be counted only for the candidate for whom the individual vote was made. Under these conditions, a vote **must** shall not be counted for a candidate for that office by virtue of the voter's straight party selection, as in examples 2013, 2114, 2215, and 2316.

Example 2013: Count a vote for candidate C only.

Example 2114: Count a vote for candidates A and B.

Example 2215: Count a vote for candidates B and C.

Example 2316: Count a vote for candidate E only.

Example 13:

Partisan Section

Straight Party Ticket
Vote for not more than 1

Party 2

Party 3

Party 4

Party 5

Party 6

Party 6

State Boards

Member of the
State Board of Education
Vote for not more than 2

Candidate A

Party 1

Candidate A

Party 1

Candidate Candidate A

Party 1

Candidate C

Example 14:

	Party 1
	Party 2
	Party 3
	Party 4
	Party 5
	Party 6
State	Boards
State Board	er of the of Education t more than 2
State Board	of Education
State Board	of Education t more than 2 Candidate A
State Board	of Education t more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B
State Board	of Education t more than 2  Candidate A Party 1  Candidate B Party 1  Candidate C

Page | 65 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Example 15:

Partisa	ın Section
	Party Ticket ot more than 1
	Party 1
	Party 2
	Party 3
	Party 4
	Party 5
	Party 6
	Boards
State Boar	ber of the d of Education lot more than 2
	Candidate A Party 1
	Candidate B Party 1
	Candidate C
	Candidate D Party 2
	Candidate E
	Party 3

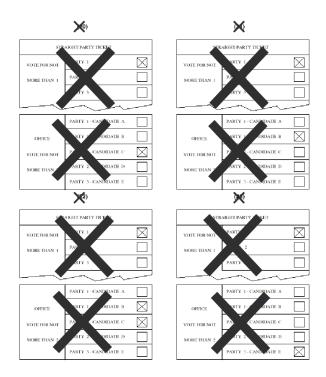
Example 16:

	t Party Ticket not more than 1
	Party 1
	Party 2
	Party 3
	Party 4
	Party 5
	Party 6
1000000	e Boards
Mem State Boa	
Mem State Boa	e Boards her of the rd of Education not more than 2 Candidate A
Mem State Boa	ber of the rd of Education not more than 2  Candidate A Party 1  Candidate B
Mem State Boa	e Boards her of the rd of Education not more than 2  Candidate A Party 1
Mem State Boa	e Boards  ber of the rd of Education not more than 2  Candidate A Party 1  Candidate B Party 1  Candidate Candidate B
Mem State Boa	ber of the rd of Education not more than 2  Candidate A Party 1  Candidate B Party 1  Candidate Candidate Candidate Candidate Candidate Candidate Candidate Candidate Candidate Daty 2  Candidate Daty 2
Mem State Boa	be Boards  aber of the rd of Education not more than 2  Candidate A Party 1  Candidate B Party 2  Candidate C Party 2  Candidate D Party 2  Candidate D Candidate D Candidate D Candidate D Candidate E

Figure for 168.773 (20-23)

Page | 66 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck



(g) When 2 partisan candidates are to be elected to the same office and the voter has voted a straight party ticket for 1 political party and that party has only 1 candidate for that office, a vote **must** shall be counted for the party candidate for that office as in example 2417, and if the voter has voted for a candidate of a different political party for that office, that vote **must** shall be counted, as in example 2518.

Example 2417: Count a vote for candidate E.

Example 2518: Count a vote for candidates B and E.

Page | 67 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

## Example 17:

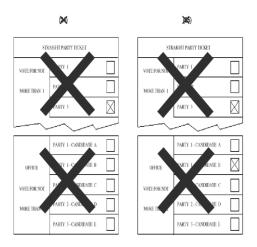
Straight P	Section arty Ticket more than 1	
	Party 1	0
	Party 2	0
	Party 3	•
	Party 4	0
	Party 5	0
	Party 6	0
State I	Boards	
State Board	of Education more than 2	
	Candidate A	0
	Candidate B	0

## Example 18:

	Party Ticket
VOIE IOI IIO	Party 1
	Party 2
	Party 3
	Party 4
	Party 5
	Party 6
State	Boards
State Board	er of the of Education t more than 2
000000000000000000000000000000000000000	Candidate A Party 1
	Candidate B Party 1
	Candidate C
	Candidate D Party 2
	Candidate E Party 3

Page | 68 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck



<sup>-</sup>Figure for 168.773 (24-25)

(h) When a voter has voted a straight party ticket for a political party and has voted individual votes for members of that party only, a vote **must** shall be counted for each candidate of that party. These conditions do not constitute an overvote, as in example 2619.

Example 2619: Count a vote for B-C and E-D.

Example 19:

Page | 69 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Partisan	Section	
Straight Pa	arty Ticket more than 1	
	Party 1	0
	Party 2	•
	Party 3	0
	Party 4	0
	Party 5	0
	Party 6	0
	Boards	
Membe State Board	Boards	
Membe State Board	Boards r of the of Education more than 2 Candidate A	0
Membe State Board	Boards r of the of Education more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B	000
Membe State Board	For the of Education more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Party 1 Candidate Can	000
Membe State Board	For the of Education more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Party 1 Candidate C Party 2 Candidate D	00000
Membe State Board	For the of Education more than 2  Candidate A Party 1  Candidate B Party 1  Candidate B Party 2	00000
Membe State Board	For the of Education more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Party 1 Candidate C Candidate D Party 2 Candidate D Candidate	
Membe State Board	For the of Education more than 2 Candidate A Party 1 Candidate B Party 1 Candidate C Candidate D Party 2 Candidate D Candidate	

Figure for 168.773 (26)

Page | 70 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

(≱€)		
<b>▲</b> R	AIGHT PARTY T	
VOTE FOR NOT	RIY	
MORE THAN 1		$\boxtimes$
	PARTY 3	
OFFICE	PARTY 1 - CANDIDATE A	
VOTE FOR N	PARTY 2-9 ADATE B	
MORE THAN 1	TV CANDIDATE C	
OFFICE	CANDIDATE D	
VOTE FOR NO	PARTY 2- NIDATE E	
MODE THAN 1	PURTY A CONTRIBUTE E	

## 6.4 R 168.774 Preparation of Ballots

## 6.4.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

Rule 4. (1) On a ballot eard used after the effective date of these rules, the words "OFFICIAL BALLOT-CARD" **must** shall be printed on the face of the detachable stub-ballot. The ballot eard shall have a corner cut on 1 corner.

- (2) If the ballot is printed on both sides, Tthe following statement, or a substantially similar statement, must shall be printed or stamped on the back of the stub on official ballot cards both sides of the ballot in boldface capital letters: "VOTE BOTH FRONT AND BACK OF THE BALLOT."
  - -STOP
  - -WRONG SIDE
  - **TURN CARD OVER**
- (3) The precinct or absent voter counting board number **must** shall be printed **or**, stamped, written, or punched on each ballot-card used in an election to designate the precinct or county board from which it originated.

Page | 71 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (4) A combination ballot card and write in ballot to be used in an election shall be approved by the board of state canvassers.
- (54) A ballot envelope secrecy sleeve to be used in an election shall be approved by the board of state canvassers and shall must satisfy all of the following requirements:
- (a) Be made of paper of a sufficient size, weight, and design to preserve the secrecy of the ballot eard.
  - (b) Have an inner pocket into which the ballot card may be inserted.
- (c) Display printed instructions as to the method of inserting the ballot eard after voting,, and if the ballot envelope is to be used for write ins, shall display instructions and space for casting a write in vote.
- (65) Except when ballots will be produced by an on-demand ballot printing system, T the number of ballots eards and envelopes required to be printed and distributed to each precinct must satisfy the following shall:
- (a) For the general election, be **not less than** a number equal to the number of registered voters as of the close of registration **plus 25%**.
- (b) For a primary election, be not less than a number equal to the total number of votes cast in the most recent corresponding primary election plus 25%.
  - (c) For a special or local election, be a number determined by the local clerk.
- (6) When ballots will be produced by an on-demand ballot printing system during early voting, the total number of ballots printed from an on-demand ballot printing system in the previous corresponding election where early voting was used may count towards the total number of ballots to be printed. The number of ballots required to be printed and distributed to each election day precinct must satisfy the following:
  - (a) For the general election, be not less than 100% of the number of registered voters.
- (b) For a primary election, be not less than the number of votes cast in the most recent primary election plus 25%.
- (c) For a special or local election, be a number determined by the local clerk.
- (7) A question, proposal, or proposition shall be placed last on the ballot label following the names of candidates and shall be placed in the following order: state, county, local. An exemption from this requirement may be obtained prior to the election from the secretary of state in writing.
- (87) For a general election, the name of the party **that** which a candidate represents **must** shall be printed along with the name of the candidate.
- (98) The names of candidates on the ballot labels shall must be rotated as follows:
- (a) For a primary election, the names under each office shall must be rotated when there are more names than there are candidates to be nominated for office.
- (b) For a general election, the names of partisan candidates under the title of each office shall must not be rotated.
- (c) In any an election, the names of nonpartisan candidates must shall be rotated when there are more names than there are candidates to be elected for the office.
- (d) Rotation must shall be by precinct in the manner provided by law for voting machines.
- (e) Rotation shall be throughout the local unit of government preparing the labels.
- (fe) When absent voter ballots are to be processed in the precinct, the rotation **must** shall be the same as in that precinct.

Page | 72 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (g) When absent voter ballot cards are to be processed by an absent voter counting board, the rotation may be either by precinct using each absent voter counting board as a separate precinct, or by individual ballot in the same manner as paper ballots. In the latter instance, the punch number assigned to a candidate which corresponds to the respective position number on the ballot card shall be rotated with the candidate's name.
- (109) Voting instructions shall be printed on the first page of the ballot label. The ballot label shall contain instructions as to where the voter is to continue voting. Additional instructions which conform with the act may be printed on the ballot label. The procedures for ballots produced by an on-demand ballot printing system must comply with section 720c of the act, MCL 168.720c.
- (11) Absent voter instruction ballots which are used in conjunction with a ballot card shall be printed in plain, clear type and contain instructions for voting. There shall be printed in boldface type alongside each candidate's name and the choice for each measure, a number which corresponds to the respective position number on the ballot card. The words "ABSENT VOTER INSTRUCTION BALLOT" shall appear at the head of the absent voter instruction ballot. An absent voter instruction ballot may be a facsimile of the ballot label used in the absent voter's precinct. Arrows placed on the ballot labels may be omitted from the absent voter instruction ballot.
- -(12) When a state office or question appears on the ballot, the county election commission shall forward to the secretary of state for approval 2 copies of an instruction ballot or ballot label, 2 copies of an absent voter instruction ballot including all instructions forwarded to absent voters, 2 copies of a ballot card, and 2 copies of a ballot envelope.

# 6.4.2 Issue(s)

### 6.4.2.1 Absent Voter Counting Board Ballot Label

Ballots must be printed with precinct or absent voter counting board number on each ballot. It is unclear as to why any ballot would be printed with an absent voter counting board number rather than a precinct. A single absent voter counting board can have anywhere from 2-5 precincts associated with it. Due to the numerous statutory requirements (e.g. MCL 168.812) which are based upon the need to report votes, ballot counts, and voter counts by precinct not by absentee counting board, it is unclear why this option exists.

## 6.4.2.2 Insufficient Security Provisions

The statutory requirement under MCL 168.720c specifies that the Secretary of State must provide guidance to election officials regarding the process for securing equipment and ballots. This requirement is NOT satisfied by a rule that simply references back to MCL 168.720c. Furthermore, the use of an on-demand ballot printing system introduces significant security and inventory control risks to the management of ballot inventory.

## 6.4.2.3 On-Demand Ballot Printing Transparency

On-demand ballot printing is now a standard feature of most early voting centers but nothing precludes the use of this capability in support of election day voting at polling locations or even absentee voting. In support of a professional audit evaluating the accuracy and integrity of a given

Page | 73 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

election, the number of ballots printed in this manner must be tracked and reflected in official election records.

## 6.4.3 Proposed Revision

- Rule 4. (1) On a ballot <del>card</del> used after the effective date of these rules, the words "OFFICIAL BALLOT<del>CARD</del>" **must** <del>shall</del> be printed on the face of the <del>detachable stub-ballot</del>. <del>The ballot card shall have a corner cut on 1 corner.</del>
- (2) If the ballot is printed on both sides, The following statement, or a substantially similar statement, must shall be printed or stamped on the back of the stub on official ballot cards both sides of the ballot in boldface capital letters: "VOTE BOTH FRONT AND BACK OF THE BALLOT."
  - -STOP
  - -WRONG SIDE
  - -TURN CARD OVER
- (3) The precinct or absent voter counting board number must shall be printed or, stamped, written, or punched on each ballot card used in an election to designate the precinct or county board from which it originated.
- (4) A combination ballot card and write in ballot to be used in an election shall be approved by the board of state canvassers.
- (54) A ballot envelope secrecy sleeve to be used in an election shall be approved by the board of state canvassers and shall must satisfy all of the following requirements:
- (a) Be made of paper of a sufficient size, weight, and design to preserve the secrecy of the ballot eard.
  - (b) Have an inner pocket into which the ballot eard may be inserted.
- (c) Display printed instructions as to the method of inserting the ballot eard after voting,, and if the ballot envelope is to be used for write ins, shall display instructions and space for easting a write in vote.
- (65) Except when ballots will be produced by an on-demand ballot printing system, T the number of ballots eards and envelopes required to be printed and distributed to each precinct must satisfy the following shall:
- (a) For the general election, be **not less than** a number equal to the number of registered voters as of the close of registration plus 25%.
- (b) For a primary election, be not less than a number equal to the total number of votes cast in the most recent corresponding primary election plus 25%.
- (c) For a special or local election, be a number determined by the local clerk.
- (6) When ballots will be produced by an on-demand ballot printing system during early voting, the total number of ballots printed from an on-demand ballot printing system in the previous corresponding election where early voting was used may count towards the total number of ballots to be printed. The number of ballots required to be printed and distributed to each election day precinct must satisfy the following:
  - (a) For the general election, be not less than 100% of the number of registered voters.

Page | 74 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (b) For a primary election, be not less than the number of votes cast in the most recent primary election plus 25%.
- (c) For a special or local election, be a number determined by the local clerk.
- (7) A question, proposal, or proposition shall be placed last on the ballot label following the names of candidates and shall be placed in the following order: state, county, local. An exemption from this requirement may be obtained prior to the election from the secretary of state in writing.
- (87) For a general election, the name of the party **that** which a candidate represents **must** shall be printed along with the name of the candidate.
- (98) The names of candidates on the ballot labels shall must be rotated as follows:
- (a) For a primary election, the names under each office shall must be rotated when there are more names than there are candidates to be nominated for office.
- (b) For a general election, the names of partisan candidates under the title of each office shall must not be rotated.
- (c) In any an election, the names of nonpartisan candidates must shall be rotated when there are more names than there are candidates to be elected for the office.
  - (d) Rotation must shall be by precinct in the manner provided by law for voting machines.
  - (e) Rotation shall be throughout the local unit of government preparing the labels.
- (fe) When absent voter ballots are to be processed in the precinct, the rotation **must** shall be the same as in that precinct.
- (g) When absent voter ballot cards are to be processed by an absent voter counting board, the rotation may be either by precinct using each absent voter counting board as a separate precinct, or by individual ballot in the same manner as paper ballots. In the latter instance, the punch number assigned to a candidate which corresponds to the respective position number on the ballot card shall be rotated with the candidate's name.
- (109) Voting instructions shall be printed on the first page of the ballot label. The ballot label shall contain instructions as to where the voter is to continue voting. Additional instructions which conform with the act may be printed on the ballot label The procedures for ballots produced by an on-demand ballot printing system must comply with section 720c of the act, MCL 168.720eThe number of ballots printed on-demand must be accurately captured in the ballot summary page prepared at the close of polls each day at early voting sites and overall at the close of election day poll for each election.
- (11) Absent voter instruction ballots which are used in conjunction with a ballot card shall be printed in plain, clear type and contain instructions for voting. There shall be printed in boldface type alongside each candidate's name and the choice for each measure, a number which corresponds to the respective position number on the ballot card. The words "ABSENT VOTER INSTRUCTION BALLOT" shall appear at the head of the absent voter instruction ballot. An absent voter instruction ballot may be a facsimile of the ballot label used in the absent voter's precinct. Arrows placed on the ballot labels may be omitted from the absent voter instruction ballot.
- -(12) When a state office or question appears on the ballot, the county election commission shall forward to the secretary of state for approval 2 copies of an instruction ballot or ballot label, 2 copies of an absent voter instruction ballot including all instructions forwarded to absent voters, 2 copies of a ballot card, and 2 copies of a ballot envelope.

Page | 75 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

## 6.5 R 168.775 Preparation of Tabulators

## 6.5.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

- Rule 5. (1) The clerk or an authorized assistant shall prepare each voting device **tabulator** pursuant to the provisions of the act and these rules.
- (2) A voting device tabulator must shall be identified labeled with the precinct number in which it shall is to be used if more than 1 tabulator is in the polling place, early voting site, or absent voter ballot counting facility.
- (3) A ballot label page used in the voting device shall be firmly attached for insertion and positioning in the ballot frame. A person shall not attach a ballot label by tape to a rod, or place a ballot label into a clear plastic envelope through which a rod is inserted A tabulator must be programmed to notify the voter if the voter submits a blank ballot, a ballot containing overvotes, or a partisan primary ballot that is invalid due to crossover voting, as tested by the preliminary test and public logic and accuracy test. The tabulator must provide the voter with the following options:
- (a) The voter may acknowledge that no vote will be awarded if a ballot is blank or in a contest that contains an overvote or crossover vote and submit the ballot to the tabulator.
- (b) The voter may remove the ballot from the tabulator, spoil the ballot, and receive a replacement ballot from the election inspectors. If the ballot is blank, the voter may remove the ballot from the tabulator, vote the ballot, and resubmit the ballot to the tabulator.
- -(4) The ballot label assembly shall be inserted and sealed into each voting device so that the ballot label assembly cannot be removed without breaking the seal. Seals approved by the board of state canvassers shall be used for this purpose.
- -(5) The ballot label of each voting device of a precinct shall be compared against the edit listing and instruction ballot for the precinct to ascertain that the offices, candidates' names, and ballot position numbers are the same and appear in the same position.
- -(6) The ballot labels of each device shall be examined to ascertain that holes in the mask appear directly opposite each arrow, that other holes do not appear in the mask, and that the ballot labels are in proper sequence.
- (74) An assembled voting device-tabulator must shall be tested to determine if it is operating properly, as described in these rules.
- (5) A tabulator must be sealed at all times the tabulator is being used for voting or is being stored
- (86) The identifying number of the voting device tabulator and the seal number used to seal the ballot label assembly to the device tabulator must shall be recorded on the certificate in the poll book physical pollbook for the precinct in which the device tabulator is to be used. The clerk or an authorized assistant who sealed the device tabulator shall sign the certificate.
- (97) When a voting device **tabulator** has been prepared for the election, the election commission, the clerk, or an authorized assistant shall execute a certificate in writing, which shall **must** be filed with the election commission of the jurisdiction in which they are authorized to act. The certificate **must** shall contain the precinct number, the identifying number of the device **tabulator**, and the number of the seal or seals used to seal the device, and state that the ballot labels have been

Page | 76 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

compared against the edit list for that precinct and that the candidates' names and ballot numbers agree and appear in the same position and state that the device tabulator has been properly prepared and tested. If the certificate is signed by an individual other than the election commission, the election commission or its authorized assistant shall be offered an opportunity to inspect the voting device tabulators to determine whether they are properly prepared. In an election when state and county officers or measures are to be voted for, a duplicate certificate must shall be filed with the county clerk.

## 6.5.2 Issue(s)

### 6.5.2.1 Ignores Batch-Fed Tabulator Preparation

R 168.775 appears to be specific to in-person voting on election day. It fails to address the process of tallying votes in absent voter counting boards in communities such as Detroit. Either the proposed rule should be expanded to address the unique tabulation environments in absent voter counting boards or new rules should be adopted specific to the absent voter counting board environment as has been done for early voting centers.

### 6.5.2.2 Ignores Adjudication Equipment Preparation

R 168.775 does not address adjudication equipment at all yet this process is just as important as the programming and tabulator section as it encompasses derivatives of both of those processes. Rule guidance needs to be issued that covers what data is transferred from tabulators and how. There is significant variation in methods used. Some clerks use adjudication equipment in a pair relationship with their absent voter counting board tabulator. Some clerks route data from multiple absent voter counting boards to a different number of adjudicator workstations. For example, during the 2020 election, the ballot images and tallies from 25 Dominion ImageCast Central batchfed tabulators was routed in an apparently random fashion to just 14 Adjudication workstations. The chain of custody regarding such transfers is virtually impossible for poll challengers or watchers to follow.

## 6.5.2.3 Ignores Vote Tally Equipment Preparation

R 168.775 ignores the need to prepare vote tally equipment to aggregate vote tallies from one or more tabulators in an accurate manner that maintains the integrity of the digital election records transferred. In Antrim County, a mismatch between the configuration of the local tabulators and county tabulators resulted in a 7,060 vote flip during the 2020 presidential election. Such incidents can be avoided if preparation activities are extended to also include vote tally equipment that is often responsible for conveying the official election results.

## 6.5.2.4 Ignores Networking Equipment Preparation

R 168.775 ignores the importance of networking equipment preparation. The primary means of transferring election records from one piece of election equipment to another are modems and flash drives. In order to ensure the secure transfer of digital election records, rules should be adopted to ensure that the networking equipment is configured properly.

Page | 77 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

### 6.5.2.5 Log Data

The size limit on all transaction logs for components of electronic voting system must be sufficient to ensure the capture of all transactions between the start of preliminary accuracy testing to 22 months after the conduct of the election. There should be zero transactions AFTER election has been certified. The clerk is responsible for making a backup of all logs before they are overwritten.

## 6.5.3 Proposed Revision

### 6.5.3.1 Revision

- Rule 5. (1) The clerk or an authorized assistant shall prepare each voting device **tabulator** pursuant to the provisions of the act and these rules.
- (2) A voting device tabulator must shall be identified labeled with the precinct number in which it shall is to be used if more than 1 tabulator is in the polling place, early voting site, or absent voter ballot counting facility. If a tabulator processes ballots from more than one precinct, the tabulator must be labelled with all precinct numbers it is able to process.
- (2A) If adjudication equipment is to be used to adjudicate absent voter ballots, the tabulator must be labeled with the number of the adjudication workstation that will receive any ballot records in need of adjudication.
- (3) A ballot label page used in the voting device shall be firmly attached for insertion and positioning in the ballot frame. A person shall not attach a ballot label by tape to a rod, or place a ballot label into a clear plastic envelope through which a rod is inserted A polling location or early voting site tabulator must be programmed to notify the voter if the voter submits a blank ballot, a ballot containing overvotes, or a partisan primary ballot that is invalid due to crossover voting, as tested by the preliminary test and public logic and accuracy test. The tabulator must provide the voter with the following options:
- (a) The voter may acknowledge that no vote will be awarded if a ballot is blank or in a contest that contains an overvote or crossover vote and submit the ballot to the tabulator.
- (b) The voter may remove the ballot from the tabulator, spoil the ballot, and receive a replacement ballot from the election inspectors. If the ballot is blank, the voter may remove the ballot from the tabulator, vote the ballot, and resubmit the ballot to the tabulator.
- -(4) The ballot label assembly shall be inserted and sealed into each voting device so that the ballot label assembly cannot be removed without breaking the seal. Seals approved by the board of state canvassers shall be used for this purpose.
- -(5) The ballot label of each voting device of a precinct shall be compared against the edit listing and instruction ballot for the precinct to ascertain that the offices, candidates' names, and ballot position numbers are the same and appear in the same position.
- -(6) The ballot labels of each device shall be examined to ascertain that holes in the mask appear directly opposite each arrow, that other holes do not appear in the mask, and that the ballot labels are in proper sequence.
- (3A) An absent voter tabulator must either be supported by a manual spoil and duplicate process for adjudicating voter intent or must be programmed to transfer ballot records to a pre-designated adjudication equipment for processing. If programmed to transfer ballot records to adjudication equipment, the following rules apply:

Page | 78 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (a) Poll inspectors at adjudicator workstations must be notified of the arrival of a ballot in needs of adjudication.
- (b) All poll inspector actions pertaining to the ballot must be logged and both the before and after adjudication ballot images must be retained.
- (c) Tabulation of batch-specific and precinct-specific vote must be adjusted according to state of adjudicated ballot image.
- (74) An assembled voting device-tabulator must shall be tested to determine if it is operating properly, as described in these rules.
- (5) A tabulator must be sealed at all times between the completion of its public accuracy test and the closure of polls on election day. the tabulator is being used for voting or is being stored. The tabulator must be stored in a secure location when not in use.
- (86) The identifying number of the voting device tabulator and the seal number used to seal the ballot label assembly to the device tabulator must shall be recorded on the certificate in the pollbook physical pollbook for the precinct in which the device tabulator is to be used. The clerk or an authorized assistant who sealed the device tabulator shall sign the certificate.
- (97) When a voting device tabulator has been prepared for the election, the election commission, the clerk, or an authorized assistant shall execute a certificate in writing, which shall must be filed with the election commission of the jurisdiction in which they are authorized to act. The certificate must shall contain the precinct number, the identifying number of the device tabulator, and the number of the seal or seals used to seal the device, and state that the ballot labels have been compared against the edit list for that precinct and that the candidates' names and ballot numbers agree and appear in the same position and state that the device tabulator has been properly prepared and tested. If the certificate is signed by an individual other than the election commission, the election commission or its authorized assistant shall be offered an opportunity to inspect the voting device tabulators to determine whether they are properly prepared. In an election when state and county officers or measures are to be voted for, a duplicate certificate must shall be filed with the county clerk.

# 6.5.3.2 [New Rule] Preparation of Adjudication Equipment

- (1) The clerk or an authorized assistant shall prepare each adjudication workstation pursuant to the following provisions.
- (2) Each adjudication workstation must be labelled with a unique ID and the text "Adjudication Equipment"
- (3) An adjudication workstation must be labelled with the precinct number(s) from which it can receive ballot records.
- (4) An adjudication workstation must be labelled with the ID of election equipment to which the adjudicated results are transferred.
- (5) Vote tally equipment must be notified when the vote tally for a given batch within a given precinct has been updated as a result of adjudication and this activity must be logged.

**Formatted:** Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: a, b, c, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

**Formatted:** Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: a, b, c, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

Formatted: Not Strikethrough

Page | 79 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

(6) All adjudication equipment shall be configured to ensure the capture a log of all transaction activity between the start of preliminary accuracy testing to 22 months after the conduct of the election. There should be zero activity AFTER election has been certified. The clerk is responsible for making a backup of all transaction logs before they are overwritten. **Formatted:** Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 6 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0" + Indent at: 0.25"

### 6.5.3.26.5.3.3 [New Rule] Preparation of Vote Tally Equipment

- (1) The clerk or an authorized assistant shall prepare all vote tally equipment pursuant to the following provisions.
- (2) Each unit of vote tally equipment must be labelled with a unique ID and the text "Vote Tally Equipment".
- (3) All transfers of vote tally data from the vote tally equipment must be accompanied by onscreen notification and log entry to that effect.
- (4) All vote tally equipment shall be capable of printing ballot-specific, batch-specific, precinct-specific and tabulator-specific vote tally reports.
- (5) All vote tally equipment shall be configured to ensure the capture a log of all transactions between the start of preliminary accuracy testing to 22 months after the conduct of the election. There should be zero transactions AFTER election has been certified. The clerk is responsible for making a backup of all logs before they are overwritten.

Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

## 6.5.3.4 [New Rule] Preparation of Networking Equipment

- (a) The clerk or an authorized assistant shall prepare all networking equipment pursuant to the following provisions.
- (b) Each unit of networking equipment must be labelled with a unique ID, the text "Networking Equipment" and an indicator of network protocol used (e.g. manual transfer of flash drive, Bluetooth, WiFi, Cell-based, Ethernet).
- (c) All networking equipment shall be configured to ensure the capture a log of all transactions between the start of preliminary accuracy testing to 22 months after the conduct of the election. There should be zero transactions AFTER election has been certified. The clerk is responsible for making a backup of all logs before they are overwritten.

Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: a, b, c, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

Formatted: List Paragraph, Numbered + Level: 1 +

Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment:

## 6.6 R 168.776 Preparation of Official Test Deck

### 6.6.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

Rule 6. (1) The election commission providing the program responsible for the election or its authorized assistant shall prepare a test deck for each precinct and ballot style with predetermined results.

(2) The test deck **must** shall consist of ballots cards of the same type to be used in the election with the word "TEST" stamped, printed, or written on each card ballot.

Page | 80 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (3) A document, record, chart, or listing **must** shall be prepared indicating the <del>punches</del> selections recorded in the test ballot <del>eard</del>. This documentation **must** shall-indicate each valid or invalid vote.
- (4) In addition to other requirements of the act, a ballot eard for use in the test deck for a partisan general election **must** shall be prepared **as follows**:
- (a) So that each political party receives not less than 2 straight ticket votes and so that any 2 parties do not receive the same number of straight ticket votes.
  - (b) So that 2 or more parties receive straight ticket votes on 1 ballot.
- (c) So that at least 1 of the ballots with a straight ticket vote for a party **must** shall be individual punches **selections** for candidates of the same party, candidates of a different party, candidates for the same office of different parties, and nonpartisan candidates and proposals.
- (d) In which punches selections appear in positions other than those used for candidates, proposals, or to indicate straight party voting.
- (e) In which a punch selection does not appear.
- (f) In which a punch selection appears in each position where a candidate or proposal appears on the ballot label.
- (5) In addition to other requirements of the act, a ballot eard for use in the test deck for a partisan primary must shall be prepared as follows:
- (a) So that punches **selections** appear on the same ballot <del>eard</del> for candidates of different political parties, along with candidates for nonpartisan offices and votes for proposals.
- (b) So that punches **selections** appear on the same ballot <del>card</del> for candidates of 1 or more political party <del>and a punch made in the "party qualification section" of the ballot,</del> and **must** <del>shall</del> include <del>punches</del> **selections** for nonpartisan offices and for proposals.
- (c) So that more than 1 punch appears in the "party qualification section" of the ballot.
- (6) When 2 or more valid punch positions exist in the combination of numbers listed below, each of the valid punch positions shall be punched into 1 or more ballot cards:

## -228 Position Ballot Card

1-77-153 20-96-172 39-115-191 58-134-210 2 78 154 21 97 173 40 116 192 59 135 211 3-79-155 22-98-174 41-117-193 60-136-212 4-80-156 23-99-175 42-118-194 61-137-213 5-81-157 24-100-176 43-119-195 62-138-214 6-82-158 25-101-177 44-120-196 63-139-215 7-83-159-26-102-178-45-121-197-64-140-216 8 84 160 27 103 179 46 122 198 65 141 217 9-85-161 28-104-180 47-123-199 66-142-218 10-86-162 29-105-181 48-124-200 67-143-219 11-87-163 30-106-182 49-125-201 68-144-220 12-88-164 31-107-183 50-126-202 69-145-221 13-89-165 32-108-184 51-127-203 70-146-222 14-90-166 33-109-185 52-128-204 71-147-223 <del>15-91-167-34-110-186-53-129-205-72-148-224</del> <del>16-92-168 35-111-187 54-130-206 73-149-225</del>

Page | 81 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

```
17-93-169-36-112-188-55-131-207-74-150-226
18-94-170-37-113-189-56-132-208-75-151-227
19-95-171-38-114-190-57-133-209-76-152-228
```

## -235 Position Ballot Card

```
21-78 40-117 1-97-136-156-176-196-216 22-79
41-118 2-98-137-157-177-197-217 23-80 42-119
3-99-138-158-178-198-218 24-81 43-120
4-100-139-159-179-199-219-25-82-44-121
5-101-140-160-180-200-220-26-83-45-122
6 102 141 161 181 201 221 27 84 46 123
7-103-142-162-182-202-222-28-85-47-124
8-104-143-163-183-203-223-29-86-48-125
9-105-144-164-184-204-224-30-87-49-126
10-106-145-165-185-205-225 31-88 50-127
11-107-146-166-186-206-226 32-89 51-128
12-108-147-167-187-207-227-33-90-52-129
13-109-148-168-188-208-228-34-91-53-130
14 110 149 169 189 209 229 35 92 54 131
<del>15 111 150 170 190 210 230 36 93 55 132</del>
16-112-151-171-191-211-231 37-94 56-133
<del>17-113-152-172-192-212-232 38-95 57-134</del>
18-114-153-173-193-213-233 39-96 58-135
19-115-154-174-194-214-234
20-116-155-175-195-215-235
```

(7) A duplicate of the test deck shall be prepared. The duplicate of the test deck may consist of standard data processing cards.

### 6.6.2 Issue(s)

### 6.6.2.1 Does Not Address Tabulators Serving Multiple Precincts

The test deck for tabulators serving multiple precincts must be a superset of the test deck for all applicable precincts yet this requirement is not specified in the proposed rule.

### 6.6.2.2 Does Not Address Unique Requirements of Batch-Fed Tabulators

Batch-fed tabulators introduce the need to track batch numbers not simply the number of ballots. As such, the test deck must be of a sufficient size to test the ability of batch-fed tabulators to manage the tabulation and tracking of multiple batches of ballots.

Page | 82 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

### 6.6.3 Proposed Revision

- Rule 6. (1) The election commission providing the program responsible for the election or its authorized assistant shall prepare a test deck for each precinct and ballot style with predetermined results.
- (2) The test deck **must** shall consist of ballots eards of the same type to be used in the election with the word "TEST" stamped, printed, or written on each eard ballot.
- (3) A document, record, chart, or listing **must** shall be prepared indicating the <del>punches</del> selections recorded in the test ballot <del>eard</del>. This documentation **must** shall-indicate each valid or invalid vote.
- (4) In addition to other requirements of the act, a ballot <del>eard</del> for use in the test deck for a partisan general election **must** <del>shall</del> be prepared **as follows**:
- (a) So that each political party receives not less than 2 straight ticket votes and so that any 2 parties do not receive the same number of straight ticket votes.
- (b) So that 2 or more parties receive straight ticket votes on 1 ballot.
- (c) So that at least 1 of the ballots with a straight ticket vote for a party **must** shall be individual punches **selections** for candidates of the same party, candidates of a different party, candidates for the same office of different parties, and nonpartisan candidates and proposals.
- (d) In which punches selections appear in positions other than those used for candidates, proposals, or to indicate straight party voting.
- (e) In which a punch selection does not appear.
- (f) In which a punch selection appears in each position where a candidate or proposal appears on the ballot label.
- (5) In addition to other requirements of the act, a ballot eard for use in the test deck for a partisan primary **must** shall be prepared **as follows**:
- (a) So that punches selections appear on the same ballot eard for candidates of different political parties, along with candidates for nonpartisan offices and votes for proposals.
- (b) So that punches **selections** appear on the same ballot <del>eard</del> for candidates of 1 or more political party and a punch made in the "party qualification section" of the ballot, and **must** shall include <del>punches</del> **selections** for nonpartisan offices and for proposals.
  - (c) So that more than 1 punch appears in the "party qualification section" of the ballot.
- (6) When 2 or more valid punch positions exist in the combination of numbers listed below, each of the valid punch positions shall be punched into 1 or more ballot cards:

### -228 Position Ballot Card

1-77-153 20 96-172 39 115-191 58-134-210 2-78-154 21-97-173 40 116-192 59 135-211 3-79-155 22 98-174 41-117-193-60-136-212 4-80-156 23-99-175-42-118-194-61-137-213 5-81-157 24-100-176-43-119-195-62-138-214 6-82-158-25-101-177-44-120-196-63-139-215 7-83-159-26-102-178-45-121-197-64-140-216 8-84-160-27-103-179-46-122-198-65-141-217 9-85-161-28-104-180-47-123-199-66-142-218 10-86-162-29-105-181-48-124-200-67-143-219

Page | 83 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

```
11-87-163 30-106-182 49-125-201 68-144-220 12-88-164 31-107-183 50-126-202 69-145-221 13-89-165 32-108-184 51-127-203 70-146-222 14-90-166 33-109-185 52-128-204 71-147-223 15-91-167-34-110-186 53-129-205 72-148-224 16-92-168-35-111-187 54-130-206 73-149-225 17-93-169-36-112-188-55-131-207-74-150-226 18-94-170-37-113-189-56-132-208-75-151-227 19-95-171-38-114-190-57-133-209-76-152-228
```

### -235 Position Ballot Card

```
21-78 40-117 1-97-136-156-176-196-216-22-79
41-118 2-98-137-157-177-197-217 23-80 42-119
3-99-138-158-178-198-218-24-81-43-120
4-100-139-159-179-199-219-25-82-44-121
5-101-140-160-180-200-220-26-83-45-122
6-102-141-161-181-201-221 27-84 46-123
7-103-142-162-182-202-222-28-85-47-124
8 104 143 163 183 203 223 29 86 48 125
9 105 144 164 184 204 224 30 87 49 126
10-106-145-165-185-205-225 31-88 50-127
11-107-146-166-186-206-226 32-89 51-128
12-108-147-167-187-207-227 33-90 52-129
13-109-148-168-188-208-228 34-91 53-130
14-110-149-169-189-209-229 35-92 54-131
15-111-150-170-190-210-230 36-93 55-132
16-112-151-171-191-211-231 37-94 56-133
17-113-152-172-192-212-232-38-95-57-134
18-114-153-173-193-213-233 39-96 58-135
19-115-154-174-194-214-234
20-116-155-175-195-215-235
```

- (7) A duplicate of the test deck shall be prepared. The duplicate of the test deck may consist of standard data processing eards.
- (6) The test deck for tabulators servicing multiple precincts must feature a superset of all applicable precinct-specific test decks.
- (7) The test deck for batch-fed tabulators must have a sufficient number of ballots to test a minimum of 3 batches for each precinct.

Formatted: Not Strikethrough

Page | 84 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

## 6.7 R 168.777 Preliminary Accuracy Test

## 6.7.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

Rule 7. (1) The election commission providing the program responsible for the election or its the commission's authorized assistant shall conduct a preliminary accuracy test of the computers and programs tabulators and accessible voting devices for all precincts as early as practicable, but before prior to the public accuracy test.

- (2) The preliminary accuracy test **must** shall be conducted using the test decks prepared under the direction of the commission. For the purpose of this test, the test deck may be reproduced onto standard data processing cards.
- (3) When an errorless count has been made for all precincts, the commission **responsible for the election** or its authorized assistant <del>providing the program</del> shall do all of the following:
- (a) If practicable, perform end-to-end testing to ensure the program accurately transmits the totals to the electronic management system.
- (ab) Secure the programs, test decks, and predetermined results in an approved ballot metal container, which must shall-be sealed with an metal approved seal.
- (bc) Certify that all precincts have been tested using the test deck prepared under the direction of the commission and that the results agree with the predetermined results of the test deck. The certificate **must** shall contain the number of the seal **that** which was used to secure the program.
- (ed) Deliver programs, test decks, predetermined results, and the certificate to the clerk of the unit of government providing the program responsible for the election.

## 6.7.2 Issue(s)

## 6.7.2.1 End-to-End System Testing Not Required

Electronic voting system manufacturers encourage end-to-end system testing prior to an election. Such testing would have prevented the 7,060 vote flip that occurred in Antrim County due to mismatch between programming of local tabulators and the county EMS server.

# 6.7.3 Proposed Revision

Rule 7. (1) The election commission providing the program responsible for the election or its the commission's authorized assistant shall conduct a preliminary accuracy test of the emputers and programs tabulators and accessible voting devices for all precincts as early as practicable, but before prior to the public accuracy test.

- (2) The preliminary accuracy test **must** shall be conducted using the test decks prepared under the direction of the commission. For the purpose of this test, the test deck may be reproduced onto standard data processing cards.
- (3) When an errorless count has been made for all precincts, the commission **responsible for the election** or its authorized assistant <del>providing the program</del> shall do all of the following:
- (a) <u>Pff practicable</u>, perform end-to-end testing <u>featuring all tabulators</u>, <u>accessible voting devices</u>, <u>adjudicator equipment</u>, <u>vote tally equipment and networking equipment</u> to ensure the program accurately transmits the totals to the electronic management system.

Page | 85 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (ab) Secure the <u>tabulators</u>, accessible voting devices, adjudicator equipment, vote tally equipment, networking equipment, programs, test decks, and predetermined results in an approved ballot metal container, which must shall be sealed with an metal approved seal.
- (bc) Certify that all precincts have been tested using the test deck prepared under the direction of the commission and that the results agree with the predetermined results of the test deck. The certificate **must** shall contain the number of the seal **that** which was used to secure the program.
- (ed) Deliver programs, test decks, predetermined results, and the certificate to the clerk of the unit of government providing the program-responsible for the election.

# 6.8 R 168.778 Public Accuracy Test

## 6.8.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

- Rule 8. (1) If early voting is being offered for the jurisdiction, The election commission providing the program responsible for early voting shall designate a time and place for an public accuracy test, which must shall be held not less than 5 days before the election start of early voting in accordance with the requirements of section 798 of the act, MCL 168.798.
- (2) If no early voting is being offered for the jurisdiction, the election commission responsible for the election shall designate a time and place for a public accuracy test, which must be held not less than 5 days before the election.
- (23) The **public** accuracy test **must** shall be conducted by an accuracy board, which shall be the election commission supplying the program **responsible for the election**. A member of the commission may designate an person **individual** to serve in his or her the member's place on the accuracy board. A member of the commission who designates an person **individual** to serve at the **public** accuracy test shall notify the clerk before the test. The clerk of the commission or the designated representative of the clerk shall be **is the** chairperson.
- (3) Members of the accuracy board shall be present at the accuracy test.
- (4) The clerk in charge of the program responsible for the election may limit the number of persons individuals who may be in the computer room and the duration of their stay in the computer room present for the public accuracy test based on room capacity.
- (5) The initial testing of the emputers tabulators and programs must shall be with the official test deck prepared under the direction of the commission. The number of precincts to be tested must shall be determined by the accuracy board commission. The members of the accuracy board commission may prepare or cause to have prepared additional ballots eards to be included in the official test deck.
- (6) Each program and test deck shall must be tested on the computer tabulator on which it is to be used for the election.
- (7) After demonstrating the accuracy of the programs and computers, the following persons may prepare test ballot cards for testing:
- (a) A member of a board of canvassers which shall certify all or part of the election or a designated representative.

Page | 86 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- -(b) The county chairperson of each political party appearing on the ballot or a designated representative.
- (c) A candidate whose name appears on the ballot or a designated representative.
- —(d) A representative from each group interested in a proposal or measure who has informed the commission in writing of that person's intent to participate in the testing procedure. The number of cards each eligible person is allowed to prepare shall be determined by the accuracy board, except that an eligible person shall not be limited to less than 10 cards. The election commission shall test the accessible voting devices as prescribed by the secretary of state as part of the public accuracy test.
- (8) The election commission shall test the on-demand ballot printing system as prescribed by the secretary of state as part of the public accuracy test.
- (89) The commission supplying the program shall provide the following items at the accuracy test:
  - (a) An edit listing.
  - (ba) Test ballots-cards.
  - (eb) At least 1 set of ballot labels or sample ballots for each precinct.
- (c) The chart of predetermined results.
- (910) If an error is detected in the testing, the cause **must** shall be ascertained, the error **must** shall be corrected, and an errorless count **must** shall be made for all precincts. If determined by the accuracy board **commission**, the meeting may be adjourned to a time and date certain.
- (101) The secretary of state or a designated representative may provide a test deck for a program. If so, it **must** shall be delivered at the **public** accuracy test. At the discretion of the secretary of state, it may be used in place of, or in addition to, the test deck prepared by the commission.
- (142) The accuracy board **commission** shall certify the accuracy of the test. The certification may be attached to, or written on, the emputer **printed** results of the **public** accuracy test.
- (123) The accuracy board commission shall secure all programs, test decks, certified computer results of the test, and the predetermined results in an approved metal-container, which must shall be sealed with an approved metal-seal in a manner so that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. There must Attached to or inside the container shall be a certificate describing its contents and on which with the number of the seal has been recorded attached to or inside the container. The certificate must shall be signed by the members of the accuracy board commission, and, if attached to the container in a plastic envelope, it must shall be attached in such a manner that it cannot be removed without breaking the seal.
- (134) The accuracy board commission shall immediately deliver to the clerk in charge of the election the metal case approved ballot container containing the programs and test decks. The clerk shall retain and secure the programs.

## 6.8.2 Issue(s)

### 6.8.2.1 Practice of Tabulator Sampling

ALL equipment used in support of election including backup equipment must be subject to public accuracy testing. In large municipalities such as Detroit, however, only a small sample of tabulators (14 out of 503 precincts) are subject to public accuracy test while in most other

Page | 87 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

communities all tabulators are subject to public accuracy tests. That means that the communities with the greatest potential to impact election results have the least oversight regarding the accuracy of their tabulators. That is an unacceptable state of affairs if we are to achieve the objective of accurate election results. The MDOS rules must make it clear that ALL equipment must be subject to public accuracy test.

#### 6.8.2.2 Treatment of Election System as Critical Infrastructure

Our election system has been designated as a critical component of our national infrastructure. Critical infrastructure components require a level of testing rigor that goes beyond accuracy testing for tabulators. As indicated by the aforementioned CISA Resiliency Note, the integrity of an election depends upon much more than the accurate tabulation of ballots. Election integrity depends upon secure voter registration systems, secure pollbooks, secure voting machines, secure tabulators, secure vote aggregation systems and secure websites. In order to secure public trust in the conduct of our elections, public accuracy testing must encompass an end-to-end test of all of the components of an electronic voting system.

### 6.8.2.3 Minimum Oversight Capacity

The proposed rule enables a clerk to constrain the number of individuals allowed to oversee the public accuracy test but no minimum capacity threshold is specified. Without such a threshold it is conceivable that the clerk could prevent any members of the general public from observing the "public" accuracy test. This is not acceptable.

### 6.8.2.4 Supplemental Test Decks Prohibited

The proposed rule constrains the test decks that can be used to those approved by the Secretary of State. Centralized control of test decks in this manner breeds public distrust. The general public should be able to provide supplemental test decks including ballots printed via mobile ballot printing modules used at early voting centers.

## 6.8.3 Proposed Revision

## 6.8.3.1 Revised Rule Proposal

- Rule 8. (1) If early voting is being offered for the jurisdiction, The election commission providing the program responsible for early voting shall designate a time and place for an public accuracy test, which must shall be held not less than 5 days before the election start of early voting in accordance with the requirements of section 798 of the act, MCL 168.798.
- (2) If no early voting is being offered for the jurisdiction, the election commission responsible for the election shall designate a time and place for a public accuracy test, which must be held not less than 5 days before the election.
- (23) The public accuracy test must shall be conducted by an accuracy board, which shall be the election commission supplying the program responsible for the election. A member of the commission may designate an person individual to serve in his or her the member's place on the accuracy board. A member of the commission who designates an person individual to serve at the public accuracy test shall notify the clerk before the test. The clerk of the commission or the designated representative of the clerk shall be is the chairperson.

Page | 88 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (3) Members of the accuracy board shall be present at the accuracy test.
- (4) The clerk in charge of the program responsible for the election may limit the number of persons individuals who may be in the computer room and the duration of their stay in the computer room present for the public accuracy test based on room capacity, however, the capacity of the room must be sufficient to support a minimum of four observers two of which must be reserved for designees of both major political parties and two reserved for independent observers.
- (4A) All tabulators (deployed and backup) must be subject to public accuracy tests not simply a sample of tabulators.
- (5) The initial testing of the emputers tabulators and programs must shall be with the official test deck prepared under the direction of the commission. The number of precincts to be tested must shall be determined by the accuracy board commission. The members of the accuracy board commission or members of the general public may prepare or cause to have prepared additional ballots eards to be included in the official test deck.
- (6) Each program and test deck shall must be tested on the computer tabulator on which it is to be used for the election.
- (7) After demonstrating the accuracy of the programs and computers, the following persons may prepare test ballot cards for testing:
- (a) A member of a board of canvassers which shall certify all or part of the election or a designated representative.
- (b) The county chairperson of each political party appearing on the ballot or a designated representative.
- -(c) A candidate whose name appears on the ballot or a designated representative.
- —(d) A representative from each group interested in a proposal or measure who has informed the commission in writing of that person's intent to participate in the testing procedure. The number of cards each eligible person is allowed to prepare shall be determined by the accuracy board, except that an eligible person shall not be limited to less than 10 cards. The election commission shall test the accessible voting devices as prescribed by the secretary of state as part of the public accuracy test.
- (8) The election commission shall test the on-demand ballot printing system as prescribed by the secretary of state as part of the public accuracy test.
- (89) The commission supplying the program shall provide the following items at the accuracy test:
  - (a) An edit listing.
  - (ba) Test ballots cards.
  - (eb) At least 1 set of ballot labels or sample ballots for each precinct.
  - (c) The chart of predetermined results.
- (910) If an error is detected in the testing, the cause **must** shall be ascertained, the error **must** shall be corrected, and an errorless count **must** shall be made for all precincts. If determined by the accuracy board **commission**, the meeting may be adjourned to a time and date certain.
- (101) The secretary of state or a designated representative may provide a test deck for a program. If so, it **must** shall be delivered at the **public** accuracy test. At the discretion of the secretary of state, it may be used in place of, or in addition to, the test deck prepared by the commission or general public.

Page | 89 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

- -(142) The accuracy board **commission** shall certify the accuracy of the test. The certification may be attached to, or written on, the <del>computer</del> **printed** results of the **public** accuracy test.
- (13) If the site of the public accuracy test is not the site of election day or early voting election operations, the tabulators must be secured with an approved seal in a manner so that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. There must be a certificate describing its contents with the number of the seal attached to or inside the container. The certificate must be signed by the members of the commission, and, if attached to the container in a plastic envelope, it must be attached in a manner that it cannot be removed without breaking the seal.
- -(123) The accuracy board commission shall secure all programs, test decks, certified computer results of the test, and the predetermined results in an approved metal container, which must shall be sealed with an approved metal seal in a manner so that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. There must Attached to or inside the container shall be a certificate describing its contents and on which with the number of the seal has been recorded attached to or inside the container. The certificate must shall be signed by the members of the accuracy board commission, and, if attached to the container in a plastic envelope, it must shall be attached in such a manner that it cannot be removed without breaking the seal.
- (134) The accuracy board **commission** shall immediately deliver to the clerk in charge of the election the metal case **approved ballot container** containing the programs and test decks. The clerk shall retain and secure the programs.
- (14A) Upon completion of accuracy testing for tabulators, perform end-to-end testing featuring all tabulators, accessible voting devices, adjudicator equipment, vote tally equipment and networking equipment to ensure the program accurately transmits the totals to the electronic management system.
- (125) Upon completion of end-to-end testing, secure the tabulators, accessible voting devices, adjudicator equipment, vote tally equipment, networking equipment, programs, test decks, and predetermined results in an approved ballot metal container, which must shall be sealed with metal approved seals in a manner so that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. There must Attached to or inside the container shall be a certificate describing its contents and on which with the number of the seal has been recorded attached to or inside the container. The certificate must shall be signed by the members of the accuracy board commission, and; if attached to the container in a plastic envelope, it must shall be attached in such a manner that it cannot be removed without breaking the seal.

# 6.9 R 168.779 Preparation and Delivery of Election Materials

## 6.9.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

Rule 9. (1) The clerk of the unit of government providing the voting devices tabulators or an authorized assistant shall place into an transfer case approved ballot container the ballots eards for each precinct or early voting site. The transfer case approved ballot container shall-must be secured with an metal approved seal and contain a certificate signed by the clerk or an authorized assistant setting forth the number of ballots in the ease container and that the ballots were counted and sealed in the approved ballot container by the clerk or by an authorized assistant. Ballots eards not issued to a precinct or early voting site or assigned for absentee voting must shall be

Page | 90 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

secured and accounted for by the clerk. The clerk shall maintain a record of the number of ballots eards and serial numbers issued to each precinct or early voting site. The ballots eards shall must be delivered to the chairperson or a member of the board of election inspectors of the proper precinct or early voting site.

- (2) Precinct supplies and early voting site supplies must shall include the following items:
- (a) An edit listing for the precinct.
- (ba) A pencil for each voting device A sufficient number of black or blue ink marking devices for voters to mark ballots.
- (eb) A set of instructions for operating the precinct on election day or operating the early voting site during the early voting period.
  - (dc) An envelope labeled "SPOILED BALLOTCARDS".
- (ed) An envelope labeled "ORIGINAL BALLOTCARDS FOR WHICH DUPLICATES HAVE BEEN MADE FOR ANY REASON" if the duplication is to be done at the precinct.
- (3) If the precinct header card is sent to the precinct, it shall be contained in an envelope for that purpose and included in the transfer case for the precinct.
- (43) The voting devices, demonstration voting devices-tabulators, accessible voting devices, on-demand ballot printing systems, voting booths, ballots—cards, ballot envelopes secrecy sleeves, transfer case approved ballot containers, and all other necessary supplies must shall be delivered to the precinct not later than 6:30 a.m. on election day or no later than 30 minutes before the start of early voting at an early voting site.
- (54) A ballot box Approved ballot containers must shall be provided to each precinct or early voting site for the deposit storage of voted ballots eards. The ballot box shall be capable of being locked or sealed during election day.

## 6.9.2 Issue(s)

## 6.9.2.1 Physical Pollbook Preparation

Nowhere in the rules is there any reference to when and how the physical pollbooks are prepared.

### 6.9.3 Proposed Revision

Rule 9. (1) The clerk of the unit of government providing the voting devices tabulators or an authorized assistant shall place into an transfer case approved ballot container the ballots eards for each precinct or early voting site. The transfer case approved ballot container shall must be secured with an metal approved seal and contain a certificate signed by the clerk or an authorized assistant setting forth the number of ballots in the ease container and that the ballots were counted and sealed in the approved ballot container by the clerk or by an authorized assistant. Ballots eards not issued to a precinct or early voting site or assigned for absentee voting must shall be secured and accounted for by the clerk. The clerk shall maintain a record of the number of ballots eards and serial numbers issued to each precinct or early voting site. The ballots eards shall must be delivered to the chairperson or a member of the board of election inspectors of the proper precinct or early voting site.

(2) Precinct supplies **and early voting site supplies must** shall include the following items: (a) An edit listing for the precinct.

Page | 91 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (ba) A pencil for each voting device A sufficient number of black or blue ink marking devices for voters to mark ballots.
- (eb) A set of instructions for operating the precinct on election day or operating the early voting site during the early voting period.
  - (dc) An envelope labeled "SPOILED BALLOTCARDS".
- (ed) An envelope labeled "ORIGINAL BALLOT<del>CARDS</del> FOR WHICH DUPLICATES HAVE BEEN MADE FOR ANY REASON" if the duplication is to be done at the precinct.
- (3) If the precinct header card is sent to the precinct, it shall be contained in an envelope for that purpose and included in the transfer case for the precinct.
- (43) The voting devices, demonstration voting devices-tabulators, accessible voting devices, on-demand ballot printing systems, voting booths, ballots—cards, ballot envelopes secrecy sleeves, transfer case approved ballot containers, and all other necessary supplies must shall be delivered to the precinct not later than 6:30 a.m. on election day or no later than 30 minutes before the start of early voting at an early voting site.
- (54) A ballot box Approved ballot containers must shall be provided to each precinct or early voting site for the deposit storage of voted ballots cards. The ballot box shall be capable of being locked or sealed during election day.
- (5) After the electronic pollbook for a given precinct has been updated to reflect the latest voter registration data for the precinct from the Qualified Voter File, the physical pollbook for each precinct shall be printed from the electronic pollbook.

# 6.10 R 168.780 Clerks and Election Inspectors; Duties Before Opening of Polls

## 6.10.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

- Rule 10. (1) Voting devices be used must occur in voting booths—or in self-contained voting stations.
- (2) If voting devices are used in self-contained voting stations, t The stations-voting booths must shall be arranged so that the secrecy of the ballot is not violated.
- (3) Before the opening of polls, the clerk shall do all of the following:
- (a) Ensure that election inspectors who need access to the electronic pollbook are able to access it.
- (b) Ensure that tabulators and accessible voting devices are provided to each early voting site and election day polling place.
- (c) Ensure that the serial numbers and seal numbers for tabulators, accessible voting devices, and on-demand ballot printing systems agree with the numbers in the physical pollbook.
- (d) Ensure that all necessary election equipment and election materials are available at the early voting site and polling place.

Page | 92 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

- (e) Ensure that all signage is correctly displayed.
- (f) Establish an area for poll watchers.
- (34) Before the opening of polls,  $\mp$  the election inspectors shall do all of the following:
- (a) Compare the seal number and identifying numbers on the devices with the numbers recorded in the poll-book Verify that the electronic pollbook and prescribed backup materials are available at the polling location.
- (b) Compare the names, proposals, and ballot position numbers printed on the ballot labels, edit listing, and precinct instruction ballot to ascertain that the offices, proposals, and candidate names are the same and appear in the same order on each Verify that all election inspectors who need to access the electronic pollbook are able to access it.
- (c) Verify that the ballot label pages are in the proper order Verify that the tabulator and accessible voting device are plugged in, powered on, and secured as required by these rules.
- (d) Check the mask to see that holes only appear directly opposite each arrow and that the arrow points directly to the hole opposite it.
- (e) Place a demonstration card into each device and make a punch for each candidate and proposal on the ballot. The inspector shall examine the card to see that each candidate and proposition received a proper punch.
- (fd) Verify that there is a pencil black or blue ink marking device provided for in each device voting booth.
- (g) Check each stylus to see that it is not broken.
- (he) Determine that there is adequate lighting.
- (45) In the event of a discrepancy that election equipment is unavailable or potentially unusable, the election inspectors shall notify the clerk immediately and the voting device shall not be used until the discrepancy is resolved.
- (5) The demonstration voting device shall be placed so as to afford each voter an opportunity to use it prior to voting.

### 6.10.2 Issue(s)

### 6.10.2.1 User Account Security

All electronic pollbook user accounts must be specific to an individual user. No generic user accounts should be allowed.

### 6.10.2.2 Electronic Voting System Security

Configuration control protocols featuring labels and seals only refer to tabulators, accessible voting devices, and on-demand ballot printing systems. All components of the electronic voting system must be included in such protocols.

## 6.10.2.3 Electronic Pollbook Data Integrity

The electronic pollbooks are the primary tool used by election workers to conduct election operations. These pollbooks are used to determine who does or does not receive a ballot. As such, they represent an important security gateway governing the conduct of our elections. The proposed

Page | 93 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

MDOS rules, however, make zero reference to the preparation of electronic pollbooks to conduct elections in a responsible manner.

## 6.10.3 Proposed Revision

- Rule 10. (1) Voting devices be used must occur in voting booths or in self-contained voting stations.
- (2) If voting devices are used in self-contained voting stations, t-The stations-voting booths must shall be arranged so that the secrecy of the ballot is not violated.
- (3) Before the opening of polls, the clerk shall do all of the following:
- (a) Ensure that election inspectors who need access to the electronic pollbook are able to access it in accordance with User Account Security rules.
- (b) Ensure that tabulators and accessible voting devices are provided to each early voting site and election day polling place.
- (c) Ensure that the serial numbers and seal numbers for <u>all components of the electronic voting system at site tabulators, accessible voting devices, and on-demand ballot printing systems</u> agree with the numbers in the physical pollbook.
- (d) Ensure that all necessary election equipment and election materials are available at the early voting site and polling place.
- (e) Ensure that all signage is correctly displayed.
- (f) Establish an area for poll watchers.
- (g) Download precinct-specific data for each electronic pollbook from the state QVF (h) Review the list of voters provided by the state to ensure that no voters previously removed by Clerk have been reinserted into the QVF and flag all such voters as ineligible in the electronic pollbook.
- (34) **Before the opening of polls,**  $\mp$  the election inspectors shall do all of the following:
- (a) Compare the seal number and identifying numbers on the devices with the numbers recorded in the poll book Verify that the electronic pollbook and prescribed backup materials are available at the polling location.
- (b) Compare the names, proposals, and ballot position numbers printed on the ballot labels, edit listing, and precinct instruction ballot to ascertain that the offices, proposals, and candidate names are the same and appear in the same order on each Verify that all election inspectors who need to access the electronic pollbook are able to access it in accordance with User Account Security rules.
- (c) Verify that the ballot label pages are in the proper order Verify that the tabulator and accessible voting device are plugged in, powered on, and secured as required by these rules.
- (d) Check the mask to see that holes only appear directly opposite each arrow and that the arrow points directly to the hole opposite it.

Page | 94 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (e) Place a demonstration card into each device and make a punch for each candidate and proposal on the ballot. The inspector shall examine the card to see that each candidate and proposition received a proper punch.
- (fd) Verify that there is a peneil black or blue ink marking device provided for in each device voting booth.
  - (g) Check each stylus to see that it is not broken.
  - (he) Determine that there is adequate lighting.
- (45) In the event of a discrepancy that election equipment is unavailable or potentially unusable, the election inspectors shall notify the clerk immediately and the voting device shall not be used until the discrepancy is resolved.
- (5) The demonstration voting device shall be placed so as to afford each voter an opportunity to use it prior to voting.
- (6) Ensure that electronic pollbooks are prepared for operation by poll workers
- (a) Ensure that each poll worker has a unique user account for the electronic pollbook
- (b) Ensure that each poll worker has credentials to log into encrypted flash drive
- (c) Ensure that all network connections are properly secured in accordance with Network Security Rules

# 6.11 R 168.781 Conduct of elections and manner of voting

## 6.11.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

- Rule 11. (1) The election inspector having charge of the ballots shall deliver to the voter an official ballot eard and envelope secrecy sleeve. The ballot card stub number associated with the ballot, if there is a numbered stub, must shall be entered onto the application to vote at the time the eard ballot is issued. The name of the voter and ballot card number issued shall then be entered into the poll book and the voter number must be entered on upon the application to vote.
- (2) Upon being issued a ballot eard and envelope secrecy sleeve, the voter shall enter a voting station booth and record his or her the voter's selections on the ballot eard. Before leaving the booth, the voter shall insert the ballot eard in the ballot envelope secrecy sleeve with the detachable numbered stub, if there is a numbered stub, on the outside and so that any part of the face of the voting portion of the ballot eard-is not exposed.
- (3) The election inspector designated to receive the ballot from the voter shall ascertain by comparing the number on the ballot eard stub, if applicable, with the number recorded on the poll list application to vote whether the ballot given to the inspector is the same ballot furnished to the voter. If it is the same ballot, the inspector shall remove the detachable stub, if there is a numbered stub, and in the presence of the voter shall, deposit the ballot into the ballot box-tabulator. If the ballot received is not the same ballot furnished to the voter, the ballot shall not be counted and the voter shall not be permitted to vote at the election the voter may be given a new ballot to vote, or the voter may decline to vote a new ballot, but in neither event may the non-matching ballot be counted. The non-matching ballot must shall be marked void with the reason therefor and inserted in an envelope and placed in the transfer case ballot container. In any event, t The non-matching ballot shall not be deposited with the valid voted ballots.

(4) If a voter is challenged, the election inspector shall do all of the following:

Page | 95 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (a) Record the ballot number appearing on the stub, if there is a numbered stub, onto the back of the ballot envelope. If there is no numbered stub, record the voter number on the ballot.
- (b) Cover the number with a slip of paper so as to conceal the number.
- (c) Issue a **the** ballot to the challenged voter who will vote and cast the ballot in the usual manner. If a combination ballot card and write in ballot is used, the ballot number shall be recorded on the back of the write-in portion of the ballot and covered in the same manner as described in this rule. –(5) It shall not be necessary to identify the ballot of an assisted voter in the same manner as that of a challenged voter.
- -(6) The election inspectors shall frequently check the seals and ballot label pages of the voting devices to ensure that none have been altered or defaced. If the board finds that the ballot pages of a device have been altered, mutilated, or damaged in such a manner that the board cannot correct them without doing damage to the offices, names, and proposals appearing on the pages, the device shall not be used until the condition is corrected. A note of the occurrence shall be made in the remarks section of the poll book.
- (75) A ballot eard found in a booth or device **must** shall be marked with the words "FOUND IN BOOTH." The eard shall be **spoiled and** placed in an envelope which **that must** shall be placed in the transfer case **approved ballot container**. A note of the occurrence **must** shall be made in the remarks section of the poll book physical pollbook.

## 6.11.2 Issue(s)

### 6.11.2.1 No Rules for Electronic Pollbook Operations

Electronic pollbooks are arguably the workhorse of election operations be those operations at early voting sites, election day polling locations or absent voter counting boards yet there is zero mention of any rules pertaining to their use in elections. Electronic pollbooks receive, track and share significant information pertaining to the conduct of elections that is critical to any professional audit of an election. This information includes but is not limited to voter information downloaded from QVF, ballot processing data for each voter, challenges, and remarks pertaining to the allocation of ballots to voters. MCL 168.727 stipulates that this information be captured in election records.

### 6.11.3 Proposed Revision

- Rule 11. (1) The election inspector having charge of the ballots shall deliver to the voter an official ballot eard and envelope secrecy sleeve. The ballot card stub number associated with the ballot, if there is a numbered stub, must shall be entered onto the application to vote at the time the eard ballot is issued. The name of the voter and ballot card number issued shall then be entered into the poll book and the voter number must be entered on upon the application to vote.
- (2) Upon being issued a ballot eard and envelope secrecy sleeve, the voter shall enter a voting station booth and record his or her the voter's selections on the ballot eard. Before leaving the booth, the voter shall insert the ballot eard in the ballot envelope secrecy sleeve with the detachable numbered stub, if there is a numbered stub, on the outside and so that any part of the face of the voting portion of the ballot eard-is not exposed.
- (3) The election inspector designated to receive the ballot from the voter shall ascertain by comparing the number on the ballot eard stub, if applicable, with the number recorded on the poll

Page | 96 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

Hist application to vote whether the ballot given to the inspector is the same ballot furnished to the voter. If it is the same ballot, the inspector shall remove the detachable stub, if there is a numbered stub, and in the presence of the voter shall, deposit the ballot into the ballot box tabulator. If the ballot received is not the same ballot furnished to the voter, the ballot shall not be counted and the voter shall not be permitted to vote at the election the voter may be given a new ballot to vote, or the voter may decline to vote a new ballot, but in neither event may the non-matching ballot be counted. The non-matching ballot must shall be marked void with the reason therefor and inserted in an envelope and placed in the transfer case ballot container. In any event, t The non-matching ballot shall not be deposited with the valid voted ballots.

- (4) If a voter is challenged, the election inspector shall do all of the following:
- (a) Record the ballot number appearing on the stub, if there is a numbered stub, onto the back of the ballot envelope. If there is no numbered stub, record the voter number on the ballot.
  - (b) Cover the number with a slip of paper so as to conceal the number.
- (c) Issue **a the** ballot to the challenged voter who will vote and cast the ballot in the usual manner. If a combination ballot card and write-in ballot is used, the ballot number shall be recorded on the back of the write-in portion of the ballot and covered in the same manner as described in this rule.

  (5) It shall not be necessary to identify the ballot of an assisted voter in the same manner as that of a challenged voter.
- (6) The election inspectors shall frequently check the seals and ballot label pages of the voting devices to ensure that none have been altered or defaced. If the board finds that the ballot pages of a device have been altered, mutilated, or damaged in such a manner that the board cannot correct them without doing damage to the offices, names, and proposals appearing on the pages, the device shall not be used until the condition is corrected. A note of the occurrence shall be made in the remarks section of the poll book.
- (75) A ballot eard found in a booth or device **must** shall be marked with the words "FOUND IN BOOTH." The eard shall be **spoiled and** placed in an envelope which **that must** shall be placed in the transfer ease **approved ballot container**. A note of the occurrence **must** shall be made in the remarks section of the poll-book-physical pollbook.
- (6) Election inspectors shall enter the following information into the electronic pollbook during the conduct of election operations:
- (a) Ballot assignments
- (b) Remarks pertaining to the following scenarios as a minimum:
- (i) Voter not in possession of ID
- (ii) Challenger remarks
- (iii) Ballot status
- (iv) Spoiled ballots

(7) If a voter is not found in the electronic pollbook, the voter was not registered to vote in the QVF at the time of QVF download. Before adding any unlisted voter or allocating a ballot to such a voter, election inspectors must verify the following information:

(a) The voter information was verified by the clerk

Page | 97 August 16, 2024

# By Patrick Colbeck

(b) The voter age is provided and compliant with minimum voting age requirements at time of casting ballot

(c) The voter citizenship status has been confirmed by the clerk

## 6.12 R 168.782 Election Inspectors; Duties After Polls Are Closed

No issues identified

# 6.13 R 168.784 Processing Write-In Ballots

No issues identified

## 6.14 R 168.785 Duplication of Ballots

No issues identified

# 6.15 R 168.786 Absentee Ballots; Issuance, Processing and Tabulation

No issues identified

# 6.16 R 168.788 Receiving Station; Receiving Board

No issues identified

## 6.17 R 168.789 Absent Voter Counting Board

## 6.17.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

Rule 19. (1) If a counting center is used, the election commission of a local unit of government using that counting center shall appoint not less than 1 receiving board and 1 certifying board. The board of election commissioners shall appoint the election inspectors to absent voter counting boards not less than 21 days before the election at which absent voter counting boards are to be used, as provided in sections 673a and 674 of the act, MCL 168.673a and 168.674.

- (2) If the county owns the devices and supplies the program, and when more than 1 local unit of government shares a computer center and a mutual agreement exists with the county as provided in R 168.772(10), the county election commission shall appoint not less than 1 receiving board and 1 certifying board. In this case, the county clerk shall be in charge of the counting center. The board of election inspectors at the absent voter counting board shall determine that the seal number on each ballot container agrees with the seal number indicated in the absent voter counting board physical pollbook.
- (3) An election commission may appoint a separate board for the purpose of examining, processing, and duplicating ballot cards. The board shall consist of not less than 2 members of differing political party preference Before the tabulation of ballots at an absent voter counting board, the election inspectors shall run a zero tape or zero report to ensure that the tabulator has not recorded results.

Page | 98 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- -(4) An election commission in charge of the computer counting center may appoint the same persons to the receiving, certifying, and other boards.
- -(5) The election commission supplying the program shall appoint a person knowledgeable and capable of operating the computer on which the ballots shall be tabulated. They may, in addition, appoint another person to observe the operation of the computer. These persons shall be considered election officials. When more than 1 local unit of government shares a computer and an agreement has been made with the county as provided in R 168.772(10), the election commission of the county shall make the appointments.
- -(6) The person who operates the computer used for tabulation of ballots shall not be the same person who prepared the computer program. This shall not preclude the clerk or the clerk's authorized assistant who prepares precinct control cards for use with a specialized computer from operating the computer.
- -(7) A member of a board of canvassers which certifies all or part of the election shall not serve on any board established under this rule.\

## 6.17.2 Issue(s)

### 6.17.2.1 AVCB Reporting Exemption

In order to effect compliance with MI Constitution Article II Section 4(1)(l), public display of map of Absent Voter Count Board tabulators to precincts must be provided by election officials.

## 6.17.3 Proposed Revision

- Rule 19. (1) If a counting center is used, the election commission of a local unit of government using that counting center shall appoint not less than 1 receiving board and 1 certifying board. The board of election commissioners shall appoint the election inspectors to absent voter counting boards not less than 21 days before the election at which absent voter counting boards are to be used, as provided in sections 673a and 674 of the act, MCL 168.673a and 168.674.
- (2) If the county owns the devices and supplies the program, and when more than 1 local unit of government shares a computer center and a mutual agreement exists with the county as provided in R 168.772(10), the county election commission shall appoint not less than 1 receiving board and 1 certifying board. In this case, the county clerk shall be in charge of the counting center. The board of election inspectors at the absent voter counting board shall determine that the seal number on each ballot container agrees with the seal number indicated in the absent voter counting board physical pollbook.
- (3) An election commission may appoint a separate board for the purpose of examining, processing, and duplicating ballot cards. The board shall consist of not less than 2 members of differing political party preference. Before the tabulation of ballots at an absent voter counting board, the election inspectors shall display a list of the precincts supported by each tabulator and run a zero tape or zero report to ensure that the tabulator has not recorded results.
- -(4) An election commission in charge of the computer counting center may appoint the same persons to the receiving, certifying, and other boards.
- -(5) The election commission supplying the program shall appoint a person knowledgeable and capable of operating the computer on which the ballots shall be tabulated. They may, in addition, appoint another person to observe the operation of the computer. These persons shall be considered

Page | 99 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

election officials. When more than 1 local unit of government shares a computer and an agreement has been made with the county as provided in R 168.772(10), the election commission of the county shall make the appointments.

- -(6) The person who operates the computer used for tabulation of ballots shall not be the same person who prepared the computer program. This shall not preclude the clerk or the clerk's authorized assistant who prepares precinct control cards for use with a specialized computer from operating the computer.
- -(7) A member of a board of canvassers which certifies all or part of the election shall not serve on any board established under this rule.\

## 6.18 R 168.790 Closing Procedures; Ballot Retention

## 6.18.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

Rule 20. (1) The certifying board shall determine that the seal number on the container containing the programs, official test deck, and predetermined results agree with those recorded in the certificate of the accuracy board.

- (2) The certifying board shall test the program and computer as to accuracy prior to the tabulation of ballots and again after the last precinct has been counted, and shall certify the results. The accuracy test shall be conducted using the official test deck prepared under the direction of the election commission and certified by the accuracy board. The certifying board shall use the same test as was conducted by the accuracy board. The certifying board shall ascertain that their results agree with the results as certified by the accuracy board. The computer results of the certifying board accuracy test shall be identified as to date and time they were conducted. The certifying board shall certify that the required tests have been performed. This certificate shall be placed under seal with the program, test deck results, and other required materials and shall be delivered to the clerk in charge of the election.
- (3) The certifying board may periodically during the tabulation of ballots test the program and computer, using the official test deck.
- (4) A console log of the ballot tabulation shall be maintained and, at the completion of the count and accuracy test, certified by the computer operator and any observer appointed by the election commission. The console log shall be delivered to the clerk in charge of the election. If the computer used to tabulate the ballots is not capable of generating a console log, then a manual log of any abnormal events shall be maintained.
- (5) Upon receipt of the transfer case from the inspectors, the receiving board shall verify that the seal number on the transfer case is the same as that recorded by the election inspectors. The case shall then be opened and the computer center receiving board shall determine whether it contains ballot cards and other required items. A discrepancy in the seal number or contents shall be noted and explained in the remarks section of the poll book by the election inspectors delivering the transfer case.
- (6) The computer center receiving board shall issue a receipt for the transfer case to the election inspectors delivering the case. The receipt shall indicate in general terms the contents of the transfer case and shall be made in duplicate. The original copy shall be given to the inspectors

Page | 100 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

delivering the transfer case and the duplicate retained for delivery to the clerk in charge of the

(7) The computer center receiving board shall place the metal seal with which the case was sealed inside the transfer case. The receiving board shall complete the certificate in the poll book, which shall read substantially as follows:

## **RECEIVING BOARD CERTIFICATE**

We hereby certify that the transfer case, properly sealed, containing the ballot cards for this precinct was received by the counting center receiving board. The seal number agreed with the number recorded on the transfer case identification tag and in the poll book.

- (8) The clerk in charge of the election, the designated representatives of the clerk, the observer appointed by the election commission, computer personnel, data processing installation employees, authorized challengers, and the certifying board shall be allowed in the immediate area of the computer. The immediate area of the computer shall be defined by the clerk, but the clerk shall provide the public with a means of observing the computer.
- (9) The clerk in charge of the election or the designated representative of the clerk shall be present in the computer room until the count is completed and all items required to be sealed have been sealed.
- (10) The certifying board shall determine if the number of ballot cards tabulated by the computer agrees with the number of ballot cards submitted by the inspectors as indicated by the poll book. If a discrepancy exists, the board shall endeavor to correct it. If the discrepancy cannot be resolved, a notation of the pertinent facts shall be made in the remarks section of the poll book.
- (11) The certifying board shall complete and certify a statement of returns in duplicate. The certificate of the statement of returns shall read substantially as follows:

## STATEMENT OF RETURNS CERTIFICATE

We hereby certify that this is a statement of votes cast in this precinct as indicated by the tabulating equipment and that upon completion of the count, all ballots were placed in the transfer case, and that the case was sealed with seal number \_\_\_\_\_, and that the seal number was recorded in the poll book.

- (12) Precinct inspectors may serve as members of the certifying board at the discretion of the clerk in charge of the election.
- (13) Upon the completion of the count of a precinct, the ballot cards shall be returned to the transfer case. The transfer case shall be sealed with a metal seal in a manner as to render it impossible to open the case or insert or remove ballots without breaking the seal. If the transfer case is identified as to political unit and precinct, the transfer case identification tag shall be placed in the transfer case. If not, the transfer case identification tag shall be attached to the transfer case by means of a seal.

Page | 101 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (14) The seal number used to seal the transfer case shall be recorded on the certificate in the pollbook and on the statement of returns.
- (15) The precinct statement of returns and poll-books shall be delivered to the persons authorized by statute to receive them. If permitted by the clerk of the board of canvassers, precinct statements of returns from 1 or more precincts and poll-books may be included in a single envelope or package.
- (16) The secretary of state or the clerk in charge of the counting center may require that a manual count of 1 or more offices or proposals in a precinct be conducted by the certifying board prior to certification of the computer-tabulated results for that precinct. If the manual count and the computer-tabulated results do not agree, the certifying board shall not certify the results until the discrepancy has been reconciled.
- (17) After the last precinct **and early voting site** has been counted and the final accuracy test has been conducted, the eertifying-board of election inspectors shall secure all programs, test decks, certified results of accuracy tests, and other related material in a metal ballot container, which must shall be sealed with an flat metal approved seal in a manner so that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. Attached—The certificate must be attached to the container shall be a certificate describing and describe the contents and on which record the number of the seal. has been recorded. The certificate must shall be signed by the members of the eertifying board of election inspectors.
- (482) The clerk in charge of the election shall secure the container containing the programs, test deck, accuracy test results, and other related materials, and the original edit listing until 30 days following the certification of the election if a recount has not been requested or until a date prescribed by the secretary of state.
- (493) Ballots used at an election **that is not a state or federal election** may be destroyed after 30 days following the final determination of the board of canvassers with respect to the election, unless **their-the** destruction has been stayed by an order of a court or the secretary of state. Ballots **must shall** not be released for examination, review, or research unless prior approval is obtained by the board of state canvassers.
- (4) Ballots used at an election that is a state or federal election may be destroyed after 22 months following the final determination of the board of canvassers with respect to the election, unless the destruction has been stayed by an order of a court or the secretary of state. Ballots must not be released for examination, review, or research unless prior approval is obtained by the board of state canvassers.

## 6.18.2 Issue(s)

### 6.18.2.1 Securing All Election Equipment

The only election records secured during closing are programs, test decks, certified results of accuracy tests, and other related materials. In order to ensure the integrity of election record chain of custody in support of a professional audit of an election, the following election equipment should be explicitly secured: all tabulators, all adjudication equipment, all vote tally equipment and all networking equipment.

Page | 102 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

### 6.18.2.2 Printing of Electronic Pollbook Reports

There is no reference to the printing of reports from electronic pollbooks that would be critical in the conduct of any professional audit of an election. These reports are as follows: Activity Log, Ballot Summary, Remarks, and Voter List. Election workers are typically trained to print such records. It needs to be made clear that these records must be printed in support of the need for an audit trail.

### 6.18.2.3 Failure to Report Electronic Pollbook Voting History Data

The electronic voting system rules make no mention of the need to upload voter history data from electronic pollbooks or associated storage devices at the closure of polls. Per MCL 168.813, voter history data must be uploaded to the QVF within 7 days after an election. Failure to incorporate such rules enables modifications to voter history data after the election has been conducted which opens the door to election fraud. In order to secure elections from such malfeasance, rules for uploading voter history data electronically to the QVF must be incorporated into the rules for electronic voting systems.

### 6.18.2.4 Failure to Validate All Precinct-Level Vote Tallies

Per MCL 168.812, election results must be reported at precinct-level. In order to facilitate the chain of custody for vote tally records, election inspectors should be required to verify precinct-level vote tallies at each vote tally transfer point. If the vote tally location is an in-person voting location with only precinct-specific, hand-fed tabulators, there is no internal network featuring vote tally handoffs to other components of the electronic voting system. If, however, the vote tally location is an early voting site or absent voter counting board in which vote tally data is transferred electronically to adjudication or vote tally equipment, the vote tally for each precinct must be verified at each transfer point.

## 6.18.3 Proposed Revision

Rule 20. (1) The certifying board shall determine that the seal number on the container containing the programs, official test deck, and predetermined results agree with those recorded in the certificate of the accuracy board.

(2) The certifying board shall test the program and computer as to accuracy prior to the tabulation of ballots and again after the last precinct has been counted, and shall certify the results. The accuracy test shall be conducted using the official test deck prepared under the direction of the election commission and certified by the accuracy board. The certifying board shall use the same test as was conducted by the accuracy board. The certifying board shall ascertain that their results agree with the results as certified by the accuracy board. The computer results of the certifying board accuracy test shall be identified as to date and time they were conducted. The certifying board shall certify that the required tests have been performed. This certificate shall be placed under seal with the program, test deck results, and other required materials and shall be delivered to the clerk in charge of the election.

(3) The certifying board may periodically during the tabulation of ballots test the program and computer, using the official test deck.

(4) A console log of the ballot tabulation shall be maintained and, at the completion of the count and accuracy test, certified by the computer operator and any observer appointed by the election

Page | 103 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

commission. The console log shall be delivered to the clerk in charge of the election. If the computer used to tabulate the ballots is not capable of generating a console log, then a manual log of any abnormal events shall be maintained.

- (5) Upon receipt of the transfer case from the inspectors, the receiving board shall verify that the seal number on the transfer case is the same as that recorded by the election inspectors. The case shall then be opened and the computer center receiving board shall determine whether it contains ballot cards and other required items. A discrepancy in the seal number or contents shall be noted and explained in the remarks section of the poll book by the election inspectors delivering the transfer case.
- (6) The computer center receiving board shall issue a receipt for the transfer case to the election inspectors delivering the case. The receipt shall indicate in general terms the contents of the transfer case and shall be made in duplicate. The original copy shall be given to the inspectors delivering the transfer case and the duplicate retained for delivery to the clerk in charge of the election.
- (7) The computer center receiving board shall place the metal seal with which the case was sealed inside the transfer case. The receiving board shall complete the certificate in the poll book, which shall read substantially as follows:

### RECEIVING BOARD CERTIFICATE

We hereby certify that the transfer case, properly sealed, containing the ballot cards for this precinct was received by the counting center receiving board. The seal number agreed with the number recorded on the transfer case identification tag and in the poll book.

- (8) The clerk in charge of the election, the designated representatives of the clerk, the observer appointed by the election commission, computer personnel, data processing installation employees, authorized challengers, and the certifying board shall be allowed in the immediate area of the computer. The immediate area of the computer shall be defined by the clerk, but the clerk shall provide the public with a means of observing the computer.
- (9) The clerk in charge of the election or the designated representative of the clerk shall be present in the computer room until the count is completed and all items required to be sealed have been sealed.
- (10) The certifying board shall determine if the number of ballot cards tabulated by the computer agrees with the number of ballot cards submitted by the inspectors as indicated by the poll book. If a discrepancy exists, the board shall endeavor to correct it. If the discrepancy cannot be resolved, a notation of the pertinent facts shall be made in the remarks section of the poll book.
- (11) The certifying board shall complete and certify a statement of returns in duplicate. The certificate of the statement of returns shall read substantially as follows:

## STATEMENT OF RETURNS CERTIFICATE

We hereby certify that this is a statement of votes cast in this precinct as indicated by the tabulating equipment and that upon completion of the count, all ballots were placed in the transfer

Page | 104 August 16, 2024

## By Patrick Colbeck

case, and that the case was sealed with seal number \_\_\_\_\_, and that the seal number was recorded in the poll book.

- (12) Precinct inspectors may serve as members of the certifying board at the discretion of the clerk in charge of the election.
- (13) Upon the completion of the count of a precinct, the ballot cards shall be returned to the transfer case. The transfer case shall be sealed with a metal seal in a manner as to render it impossible to open the case or insert or remove ballots without breaking the seal. If the transfer case is identified as to political unit and precinct, the transfer case identification tag shall be placed in the transfer case. If not, the transfer case identification tag shall be attached to the transfer case by means of a seal.
- (14) The seal number used to seal the transfer case shall be recorded on the certificate in the pollbook and on the statement of returns.
- (15) The precinct statement of returns and poll books shall be delivered to the persons authorized by statute to receive them. If permitted by the clerk of the board of canvassers, precinct statements of returns from 1 or more precincts and poll books may be included in a single envelope or package.
- (16) The secretary of state or the clerk in charge of the counting center may require that a manual count of 1 or more offices or proposals in a precinct be conducted by the certifying board prior to certification of the computer tabulated results for that precinct. If the manual count and the computer tabulated results do not agree, the certifying board shall not certify the results until the discrepancy has been reconciled.
- (0) Prior to securing all election equipment, the poll inspectors must do the following:
- (a) Verify the precinct-level vote tallies stored on all tabulators, adjudication equipment and vote tally equipment. If there are any inconsistencies, the inspectors must investigate the discrepancies and document their findings in the physical pollbook for the precinct. In support of their investigations, poll inspectors are authorized to examine digital records on all pertinent election equipment including but not limited to transaction logs.
- (b) Print paper copies of the following electronic pollbook reports:
- (i) Activity Log
- (ii) Ballot Summary
- (iii) Remarks
- (iv) Voter List
- (c) Save digital copies of the following electronic pollbook reports to the encrypted flash drive associated with each electronic pollbook:
- (i) Activity Log
- (ii) Ballot Summary
- (iii) Remarks
- (iv) Voter List
- (17) After the last precinct **and early voting site** has been counted and the final accuracy test has been conducted, the certifying board **of election inspectors** shall secure all election equipment with approved seals, programs, test decks, certified results of accuracy tests, and other related material in a metal ballot container, which **must** shall be sealed with an flat metal approved seal

Page | 105 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

in a manner so that the container cannot be opened without breaking the seal. Attached—The certificate must be attached to the container shall be a certificate describing and describe the contents and on which record the number of the seal. has been recorded. The certificate must shall be signed by the members of the eertifying board of election inspectors.

- (182) The clerk in charge of the election shall secure the containing the programs, test deck, accuracy test results, and other related materials all digital and physical election materials, and the original edit listing until days-22 months following the certification of the election-if a recount has not been requested or until a date prescribed by the secretary of state.
- (493) Ballots used at an election **that is not a state or federal election** may be destroyed after 30 days following the final determination of the board of canvassers with respect to the election, unless **their-the** destruction has been stayed by an order of a court or the secretary of state. Ballots **must shall** not be released for examination, review, or research unless prior approval is obtained by the board of state canvassers.
- (4) Ballots used at an election that is a state or federal election may be destroyed after 22 months following the final determination of the board of canvassers with respect to the election, unless the destruction has been stayed by an order of a court or the secretary of state. Ballots must not be released for examination, review, or research unless prior approval is obtained by the board of state canvassers.
- (5) The clerk must upload voting history data to the QVF from each electronic pollbook's encrypted flashdrive as soon as possible but not later than 7 days after the election.

# 6.19 R 168.791 Challengers

## 6.19.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

- Rule 21. (1) Challengers designated pursuant to section 730 of the act, MCL 168.730, may be at the counting center and a receiving station, including 1 challenger for each separate receiving, ballot inspection, duplicating, and certifying board and for each computer being used to tabulate the ballots clerk's office, early voting site, election day polling place, election day vote center, and absent voter counting board.
- (2) Challengers shall act at all times in accordance with sections 727 to 734 of the act, MCL 168.727 to 168.734, as well as other relevant provisions in the act.

## 6.19.2 Issue(s)

### 6.19.2.1 Challenger Oversight Limitations

Under MCL 168.733, Challengers have the authority to observe election procedures and cite violations of regulations or election law. There is no prohibition in law governing the exercise of these duties at locations other than the polling place or counting board. In fact, the proposed rule clarifies that challengers would have access to clerk's offices. The state equivalent to a clerk's office is the Michigan Bureau of Elections. Challengers should therefore have access to state board

Page | 106 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

of elections facilities responsible for the processing of key election records such as vote tallies and voter registration records.

# 6.19.3 Proposed Revision

Rule 21. (1) Challengers designated pursuant to section 730 of the act, MCL 168.730, may be at the counting center and a receiving station, including 1 challenger for each separate receiving, ballot inspection, duplicating, and certifying board and for each computer being used to tabulate the ballots clerk's office, state bureau of elections facilities, early voting site, election day polling place, election day vote center, and absent voter counting board.

(2) Challengers shall act at all times in accordance with sections 727 to 734 of the act, MCL 168.727 to 168.734, as well as other relevant provisions in the act.

### 6.20 R 168.792 Canvass

### 6.20.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

Rule 22. (1) A board of canvassers may, for reasonable cause, require the person individual who prepared the program programmed the tabulators to appear before the board, to bring documents pertinent to the programming, and to answer questions relevant to the programming.

- (2) A board of canvassers may, for reasonable cause, require the person individual having the custody of the program tabulator to appear with the program before the board. A board of canvassers may conduct a test to determine the accuracy of the program programmed tabulator.
- (3) After testing, if it is found that the program tabulator that which was used to tabulate the ballots produced incorrect returns, a board of canvassers may require the person individual who prepared and supplied the program programmed the tabulator to correct the portions of the program found to be in error and submit to it a corrected program to be used to retabulate the ballots. In that event, an accuracy test must shall be held under the direction of the board of canvassers at which time the corrected program must shall be tested and certified as provided in these rules. The ballots of the precincts must shall be retabulated using the corrected program in the same manner as prescribed in R 168.790. A board of canvassers may summon the eertifying board of election inspectors that which originally certified the returns to retabulate the ballots and make correct returns. The board of canvassers shall canvass the votes from the corrected returns
- (4) When an examination of documents or programs is completed or the ballots have been counted or retabulated, they **must** shall be returned to the transfer case **ballot** container or containers and shall be sealed and delivered to their legal custodian. The number of the seal **must** shall be recorded on a certificate to be filed with the clerk of the board of canvassers.
- (5) When an election of a local unit of government is held at the same time as a county or state election and is to be certified by a local board of canvassers, that board shall not proceed under this rule until obtaining approval from the board of county canvassers.

Page | 107 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

### 6.20.2 Issue(s)

#### 6.20.2.1 Not All Election Equipment Is Secured

The only election records which are secured under proposed rule are programs, test decks, certified results of accuracy tests, and other related material. In order to support a professional audit of election records, all elect

### 6.20.2.2 Precinct-Level Vote Tally Reconciliation

Per MCL 168.812, election results must be presented by precinct. Precinct-level election results are distributed across in-person polling locations, early voting centers, and absent voter counting boards. Even before the implementation of early voting in Michigan, there have been significant discrepancies between election results rolled up by precinct versus by county. As the most fundamental building block of the vote tally chain of custody, the integrity of precinct-level results needs to be beyond reproach. In order to preserve the integrity of precinct-level results, we need to ensure that vote tallies across all tabulators, adjudication equipment and vote tally equipment are reconciled at the precinct-level whenever possible.

### 6.20.3 Proposed Revisions

Rule 22. (0) Canvassers must verify the consistency of precinct-level vote tallies with precinct-specific vote tallies from tabulators, adjudication equipment, and vote tally equipment.

- (1) A board of canvassers may, for reasonable cause, require the person individual who prepared the program programmed the tabulators or configured other equipment such as adjudication equipment and vote tally equipment to appear before the board, to bring documents pertinent to the programming or configuration of the equipment, and to answer questions relevant to the programming or configuration of the equipment.
- (2) A board of canvassers may, for reasonable cause, require the person individual having the custody of the program tabulator to appear with the program before the board. A board of canvassers may conduct a test to determine the accuracy of the program programmed tabulator.
- (3) After testing, if it is found that the program tabulator that which was used to tabulate the ballots produced incorrect returns, a board of canvassers may require the person individual who prepared and supplied the program programmed the tabulator to correct the portions of the program found to be in error and submit to it a corrected program to be used to retabulate the ballots. In that event, an accuracy test must shall be held under the direction of the board of canvassers at which time the corrected program must shall be tested and certified as provided in these rules. The ballots of the precincts must shall be retabulated using the corrected program in the same manner as prescribed in R 168.790. A board of canvassers may summon the eertifying board of election inspectors that which originally certified the returns to retabulate the ballots and make correct returns. The board of canvassers shall canvass the votes from the corrected returns.

#### (3A)

(4) When an examination of documents or programs is completed or the ballots have been counted or retabulated, they **must** shall be returned to the transfer case **ballot** container or containers and shall be sealed and delivered to their legal custodian. The number of the seal **must** shall be recorded on a certificate to be filed with the clerk of the board of canvassers.

Page | 108 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

(5) When an election of a local unit of government is held at the same time as a county or state election and is to be certified by a local board of canvassers, that board shall not proceed under this rule until obtaining approval from the board of county canvassers.

# 6.21 R 168.793 Recount

### 6.21.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

- Rule 23. (1) In a recount of a precinct using an electronic voting system, rules promulgated by the board of state canvassers for use in recounts **must** shall apply except where superseded by these rules.
- (2) The ballots of a precinct shall be recountable unless any of the following conditions occur:
- (a) The seal on the transfer case is broken or bears a different number than that recorded on the poll book, the breaking or discrepancy is unexplained, and security has not been preserved.
- (b) The number of ballot cards and the number of voters shown on the poll list do not conform, and the difference cannot be explained to the satisfaction of the board of canvassers conducting the recount.
- —(c) The seal used to seal the ballot label assembly to a voting device in the precinct is broken or bears a different number than recorded, and the ballot labels or rotation of candidate names is different than that shown by the other devices in the precinct and records of the election commission.
- -(3) If a board of canvassers determines that the ballots of a precinct are not recountable, the original return of the votes for that precinct shall be taken as correct.
- -(4) A board of canvassers may conduct a recount by:
- -(a) A manual tally of ballot cards.
- (b) A tabulation of the ballot cards on a computer using a program designated specifically to count only the offices or proposals being recounted.
- (e) A tabulation of the ballot cards on a computer using the same program used on election day.
- (d) A combination of subrule (4)(a), (b), and (c).
- -(5) If a computer is used in a recount, a board of canvassers shall test the program by use of a test deck to determine that the program accurately counts the votes for the offices or proposals being recounted.
- (2) A precinct must be recounted if all of the following are satisfied:
- (a) The ballots are properly sealed in an approved ballot container in a manner that does not allow a ballot to be added to or removed from the ballot container.
- (b) The seal number on the seal is accurately recorded in the pollbook, on the ballot container certificate, or on the statement of results.
- (c) The precinct is in balance, which means the number of ballots to be recounted is the same as the number of ballots issued in the precinct as shown in the pollbook, the number of ballots tabulated as shown on the tabulator tape, or the number of ballots cast as shown by the county canvass; or the precinct was certified as out of balance during the county canvass and remains out of balance by an identical or fewer number of ballots.

Page | 109 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (3) A recount may still be conducted even if the precinct does not satisfy the conditions under subrule (1) of this rule if there is a satisfactory explanation in a sworn affidavit provided by an election inspector, a clerk, or a member of the clerk's staff to the board of canvassers demonstrating that the security of the ballots has been preserved.
- (4) An explanation is satisfactory if it documents that the security of the ballots is otherwise preserved and the board of canvassers determines that it meets the requirements set forth in instructions issued by the secretary of state in determining whether an explanation is satisfactory.
- (5) The only documents that a board of canvassers may use to determine whether a precinct may be recounted are the pollbook, the poll lists, the statement of results, the ballot container certificate, the total ballots counted by a tabulator, the county canvass notations on the number of ballots and electors in the pollbook, affidavits, and tabulator tapes.
- (6) If a precinct is not eligible for a recount, the original return of the votes for that precinct must be taken as correct.

### 6.21.2 Issue(s)

#### 6.21.2.1 Unbalanced Precincts

Under the proposed MDOS rule, it would be acceptable for inspectors to specify that a discrepancy is "unexplained" and that explanation is deemed a "conclusive and sufficient explanation for purposes of a recount". This approach does not provide sufficient rigor for a Critical Component of our National Infrastructure.

### 6.21.2.2 Canvasser Recount Authority Restriction

Under the proposed rule, canvassers would no longer be authorized to conduct a hand recount. Previously, canvassers were provided the following recount options: manual tally of ballot cards, tabulation of the ballot cards on a computer using a program designated specifically to count only the offices or proposals being recounted, tabulation of ballot cards on a computer using the same program used on election day, or a combination thereof,

### 6.21.2.3 Canvasser Testing Authority Restriction

Another notable reduction in canvasser authority is the removal of the requirement for canvassers to test the election program using a test deck to determine if the program accurately counts the votes. It is difficult to conceive of a noble reason for the deletion of this authority.

### 6.21.2.4 Canvassers Prohibited From Review of Digital Records

Board of canvassers are limited to examination of physical records in their determination of whether or not a precinct may be recounted. These records include pollbooks, the poll lists, the statement of results, the ballot container certificate, the total ballots counted by a tabulator, the county canvass notations on the number of ballots and electors in the pollbook, affidavits, and tabulator tapes. There is no ability for canvassers to review digital transaction logs in the poll book or tabulators.

Page | 110 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

### 6.21.3 Proposed Revision

- Rule 23. (1) In a recount of a precinct using an electronic voting system, rules promulgated by the board of state canvassers for use in recounts **must** shall apply except where superseded by these rules.
- (2) The ballots of a precinct shall be recountable unless any of the following conditions occur:
- (a) The seal on the transfer case is broken or bears a different number than that recorded on the poll book, the breaking or discrepancy is unexplained, and security has not been preserved.
- (b) The number of ballot cards and the number of voters shown on the poll list do not conform, and the difference cannot be explained to the satisfaction of the board of canvassers conducting the recount.
- (c) The seal used to seal the ballot label assembly to a voting device in the precinct is broken or bears a different number than recorded, and the ballot labels or rotation of candidate names is different than that shown by the other devices in the precinct and records of the election commission.
- -(3) If a board of canvassers determines that the ballots of a precinct are not recountable, the original return of the votes for that precinct shall be taken as correct.
- (4) A board of canvassers may conduct a recount by:
- -(a) A manual tally of ballot cards.
- —(b) A tabulation of the ballot cards on a computer using a program designated specifically to count only the offices or proposals being recounted.
- -(c) A tabulation of the ballot cards on a computer using the same program used on election day.
- -(d) A combination of subrule (4)(a), (b), and (c).
- -(5) If a computer is used in a recount, a board of canvassers shall test the program by use of a test deck to determine that the program accurately counts the votes for the offices or proposals being recounted.
- (2) A precinct must be recounted if all of the following are satisfied:
- (aa) There is a discrepancy between the precinct-level election results during canvassing of all tabulators, adjudication equipment and vote tally equipment across all polling locations, early voting centers and absent voter counting boards.
- (a) The ballots are properly sealed in an approved ballot container in a manner that does not allow a ballot to be added to or removed from the ballot container.
- (b) The seal number on the seal is accurately recorded in the pollbook, on the ballot container certificate, or on the statement of results.
- (c) The precinct is in balance, which means the number of ballots to be recounted is the same as the number of ballots issued in the precinct as shown in the pollbook, the number of ballots tabulated as shown on the tabulator tape, or the number of ballots cast as shown by the county canvass; or the precinct was certified as out of balance during the county canvass and remains out of balance by an identical or fewer number of ballots.
- (3) A recount may still be conducted even if the precinct does not satisfy the conditions under subrule (1) of this rule if there is a satisfactory explanation in a sworn affidavit provided by an election inspector, a clerk, or a member of the clerk's staff to the board of canvassers demonstrating that the security of the ballots has been preserved.

Page | 111 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (4) An explanation is satisfactory if it documents that the security of the ballots is otherwise preserved and the board of canvassers determines that it meets the requirements set forth in instructions issued by the secretary of state in determining whether an explanation is satisfactory.
- (5) The only documents that a board of canvassers may use digital and physical election records to determine whether a precinct may be recounted. Physical records canvassers may examine are the pollbook, the poll lists, the statement of results, the ballot container certificate, the total ballots counted by a tabulator, the county canvass notations on the number of ballots and electors in the pollbook, affidavits, and tabulator tapes. Digital records canvassers may examine are transaction logs and Cast Vote Records.
- (6) If a precinct is not eligible for a recount, the original return of the votes for that precinct must be taken as correct.

# 7 Proposed New Rules

# 7.1 R 168.775a Preparation of Accessible Voting Device

No issues identified

# 7.2 R 168.780a Early Voting

# 7.2.1 Proposed MDOS Rule

Rule 10a. (1) In addition to the duties before the opening of polls, as part of early voting responsibilities, the clerk or site supervisor shall do all of the following:

- (a) On the first day of early voting before voting begins, all of the following:
- (i) Ensure that the method of administering early voting in that municipality, whether as part of a county agreement, municipal agreement, or as a single municipality, is reflected in the programming of election equipment.
- (ii) Print a summary zero report for each tabulator. Ensure the time and date are correct on the summary zero report.
- (iii) Ensure that all election inspectors sign the bottom of the summary zero report and complete and sign the election inspectors' certificate.
  - (iv) Attach the signed summary zero report and status report to the physical pollbook.
  - (b) On each subsequent day of early voting before voting begins, all of the following:
  - (i) Print a status report for each tabulator and accessible voting device.

Page | 112 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (ii) Ensure that the number of ballots tabulated shown on the tabulator agrees with the number of votes tabulated on the previous day's physical pollbook entry.
- (iii) Print a blank test ballot on the accessible voting device. Label the blank test ballot "EARLY VOTING TEST BALLOT DAY [1, 2, 3, etc.]" and insert the ballot into the envelope for the local clerk.
  - (iv) If applicable, print a status report from the on-demand ballot printing system.
- (c) At the end of each day's early voting, secure all equipment as prescribed in section 720j of the act, MCL 168.720j.
- (d) On election day following the close of polls, all of the following:
- (i) Complete the final reconciliation and ballot summary page in the physical pollbook.
- (ii) Tally the write-in votes as prescribed by the secretary of state.
- (iii) Enter the tallies on the write-in statement of votes located in the physical pollbook.
- (iv) Ensure all write-in ballots are returned to the approved ballot container.
- (v) For each ballot container, complete a container certificate and seal with an approved seal. Enter the seal numbers on the final reconciliation and ballot summary page.
- (vi) Close the polls for each tabulator according to vendor instruction, print 3 copies of the totals tape, ensure election inspectors sign the bottom of the tapes, and place 1 copy of totals tape in an envelope for the county clerk, 1 in an envelope for the county canvassers, and 1 in an envelope for the local clerk.
- (2) In addition to the duties for election inspectors before opening of polls, as part of early voting responsibilities, the election inspectors shall do all of the following:
- (a) On the first day of early voting before voting begins, all of the following:
- (i) Have 2 election inspectors compare the summary zero report to a sample ballot to ensure that all races are included on the tape, the correct ballots were delivered to the precinct, and all totals equal zero on the summary zero report.
- (ii) Have all inspectors sign the bottom of the summary zero report and complete and sign the election inspectors' preparation certificate.
  - (iii) Attach the signed summary zero report and status report to the physical pollbook.
- (iv) Before the opening of polls, record the number on the tabulator's public counter in the physical pollbook.
  - (b) On each subsequent day of early voting before voting begins, all of the following:
- (i) Enter the number on the tabulator public counter and the number of voters on the list of voters printed from the early voting electronic pollbook the previous day in the place specified on the election inspectors' preparation certificate.
- (ii) Verify that the number on the tabulator public counter is equal to the previous day's daily reconciliation and ballot summary. If the numbers do not match, review the remarks

Page | 113 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

page of the physical pollbook for notes and verify counts against the count of applications to vote.

- (iii) Have all inspectors complete and sign the election inspectors' preparation certificate.
  - (c) After the close of early voting each day, all of the following:
- (i) Verify that the number of ballots tabulated that day equals the number of voters identified in the early voting pollbook as having been issued ballots at the early voting site that day and those tabulating absent voter ballots. If the numbers do not match, note the reason for the difference on the remarks page in the physical pollbook.
- (ii) Print a poll list from the early voting pollbook of the electors who voted at the early voting site that day and add it to the physical pollbook.
- (iii) Remove the voted ballots from the tabulator bin and seal the ballots, along with spoiled ballots and the early voting electronic pollbook, in a ballot container in the same manner as ballots are sealed on election day.
- (iv) Record on the ballot container certificate the seal number used to seal the ballot container.
  - (v) Record in the physical pollbook the seal number used to seal the ballot container.
- (vi) Record in the physical pollbook the number on the tabulator's public counter at the end of the day.
- (vii) Ensure the election materials are secured as instructed by the clerk or site supervisor.
  - (viii) Ensure the room in which the early voting site is located is locked.
  - (d) On election day following the close of polls, all of the following:
- (i) Generate the summary totals tape from the early voting tabulators and make results available to those present.
- (ii) Complete the statement of results, the ballot summary, and the certificate of election inspectors.

### 7.2.2 Issue(s)

### 7.2.2.1 Status Reports

Under proposed rules, ballot summary pages are only required to be prepared at the closing of polls on election day. There are no such records for the close of each day of early voting. Early voting

Page | 114 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

sites may experience significant personnel turnover from day to day, yet election inspectors on election day will be required to sign off on precinct-specific records that reflect early voting as well as election day activities. In order to improve the audit trail and encourage election record accountability, early voting sites must prepare a ballot summary page pertaining to the day's activities.

### 7.2.3 Proposed Revision

Rule 10a. (1) In addition to the duties before the opening of polls, as part of early voting responsibilities, the clerk or site supervisor shall do all of the following:

- (a) On the first day of early voting before voting begins, all of the following:
- (i) Ensure that the method of administering early voting in that municipality, whether as part of a county agreement, municipal agreement, or as a single municipality, is reflected in the programming of election equipment.
- (ii) Print a summary zero report for each tabulator. Ensure the time and date are correct on the summary zero report.
- (iii) Ensure that all election inspectors sign the bottom of the summary zero report and complete and sign the election inspectors' certificate.
  - (iv) Attach the signed summary zero report and status report to the physical pollbook.
  - (b) On each subsequent day of early voting before voting begins, all of the following:
  - (i) Print a status report for each tabulator and accessible voting device.
- (ii) Ensure that the number of ballots tabulated shown on the tabulator agrees with the number of votes tabulated on the previous day's physical pollbook entry.
- (iii) Print a blank test ballot on the accessible voting device. Label the blank test ballot "EARLY VOTING TEST BALLOT DAY [1, 2, 3, etc.]" and insert the ballot into the envelope for the local clerk.
  - (iv) If applicable, print a status report from the on-demand ballot printing system.
- (c) At the end of each day's early voting, secure all equipment as prescribed in section 720j of the act, MCL 168.720j.
  - (d) On election day following the close of polls, all of the following:
  - (i) Complete the final reconciliation and ballot summary page in the physical pollbook.
  - (ii) Tally the write-in votes as prescribed by the secretary of state.
  - (iii) Enter the tallies on the write-in statement of votes located in the physical pollbook.
  - (iv) Ensure all write-in ballots are returned to the approved ballot container.
- (v) For each ballot container, complete a container certificate and seal with an approved seal. Enter the seal numbers on the final reconciliation and ballot summary page.

Page | 115 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (vi) Close the polls for each tabulator according to vendor instruction, print 3 copies of the totals tape, ensure election inspectors sign the bottom of the tapes, and place 1 copy of totals tape in an envelope for the county clerk, 1 in an envelope for the county canvassers, and 1 in an envelope for the local clerk.
- (2) In addition to the duties for election inspectors before opening of polls, as part of early voting responsibilities, the election inspectors shall do all of the following:
- (a) On the first day of early voting before voting begins, all of the following:
- (i) Have 2 election inspectors compare the summary zero report to a sample ballot to ensure that all races are included on the tape, the correct ballots were delivered to the precinct, and all totals equal zero on the summary zero report.
- (ii) Have all inspectors sign the bottom of the summary zero report and complete and sign the election inspectors' preparation certificate.
  - (iii) Attach the signed summary zero report and status report to the physical pollbook.
- (iv) Before the opening of polls, record the number on the tabulator's public counter in the physical pollbook.
  - (b) On each subsequent day of early voting before voting begins, all of the following:
- (i) Enter the number on the tabulator public counter and the number of voters on the list of voters printed from the early voting electronic pollbook the previous day in the place specified on the election inspectors' preparation certificate.
- (ii) Verify that the number on the tabulator public counter is equal to the previous day's daily reconciliation and ballot summary. If the numbers do not match, review the remarks page of the physical pollbook for notes and verify counts against the count of applications to vote.
- (iii) Have all inspectors complete and sign the election inspectors' preparation certificate.
  - (c) After the close of early voting each day, all of the following:
- (i) Verify that the number of ballots tabulated that day equals the number of voters identified in the early voting pollbook as having been issued ballots at the early voting site that day and those tabulating absent voter ballots. If the numbers do not match, note the reason for the difference on the remarks page in the physical pollbook.
- (ii) Print a poll list from the early voting pollbook of the electors who voted at the early voting site that day and add it to the physical pollbook.
- (iii) Remove the voted ballots from the tabulator bin and seal the ballots, along with spoiled ballots and the early voting electronic pollbook, in a ballot container in the same manner as ballots are sealed on election day.

Page | 116 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (iv) Record on the ballot container certificate the seal number used to seal the ballot container.
  - (v) Record in the physical pollbook the seal number used to seal the ballot container.
- (vi) Record in the physical pollbook the number on the tabulator's public counter at the end of the day.
- (vii) Ensure the election materials are secured as instructed by the clerk or site supervisor.
  - (viii) Ensure the room in which the early voting site is located is locked.

(ix) Complete a ballot summary page report certified as accurate by election inspectors presiding over the early voting site.

- (d) On election day following the close of polls, all of the following:
- (i) Generate the summary totals tape from the early voting tabulators and make results available to those present.
- (ii) Complete the statement of results, the ballot summary, and the certificate of election inspectors.

# 7.3 [New] User Account Security

## 7.3.1 Issue(s)

### 7.3.1.1 Accountability Lacking

The use of generic user accounts by multiple personnel is common practice. In order to support a professional audit of an election, all digital transactions need to be tied to a specific user not a generic user account.

### 7.3.1.2 Lax Security Protocols

The user account security policies in effect are not fitting for a system designated as a critical infrastructure component by the United States. User account best practices need to be adopted as a general rule.

# 7.3.2 Proposed New Rule

[New Rule] User Account Security

- (1) All user accounts associated with the operation of any component of the Voting System must be specific to an individual user.
- (2) The use of generic accounts shared between multiple users is prohibited.

Page | 117 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

- (3) All user accounts must be granted the minimum level of access necessary to perform their duties
- (4) All user accounts must use multi-factor authentication.
- (5) All passwords must feature a minimum of 15 characters that includes a mix of upper and lower case letters, numbers and special characters.
- (6) All passwords and decryption keys must be stored using cryptographic strong hash functions like Argon2id or Scrypt.
- (7) All user accounts must update their passwords a minimum of once per six month period.
- (8) Election officials must conduct an annual audit of user account security rule compliance and report their status to the MI Department of Elections.

# 7.4 [New] Network Connections

### 7.4.1 Issue(s)

### 7.4.1.1 Digital and Physical Security Consistency

Physical security of equipment and the security of physical election record transfers involves the use of serialized deals and security logs. There are no such security measures currently in use or proposed in new rule set to treat the security of digital records in a similar manner. Numerous court exhibits have documented lax user security protocols

### 7.4.1.2 Misinformation

The general public has been told by election officials and electronic voting system vendors that electronic voting systems are not connected to the internet or that they are "air gapped". The contracts between the State of Michigan and these vendors clearly show that this is not the case as demonstrated by the following diagrams found in Dominion's contract with the State of Michigan. Such misinformation provides the general public with a false sense of security regarding the transfer of digital election records during an election. In order to ensure that the chain of custody for election records is preserved during an election, it is important to acknowledge that electronic voting systems involve a significant amount of networked data transfers. Election officials can attempt to make the case that these data transfers are secured via tools such as encryption, secure file transfer protocols, firewalls, Virtual Private Networks, and best practices regarding user account security, it is incumbent upon them to demonstrates that these digital security protocols are in place and effective in much the same way as physical security measures can be demonstrated.

Page | 118 August 16, 2024

# By Patrick Colbeck

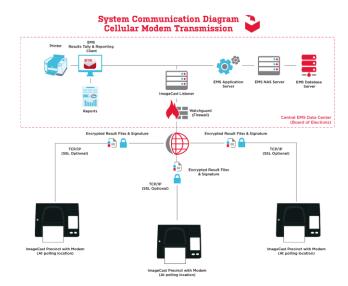


Figure 9 System Communication Diagram Dominion Contract with State of Michigan



Figure 10 Election Night Reporting Diagram Dominion Contract wi

# 7.4.1.3 Bipartisan Oversight Lacking

Inspection of physical election records typically require bipartisan signoff attesting to their accuracy. There is no such requirement for bipartisan oversight of digital election records. When one considers that the physical records signed off on by election inspectors are often simply

Page | 119 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

printouts of digital records, it is clear that there is a lack of bipartisan approval workflows for digital record transfers.

### 7.4.2 Proposed New Rule

- (1) The clerk or site supervisor is responsible for ensuring the security of all digital record transfers.
- (2) All digital record data transfers conducted via a digital Storage Device must be accompanied by a security log maintained by the clerk or site supervisor. This log must include the following information as a minimum: Time data was transferred to new storage media, source of digital data, serial number of digital data storage device, description of digital data, reason for data transfer, and signatures of bipartisan election inspectors who witnessed transfer.
- (3) All digital record data transfers conducted via cellular connections must satisfy the following security requirements:
  - a. End-to-end encryption
  - b. Uses VPN
  - c. Each device on the network must be protected by a firewall
  - d. Compliance with user account security rule for both endpoints of communication
- (4) All digital record data transfers conducted via Bluetooth connections must satisfy the following security requirements:
  - a. Turn off Bluetooth when not in use
  - b. Set all devices paired to "Hidden" or "Non-Discoverable"
  - c. Keep firmware and software updated
  - d. Require re-authentication whenever connecting
  - e. Each device on the network must be protected by a firewall
  - f. Compliance with user account security rule for all devices on network
- (5) All digital record data transfers conducted via WiFi connections must satisfy the following security requirements:
  - a. WPA3 or WPA2 encryption protocol
  - b. Routers must disable SSID broadcast
  - c. Router firewall must be anabled
  - d. Each device on the network must be protected by a firewall
  - e. Compliance with user account security rule for all devices paired together
- (6) All digital record data transfers conducted via ethernet connections must satisfy the following security requirements:
  - a. Use VPN for all devices on network
  - b. Each device on the network must be protected by a firewall
  - Use Access Control Lists (ACLs) to restrict access to network based upon IP addresses, protocols or ports
  - d. Compliance with user account security rule for all devices on network

Page | 120 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

# 7.5 [New] Election Night Reporting

### 7.5.1 Issue(s)

#### 7.5.1.1 Transparency

Non-Government Organizations (NGO's) such as SCYTL and the Associated Press have access to vote tally data from election officials and vote tally equipment. The general public does not have access to this data until it has been shared by these NGO's. Because NGO's are not subject to FOIA requests, the general public is therefore not privy to a key link in the election record chain of custody.

### 7.5.1.2 Cybersecurity

Protecting the ENR system from cyber threats is critical. This includes measures like running antivirus software, enabling multi-factor authentication, and having backup plans in case of system failures.

#### 7.5.1.3 Fractional Vote Tallies

All vote tallies should be reported as integers not decimals. No voters should be associated with a fractional vote, yet there is evidence to suggest that the State of Michigan reports election night results using a decimal-based data format. MDOS refused to provide the specifications for the Michigan Standard Results File Format in response to my FOIA request. In their contract with the State of Michigan, however, Dominion Voting Systems is quite clear about the fact that they report election results using the Election Markup Language (EML). The federal government established EML via the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST). Of notable concern is the fact that the EML reports vote tallies in Double Precision (aka Decimal or fractional) format NOT integers. I do not have access to such data transfers within Michigan's election system network, but election results provided by Edison Research report to media outlets reports election results that ensure accuracy of fractional votes only out three decimal places for elections featuring millions of votes. Rounding error alone can result in significant discrepancies in election results.

### 7.5.1.4 Data Accuracy

Ensuring the accuracy of the reported data involves rigorous verification and validation processes, including post-election audits and canvassing to review and correct any discrepancies.

# 7.5.1.5 Public Perception

Managing public expectations is important, as unofficial results reported on election night are often perceived as final, even though they are subject to change as additional ballots are counted and certified.

### 7.5.2 Proposed New Rule

(1) Election officials must provide the public with access to any Election Night Reporting data accessible by NGO's in the same format as that provided to the NGO's.

Page | 121 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

(2) All vote tally records must be formatted as integers reflecting the number of votes cast. Under no circumstances is it acceptable to store or transfer vote or vote tally data as a decimal or otherwise fraction-based number.

# 7.6 [New] Software Configuration

### 7.6.1 Issue(s)

#### 7.6.1.1 Non-Certified Software

Non-certified software such as SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS) has been found installed on Election Management System (EMS) servers in the State of Michigan. SSMS is a powerful tool that enables those with ill intent to modify election results without leaving a trace.

### 7.6.2 Proposed New Rule

(1) If any election equipment is found with non-certified software installed, all election results for the jurisdiction where the non-certified software installation is found are de-certified pending a hand recount of all ballots within that jurisdiction conducted by county election officials with bipartisan oversight.

# 7.7 [New] Preservation of Digital and Physical Records

### 7.7.1 Issue(s)

#### 7.7.1.1 Failure to Comply with USC 52 Section 20701

MDOS has issued unlawful directives to election officials releasing them of record preservation for critical records needed for audits under the auspices of R 168.790(18). Reference the following excerpt from their August 22, 2022 memorandum to clerks.

**RELEASE OF SECURITY:** The security of ballots and election equipment is released as follows:

Ballots, programs and related materials: The security of all optical scan ballots, programs, test decks, accuracy test results, edit listings and any other related materials is released under the Rules for Electronic Voting Systems, R 168.790(18), as of September 18, 2022 except in those areas where local recounts extend beyond September 18, 2022. Optical scan ballots and materials involved in local recounts which extend beyond September 18 can be released by the Board of County Canvassers upon the successful completion of the recount.

*E-Pollbook laptops and flash drives:* The EPB software and associated files must be deleted from all devices by the seventh calendar day following the final canvass and certification of the election (August 26, 2022) unless a petition for recount has been filed and the recount has not been completed or the deletion of the data has been stayed by an order of the court or the Secretary of State. The EPB paper printout has already been produced and secured on election night. Jurisdictions should consult with city, township, or

Page | 122 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

county counsel regarding any pending court orders, subpoenas, or records requests regarding these materials.

These directives have even gone beyond the scope of this rule to order election officials to delete EPB software and associated files which would otherwise provide important activity logs and voter registration information for post-election audits. These directives violate USC 52 Section 20701 and must be corrected.

### 7.7.2 Proposed New Rule

(1) Every officer of election shall retain and preserve, for a period of twenty-two months from the date of any general, special, or primary election, all digital and physical records created in support of the conduct of the election except, when required by law, such records and papers may be delivered to another officer of election.

# 8 Proposed Rule Deletions

# 8.1 R 168.783 Hanging Chads

No issues identified

# 8.2 R 168.787 Delegate to County Convention

No issues identified

# 9 Findings

My evaluation of the proposed MDOS ruleset for electronic voting systems can be summarized into three basic findings:

### Finding #1:

 The proposed rules for electronic voting systems have insufficient scope and rigor to ensure the accuracy and integrity of our elections as required by our Michigan Constitution.

### Finding #2:

The proposed rules appear to be biased towards diminishing the rights of voters and local
election officials in favor of increased control of elections and election records by the
Michigan Department of State. Once again, our Michigan Constitution requires that all
voting rights be liberally construed in favor of voters' rights in order to effectuate its purpose.

# Finding #3:

• The Michigan Department of State appears to be engaged in deliberate and repeated abuse of the rule -making process to subvert the integrity of our elections

Page | 123 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

Further elaboration on each of these findings follows.

# 9.1 Insufficient Rigor to Ensure Accuracy and Integrity of Elections

In support of Finding #1 regarding insufficient rigor to ensure the accuracy and integrity of our elections, I submit the following observations:

In a ruleset specific to electronic voting systems, there is notably zero mention of best practices regarding security protocols for electronic systems. There are quite a few references to the use of seals to preserve the integrity of physical records such as ballot containers, but zero references to their digital record equivalents such as user account, device access or network security protocols.

In a ruleset specific to electronic voting systems, there is notably zero reference to secure digital record transfers for systems designed to connect to the internet as evidenced by election official communications, election procedure manuals, contracts between electronic voting system vendors, my own personal observations as a Certified Microsoft Small Business Specialist, and even the Department of State's own website where it encourages clerks experiencing difficulties with internet connections to contact their friends at Connected Nation.

In a ruleset specific to electronic voting *systems*, there are rules pertaining only to the use of two components of that system – hand-fed polling location tabulators and voter accessible devices. The ruleset ignores any usage guidance for batch-fed tabulators, electronic pollbooks, adjudication equipment, vote tally equipment, networking equipment and election night reporting.

In a ruleset specific to electronic voting systems, the requirement for end-to-end system testing replicating how this critical infrastructure performs on election night is prefaced with the words "if practicable". So, we only need to test the full system if it is convenient. It should be noted that the 7,060 vote flipped experienced in Antrim County would have been detected if end-to-end testing of the election day configuration had been performed.

in a ruleset specific to electronic voting systems, there seems to be an inexplicable focus upon the security of physical records NOT digital records.

### 9.2 Bias Towards Diminishing Rights of Voters

In support of Finding #2 regarding a bias against voters' rights, I submit the following observations:

Many voters have expressed concerns with the integrity of mail-in voting, yet the ruleset fails to provide any substantive guidance on the components integral to the mail-in voting process such as batch-fed tabulators, electronic pollbooks, and adjudication equipment.

Many voters have expressed concerns with the integrity of our voter rolls. Investigators have shared evidence of dead voters, people who have moved out of a given jurisdiction, people registered illegal addresses such as businesses or apartments without an apartment number, or people who are not American citizens – all being listed on our active voter rolls. The July 2024 QVF, which is statutorily required to maintain voter history records for a period of not less than 5 years, shows that there were 302,380 more ballots cast in 2020 election then there were voters. Against this

Page | 124 August 16, 2024

### By Patrick Colbeck

backdrop, the proposed ruleset governing electronic voting systems provides zero substantive guidance on the use of electronic pollbooks and the state Qualified Voter File.

Many voters have expressed concerns with vote tally anomalies, yet the ruleset fails to provide any substantive guidance on the components of the vote tally chain of custody including vote tally equipment and election night reporting.

Many voters have expressed concerns with internet connections, yet the ruleset makes zero references to network security protocols regarding either official or unofficial record transfers.

Many voters have expressed concerns with fractional voting, yet the ruleset makes no reference to the need for electronic voting systems to store and report vote tally data as integers not fractions.

Voters are guaranteed the right to an audit of statewide elections to ensure their accuracy and integrity. In order to accomplish any such audit, any auditor must be provided with an audit trail sufficient to verify the accuracy and integrity of our elections. The startling gaps in the audit trail enabled by the proposed ruleset for electronic voting system are either the result of gross negligence on the matter of securing a critical system of our nation's infrastructure or indicate a deliberate attempt to enable election fraud.

# 9.3 Continued Abuse of Rule-Making Process

The failure of the Michigan Senate to grant immediate effect on SB 603 means that the provisions of this bill will not be effective until 91 days after the legislature adjourns sine die for the 2024 regular session. The timing of the proposed rule changes seems to indicate an intention to use JCARS to expedite to enactment of some of the provisions of SB 603 through an expedited rulemaking process rather than provide sufficient time for a thorough review of rules governing a critical infrastructure component of the United States. If this is indeed the intent that drove the timing of the release of these proposed rules, it is clearly unacceptable.

Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson has been found by seven different courts to have issued unlawful guidance regarding elections. Seven. During oral testimony on October 3, 2023 in the O'Halloran v Benson case before the Michigan Court of Appeals, Department of State lawyer Heather Meingast demonstrated her client's flagrant disregard for the law in the following concerning statement:

"I don't think we would want to create a war between the branches and if there was something telling us to do something and we thought it was OK, we would probably do it. But if ... this isn't something that we can really do because we couldn't really control it or it's a bad idea we might just choose not to do it you could leave that statute sitting there and we could continue to issue instructions and give guidance and somebody would probably sue us."

Voters were forced to sue her multiple times at their own expense, often AFTER the impact of her unlawful guidance was already inflicted upon the conduct of our elections. This blatant disregard for the rule of law is concerning. This behavioral pattern underscores the need for a professional review of these proposed rules for electronic voting systems BEFORE they go into effect.

Page | 125 August 16, 2024

By Patrick Colbeck

# 10Conclusion

Electronic voting systems are complex. We rely upon the integrity of regulatory bodies to secure these complex systems. These regulatory bodies in turn delegate this responsibility to non-government organizations (NGO's) with personnel that have the necessary skillsets to evaluate the security of such systems. These NGO's are not subject to any substantive oversight. NGO's, including electronic voting system vendors, are not subject to FOIA requests for example. This oversight is made even more problematic by the fact that the contracts between government bodies and electronic voting system vendors feature illusory provisions. These illusory provisions prevent examination of the design and implementation of these systems by all but a select group of election officials. Meanwhile, more and more of our election processes are being ceded to these NGO's because of the complexity of elections featuring electronic voting systems.

During my aerospace engineering career, I was responsible for designing elements of the International Space Station life support system. Since the lives of the Astronauts depended upon the effectiveness and integrity of my design for their very lives, my systems were viewed as "critical infrastructure". There was a significant degree of rigor applied to the design, analysis and testing of these systems. We conducted rigorous failure modes and effects analyses, conducted rigorous component-level and system-level tests based in large part upon these analyses, and enacted strict configuration control practices to prevent tampering with the integrity of our flight articles.

Our election systems have also been designated as critical infrastructure. This proposed ruleset, however, does not come anywhere close to the rigor needed to ensure the accuracy and integrity of our electronic voting systems. In fact, this proposed ruleset for electronic voting systems does not come close to providing the level of security evident in the regulations for children toys much less what is needed for an element of our nation's critical infrastructure. We need to do better. The 126-page report that I submit to you today is my attempt to assist the Michigan Department of State achieve its constitutional obligation to ensure the accuracy and integrity of our elections.

The accuracy and integrity of our elections in Michigan would be compromised significantly if the rules proposed by the Michigan Department of State were to be adopted without the incorporation of the recommendations cited in this report.

# Patrick Colbeck

President, Michigan Grassroots Alliance

Former Michigan State Senator and Vice Chair of Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee

Certified Microsoft Small Business Specialist

Page | 126 August 16, 2024