



The seal of the Michigan Secretary of State is circular with a blue border. It features two deer flanking a central shield with a figure holding a staff. Above the shield is an eagle with wings spread. The text 'STATE OF MICHIGAN' is at the top, 'SECRETARY OF STATE' at the bottom, and 'E PLURIBUS UNUM' on a banner above the eagle. A ribbon below the shield contains the motto 'SI QUERIS PENINSULAM AMERHAM CIRCUMSPICE'. The word 'TUEBOR' is written across the shield.

PROPOSAL
2022-2
UPDATE

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PROPOSAL
2022-2:
CHANGES
TO
ELECTION
PROCESS

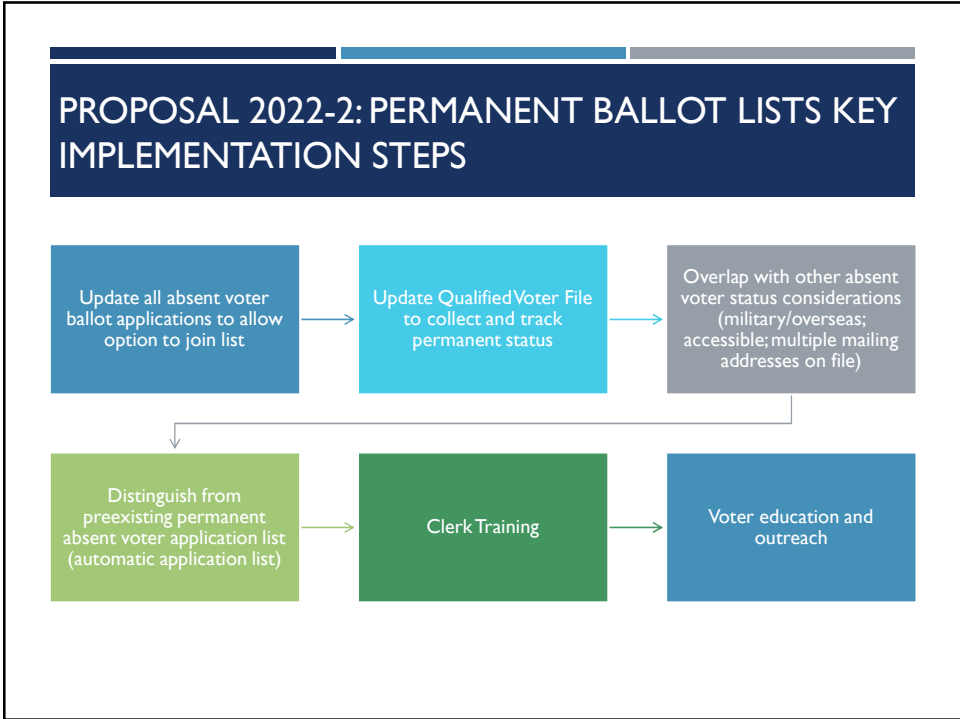
- Permanent absent voter (mail ballot) list
- Prepaid return postage for absent voter applications and ballots
- Absent voter ballot drop boxes
- Early in-person voting

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PROPOSAL 2022-2: PERMANENT ABSENT VOTER (MAIL) BALLOT

- All voters have right to complete a single application and be mailed an absent voter ballot for all future elections
- Permanent absent voter (mail ballot) status moves with voter when voter updates registration address within state, including across jurisdictions
- Voters are taken off list if: upon request; cancellation of registration; reliable information that the voter has moved from registration address; not voting for 6 years
- Required for all jurisdictions and all elections

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PROPOSAL 2022-2: PERMANENT ABSENT VOTER (MAIL) BALLOT

- Qualified Voter File (QVF) will be utilized to maintain list, automatically update moves, track ballots sent and received by clerk, voter history for update of status (in progress through 2023)
- Potential increased Ballot Costs
- Anticipated increased hours for clerk/election assistants to manage program

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PROPOSAL 2022-2: PRE-PAID POSTAGE AND BALLOT TRACKING

- All voters have right to state-funded prepaid return postage on absent voter applications and ballots
- All voters have right to state-funded system that tracks submitted absent voter applications and ballots (www.Michigan.gov/vote), including electronic notifications regarding deficiencies in application/ballot and need to cure (www.Michigan.gov/vote)

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Both prepaid postage and ballot tracking likely require design changes to applications and ballot envelopes for optimal implementation

Jurisdiction mailing practices vary widely (manual mail delivery/mail service providers and vendors)

United States Postal Service and application/envelope print vendor approval and design process can take many months.

Changes needed to programming of Qualified Voter File and Michigan.gov/Vote (Michigan Voter Information Center) to facilitate tracking information and interaction with vendor products

Will not be ready for May 2023 election, but it is required. BOE will work with jurisdictions to reimburse return postage cost.

PRE-PAID POSTAGE AND BALLOT TRACKING: KEY IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

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PROPOSAL 2022-2: ABSENT VOTER BALLOT DROP BOXES

All voters have right to state-funded absent voter ballot drop boxes

Each municipality must have at least one drop box, and one for every 15,000 registered voters

Drop boxes must accept absent voter applications and ballots, be available 24/7, and be distributed equitably

Required for all elections

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ABSENT VOTER BALLOT DROP BOXES: IMPLEMENTATION KEY STEPS

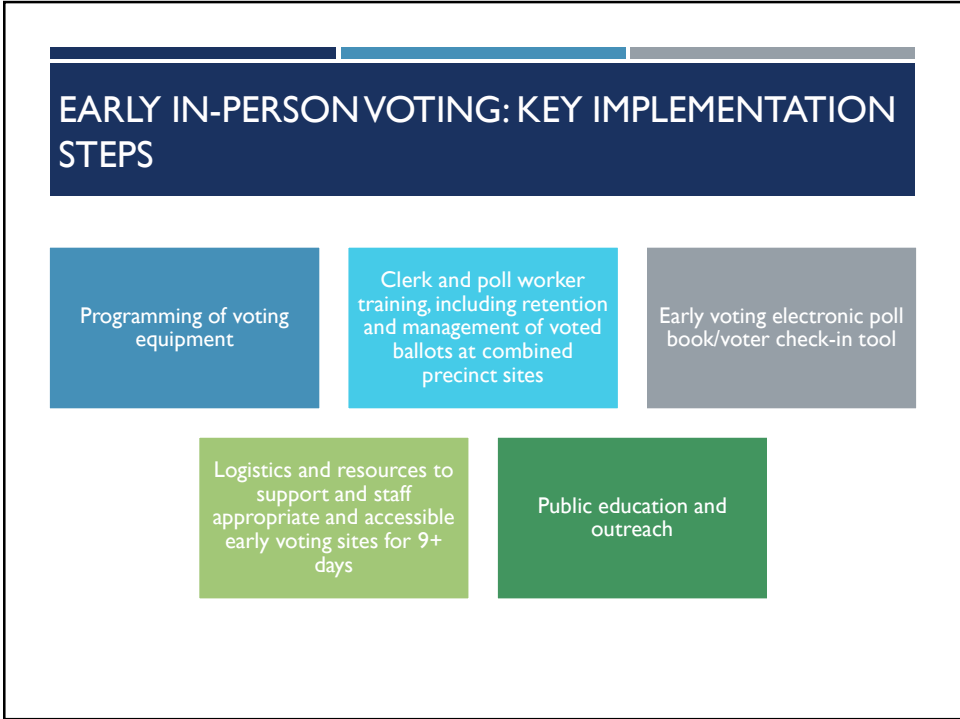
- Statewide purchase of drop boxes represents a substantial procurement effort; vendor capability to produce at scale and timeline TBD
- Up to 2,000 drop boxes may be needed
- Statutory requirements for secure drop boxes represent financial and logistical challenges for many jurisdictions
- Previous drop box chain of custody procedures passed by legislature late 2022

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PROPOSAL 2022-2: EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING

- All voters have right to 9+ days of early in-person voting (at minimum, second Saturday before election through Sunday before election)
- Only required for state/federal elections. Optional for local/special elections
- Early in-person voting is polling-place style voting (voters put ballots through tabulator), not in-person absentee voting
- Ballots are tabulated but tabulator reports are not run/results generated until election night
- Municipalities within a county may share early voting sites hosted by municipality or county

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Initial Implementation Proposal 2

- Election officials need statutory guidance on the details of implementing parts of Proposal 2, including:
 - How voters will be checked in on electronic poll books for early voting
 - How clerks should retain and store ballots from multiple precincts when the same voting machine is used
 - How postmarked ballots that arrive after election day will be processed by municipal clerks, tabulated and shared with county canvassing boards

LEGISLATION NEEDED FOR SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION

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LEGISLATION NEEDED FOR SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION: FUNDING

- Clerks should be involved in determining specific cost breakdowns, as they will vary by jurisdiction
- We already know funding needed for:
 - 9 days of early voting, including at least 3 election workers for 72 hours, equipment and rental space
 - Staffing for absentee ballot processing dependent on time provided before Election Day and clerk’s preferred structure for process and tabulation
 - Ballot drop box security
 - Additional equipment/permanent staffing

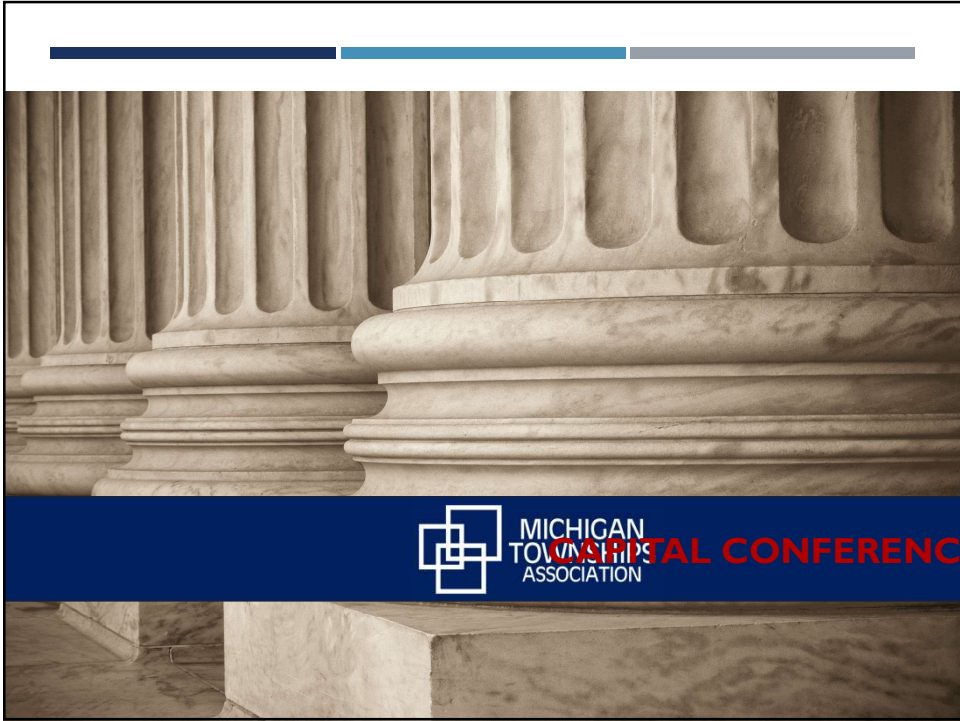
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PROPOSAL 2022-2 UPDATE

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