Exhibit E

# BOARD OF STATE CANVASSERS MEETING

March 24, 2016

Prepared by



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STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RUTH JOHNSON, SECRETARY OF STATE

BOARD OF STATE CANVASSERS MEETING

The State Capitol Building, Room 426, Lansing, Michigan

Thursday, March 24, 2016, 3:00 p.m.

BOARD:

MS. JEANNETTE BRADSHAW - Chair

MR. NORM SHINKLE - Vice Chair

MS. COLLEEN PERO - Board Member

MR. CHRISTOPHER THOMAS - Elections Director

MS. MELISSA MALERMAN - Elections Staff

APPEARANCES:

For the State: MS. DENISE C. BARTON (P41535)

MR. ERIK GRILL (P64713) MR. ADAM FRACASSI (P79546) Assistants Attorney General

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1		TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE	
2	1.	Notice of meeting and affidavit of posting	4	
4				É
5	2.	Consideration of meeting minutes for approval	4	Jy IN
6	3.	Canvass and certification of the results of the	5	CI
7		Presidential Primary held March 8, 2016	5	<u>(</u>
8	4.	Recording the results of the following special elections held March 8, 2016		10/20
9		The results of the Kent County canvass for the		0770
10		special election for the office of State Representative, 75th District	13	77.
11			15	
12		The results of the Allegan County canvass for the special election for the office of State Representative, 80th District	14	IICH
<ul><li>13</li><li>14</li><li>15</li></ul>		The results of the Lapeer County canvass for the special election for the office of State Representative, 82nd District	15	I
16	5.	Discussion and public comment regarding the proposed revision of the Board of State Canvassers' procedure		
17		for rebutting the statutory presumption that a		
18	signature on a petition that proposes an amendment to the constitution or to initiate legislation is			
19		petition was filed	15	
20		Statement by Jeffrey Hank	18	
21		Statement by Ellis Boal	22 26	
22		Statement by Luanne Kozma	29	
23	6.	Such other and further business as may be properly presented to the Board	33	
24			33	
25	7.	Adjournment	35	
		Page 2		



1	EXHIBITS	Z
2		
3	Exhibit 1 marked	4
4	Exhibit 2 marked	4
5	counties; Official Election Results)	M
6		
7		6/1
8		0/2(
9		020
10		12:
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	Page 3	



1	Lansing, Michigan
2	Thursday, March 24, 2016 - at 3:00 p.m.
3	(Exhibits 1 and 2 marked)
4	MS. BRADSHAW: Good afternoon. I'd like to kind
5	of keep on a schedule today. I'd like to call this meeting
6	of the Board of State Canvassers to order. With that, I
7	want to make sure that our Notice for our open meeting was
8	posted correctly.
9	MR. THOMAS: The meeting Notice was posted under
10	the rules of the Board and the Open Meetings Act.
11	MS. BRADSHAW: Thank you very much, Mr. Thomas.
12	At this time we'll have consideration for the minutes of the
13	meeting that was held on March 7th.
14	MS. PERO: I move that we approve the minutes of
15	the March 7th meeting.
16	MR. SHINKLE: Support.
17	MS. BRADSHAW: It's moved and supported to approve
18	the minutes of the meeting held on March 7th.
19	And that takes us to our third item on the agenda,
20	the
21	MS. PERO: We have to vote.
22	MS. BRADSHAW: Oh, I'm sorry. Sorry about that.
23	We skipped on the Notice. So all those in favor or the
24	approval of the minutes of the previous meeting held on
25	March 7th say "aye."
	Page 4



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1
                  MS. PERO: Aye.
2
                  MR. SHINKLE: Aye.
3
                  MS. BRADSHAW: Aye. All those opposed? Hearing
        none, the motion carries. Now we'll go to our third item on
        the agenda, the canvass and certification of the results of
        the Presidential Primary held on March 8th, 2016.
                  MR. THOMAS: Okay. We had a great turnout, that's
8
        for certain. Now, interestingly, our 2.5 million turnout
        was 35 percent of the registered voters. And in '72, it was
        actually 46 per, and in 1976 it was actually 39 percent, but
10
        it was a much lower number. The highest number was 1.9
11
12
        million, and that was in '72. And so this was -- this was
13
        about equal to the 1990 gubernatorial.
14
                  MS. PERO: I remember that one.
15
                  MR. THOMAS: Yeah, yeah. It was --
16
                  MR. SHINKLE: Engler Granholm.
17
                  MS. PERO: No, Engler Blanchard.
18
                  MR. THOMAS: Engler Blanchard.
19
                  MR. SHINKLE: Engler Blanchard?
20
                  MR. THOMAS: It was about 2.5 million, yeah.
21
        it was a good turnout. We had some issues. We did have
22
        some places run out of ballots, which is never a good thing.
23
        Some of them had difficulty in -- they had a hard time with
        a baseline for the Democratic ballots, because the Democrats
25
        really haven't used the primary. President Obama was on it
                                 Page 5
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in 2012 but it was obviously unopposed, so that was not a good one. So it was a good turnout on the Democratic side, as well.
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And ballots, a couple areas ran out of both Republican ballots and Democratic ballots, which is not a good thing. So it's an area we're doing a little research on to find out how extensive that was, and we'll be putting procedures out on how to handle that. There's a number of places that actually have equipment to reproduce ballots on Election Day, and a lot of that was done. What we want to make sure is that they don't hold people waiting for those. The best thing is to go ahead and make copies. We always tell them don't use that last ballot, because you need to go make copies of that and people can vote those and they can be hand counted rather than, 1) turning people away or, 2) asking them to wait around for an hour or two while somebody creates those ballots. So there's a little bit of work there that we'll be looking into. But beyond that, it was nice to see the turnout and nice to have that behind us.

So we have received the reports from the 83 counties and we've compiled that for you and you can see the statewide results, which will be attached to this. Is that how we'll do this? So this will be attached, the canvass itself. I think it's noteworthy there were 1.3 million Republican ballots cast and 1.2 million Democratic ballots



cast. Donald Trump, the highest vote getter in the Republican Party with 483,000, and Bernie Sanders was the highest with 598,000. Now unlike any other election, we do report these out by congressional district, and it's necessary for allocation purposes for delegates that they use, as they go to their conventions — to caucuses and conventions to select delegates. So that is also there.

Now in the memo you will see that we had one issue, and that issue was in the City of Detroit. There are about 100 absent voter counting boards and, obviously, the City of Detroit has both the 13th and 14th congressional districts within it. For whatever reason, on 24 of the absent voter counting boards they had a mixture of both the 13th and 14th congressional districts. And we found this out after tabulation had begun, so there really was no way to undo that. So we worked closely with the Wayne County Board of Canvassers and the City of Detroit, and they have canvassed this with a separate break-out. Now, these totals are included within the congressional districts but they also give a separate break-out of these 24 that shows what the results are.

We've done some work in-house which we're going to give to the two political parties. I don't think the Republican Party is going to have a whole lot of issues. There weren't many ballots there. Let's see. We've got the



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1
        total number. There were 7,126 ballots all together in
2
        these mixed; 6,744 were Democrat and 382 were Republican.
3
        So we were able to go in and look through the Qualified
        Voter File the source of the voters in each of these
        counting boards who filed absentee applications and ballots
        were received back from them. So we can show the parties,
        if it's anything they need, what the proportion of each
8
        congressional district is within each of the AV counting
9
        boards. So I -- my quess is the numbers aren't large enough
10
        to affect a delegate one way or another. But if they were,
11
        they could probably get very close on using numbers to show
12
        how many -- in each of these counting boards how many were
13
        District 13 and how many were District 14.
14
                  MR. SHINKLE: Chris, was it in effect taking some
        from the 14th and putting them in the 13th and vice versa?
15
16
                  MR. THOMAS: Yeah.
17
                  MR. SHINKLE: So the question is the net change, I
18
               Do you have that number?
19
                  MR. THOMAS: No, I don't really have a net.
20
        show you -- I can pass this around and you can kind of see
        how -- and they're not all lopsided, but some of them are
21
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Page 8

fairly close. So like in the third, it was 321 and -- what

have we got here? -- total. Okay. So we can show both not

only the numbers, but we can show what the candidates got.

And then I think they can make a pretty good estimate on



each one if that's necessary.

My sense is, you know, one, the vote turnout in Detroit was not that high. It was not as high as other parts of the state. I think they were in the mid 20s. They were not up to the 35 percent. So in any event, we are going to give the Democrat and the Republican parties this spreadsheet and -- if it's of assistance to them in coming up with any proportionate for allocation of delegates. And I think Detroit just didn't have that in mind when they put it together. Because normally Detroit will never split a precinct. Even their physical polling places are never split. So that has some precincts with very small numbers, to avoid splits. And I guess they just -- it was not in their mind, when they laid this out, the ballots were all the same, there's no difference on the candidates for ballot forms or anything.

And they're the only ones that are left that can really do these old AV counting boards. Everyone else has to have a counting board that corresponds to the precinct ballot. So that would have, I think, allayed that. But they're aware of it now, and I will make sure that somebody tells them in four years that they ought to do something different.

MS. PERO: Is there a reason that they're the only ones left that do this? I mean, will that change?



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1
                   MR. THOMAS: Yeah, I think it may change.
2
         Initially it was size.
3
                   MS. PERO: Right.
                   MR. THOMAS: I mean, nobody was anywhere close to
        their size. And I think there was miscommunication. While
6
        you do have to have a separate counting board for each
7
        precinct elsewhere, there's nothing to stop them from
8
        putting them into groups and counting them --
9
                   MS. PERO: Within, yeah.
10
                   MR. THOMAS: -- as like a large counting board.
11
        It's just that, you know, the ballots are separate and the
12
        equipment can take a number of ballot forms without any
13
        problem. So it may be a legislative change that's coming.
14
                   MS. PERO: Okay.
15
                   MS. BRADSHAW: How may many precincts does the
16
        City of Detroit have?
17
                   MR. THOMAS: Well, they've got just about 500 all
18
        together and then -- just a little under 500. And they have
19
        180 counting boards. So it was, you know, basically 25
20
        percent that had them mixed.
21
                   MR. SHINKLE: But the AV counting boards, the 100,
22
        are for a particular congressional district. None of them
23
        have both the 13th and the 14th in one counting board, do
24
        they?
25
                   MR. THOMAS: Well, in these 24 they did. That was
                                Page 10
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1
        the problem is that they mixed the ballots in those two in
2
        those 24.
                   MS. PERO: Normally they'd have different ballots
        so they could do it differently.
4
                   MR. THOMAS: Yeah.
5
6
                   MS. PERO: There was no difference in the ballot.
7
                   MR. THOMAS: Right.
8
                   MS. BRADSHAW: Was there any other issue, though?
9
        Was there any tabulator issues or anything like that that
10
        came about?
11
                   MR. THOMAS: No. We heard very little in that
12
        regard, you know. I mean, we may have had a few calls, but
13
        on the whole it seemed to run pretty smoothly. It was an
        easy ballot, it's a short ballot. It works pretty well.
14
15
        Really, the biggest problem was when they started running
        out of them.
16
17
                   MS. PERO: Well, I went on MSU's campus with an
18
        international delegation, and no one was voting because it
19
        was during spring break.
20
                   MR. THOMAS: Right.
21
                   MS. PERO: And these were precincts that were
22
        entirely located on campus, and people were just there all
23
        day.
24
                   MR. THOMAS: Just sitting.
25
                   MS. PERO: They were happy to see us and show the
                                Page 11
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1
        people how the machines worked.
2
                  MR. THOMAS: Yeah.
3
                  MS. PERO: They wanted them to vote, but no.
                  MR. THOMAS: Yeah, about anywhere else you would
        have gone you would have seen quite a bit of activity.
6
                  MS. PERO: Yeah.
                  MR. THOMAS: Yeah. So I think that's all we have
8
        really to report on this. It was, beyond that, a smooth
        election. And so we do have a recommended motion for you.
10
                  MS. PERO: Okay. I'll do that. I move that the
11
        Board certify that the attached numbers represent a true
12
        statement of the votes given in the March 8, 2016,
13
        Presidential Primary.
14
                  MR. SHINKLE: Support.
15
                  MS. BRADSHAW: Okay. It's been moved and
16
        supported that the Board certify that the attached is a true
17
        statement of the votes given on the March 8, 2016. And no
18
        further discussion, all those in favor say "aye."
19
                  MS. PERO: Aye.
20
                  MR. SHINKLE: Aye.
21
                  MS. BRADSHAW: Aye. All those opposed? None.
22
        The motion carries.
23
                  MR. THOMAS: And I might add, you cannot recount a
        presidential primary.
25
                  MR. SHINKLE: Oh.
                                Page 12
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MS. BRADSHAW: All right. With that, we will come
to our agenda item number four, which is recording the
results of the special elections held on March 8th for the
State Representative in the 75th, 80th and 82nd districts.
MS. MALERMAN: Thank you. Members, we had three
vacancies in state representative districts that were filled

vacancies in state representative districts that were filled by special election on March 8th. All of the districts are wholly contained within a single county, and when this happens it's the Board's role to record the results rather than to canvass and certify like you just did for the Presidential Primary. So we've prepared separate motions and memorandum for each of the districts so we can go through them one by one.

The vacancy in the 75th District is out of Kent County. David LaGrand was the representative who was elected at that election. He had 13,601 votes. And we have a recommended motion for you.

MR. SHINKLE: I would move that the Board record the results of the March 8, 2016 special election for the office of State Representative, 75th District, as certified by the Kent County Board of Canvassers on March 15, 2016.

MS. PERO: Support.

MS. BRADSHAW: Moved and supported that the Board record the results of the March 8, 2016 special election for the State Representative, 75th District. Any other



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1
        questions? Hearing none, all those in favor say "aye."
2
                   MS. PERO: Aye.
3
                   MR. SHINKLE: Aye.
4
                   MS. BRADSHAW: Aye. All those opposed? Motion
        carries.
6
                  MS. MALERMAN: Thank you. The next district is
7
        the 80th State Representative District. This is located in
8
        Allegan County. Mary Whiteford is the candidate who won
9
        that election. She had 14,860 votes out of 23,229 cast.
        And there is a motion in your packet.
10
                   MR. SHINKLE: I would move that the Board record
11
12
        the results of the March 8, 2016 special election for the
13
        office of State Representative, 80th District, as certified
14
        by the Allegan County Board of Canvassers on March 10th,
15
        2016.
16
                   MS. PERO: Support.
17
                   MS. BRADSHAW: It's moved and supported that the
18
        results for the March 8th special election held for State
19
        Representative, 80th District, be recorded. All those -- if
20
         there are no other questions, all those in favor say "aye."
21
                   MS. PERO: Aye.
22
                   MR. SHINKLE: Aye.
23
                  MS. BRADSHAW: Aye.
24
                  MS. BRADSHAW: All those opposed? Motion carries.
25
```



1	MS. MALERMAN: Thank you. The last vacancy we
2	have on the agenda is the one to fill the State
3	Representative, District 82. That's located in Lapeer
4	County. Gary Howell is the individual who was elected. He
5	had 13,907 votes. There was a total of 23,741 votes cast.
6	There's a motion in your packet.
7	MS. PERO: I move that the Board record the
8	results of the March 8, 2016 election special election
9	for the office of State Representative, 82nd District, as
10	certified by the Lapeer County Board of Canvassers on
11	March 15th, 2016.
12	MR. SHINKLE: Support.
13	MS. BRADSHAW: Moved and supported that the Board
14	record the results of the March 8th special election for the
15	office of State Representative in the 82nd District.
16	Hearing no other questions, all those in favor say "aye."
17	MR. SHINKLE: Aye.
18	MS. PERO: Aye.
19	MS. BRADSHAW: Aye. All those opposed? Motion
20	carries.
21	We'll be moving to our fifth item on our agenda,
22	which is the continuation of our discussion and public
23	comments in regard to proposed revisions of the Board's
24	procedures for rebutting the statutory presumption that a
25	signature on a petition that proposes an amendment to the
	Page 15



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constitution or initiates legislation is stale and void if made more than 180 days before the petition is filed.
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MR. THOMAS: I want to, first of all, update you on Senate Bill 776, which has passed the Senate, that sets forth a flat 180-day period without any rebuttable presumption. There was a hearing last week in the House Elections Commission committee. There was good discussion there, no activity since then. So the legislature is now on break, so we would expect when they get back there may be further activity regarding that bill. As we have digested the public comments and suggestions and also looked at our work load should the policy change, we are taking a look at using an electronic process to both, one, collect signatures that would be rebutted and then provide, two, options; one that would help us verify them quicker or, two, would actually have an electronic verification. So the Qualified Voter File does have a complete history from each voter, so we know exactly when they have registered to vote. By putting timelines in, we would know whether they were registered at the date that they signed and we would know whether they're registered at some time in the 180-day period. So all of that history is contained within the Qualified Voter File.

So what we're working on right now -- and we'll be asking for some comments -- would be a process where the





petitioners would provide us with a spreadsheet. It could be in an Excel format, for example, that would have -- use our voter ID number. It's not the driver's license but it's a voter ID number that is provided publicly, along with the full name of the voter, the year of birth, the street address where the person signed, county, city, and township, and the date the petition was initially signed, and then the number and -- petition sheet number and line number. And that would allow us to convert those QVF ID numbers into bar codes so that we could very quickly, off the sheet, bring that up on the screen and do the verification.

The other one is -- with the second method is a little more complicated, and we're just initially just scoping it out. And that would be to essentially have the system make the checks in terms of running it against time periods and then kicking out those where there is no batch.

So it is a feasible process for if we were to change policy, if the Board were to change it, that would allow us an opportunity to deal with it with maybe a little less paper than was initially requested in our first rendition of this. So that's what I wanted to report to you today, that we continue to look at that. And I think we will come back to you with a request whether you want to move forward with this or not. And then if you do, we'll probably want to move forward with one of these options in



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        order to make it a little more workable.
2
                  MS. BRADSHAW: Any questions from the Board before
3
        I go to the speakers? I do have a number of people who wish
        to speak on this agenda item. And it is public comment, so
        we will not have to swear you in. I'm going to start with
6
        Luanne Kozma.
                  LUANNE KOZMA: Thanks. Could I defer to -- until
8
        after Alan Fox speaks? Because he might cover some of what
9
        I'm going to talk about.
10
                  MS. BRADSHAW: Yes. Mr. Jeffrey Hank?
                  MR. HANK: Thank you, Board. Good afternoon.
11
12
                  REPORTER: Could you please state your full name
13
        and spell it for me?
14
                   MR. HANK: Jeffrey Hank, J-e-f-f-r-e-y H-a-n-k, on
15
        behalf of MILegalize. We're looking forward to hopefully
16
        getting some progress done here. I've asked the Bureau a
17
        couple times to move forward with this and if not, to
18
        provide a form of an affidavit under the 1986 policy.
19
        Because nobody knows what that would look like if you don't
20
        take action and we -- nobody knows. So we just need
21
        something done. We're approaching pretty quickly a turn-in
22
        time here.
23
                  Regarding SB 776, regardless if that passes or
24
        not, ongoing campaigns that are operating under this premise
25
        need to be able to continue to do so. So even if the
                                Page 18
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legislature changes MCL 168.472(a), ongoing campaigns still
have this opportunity to rebut signatures. And I would
submit to you that under Article II, Section 9 of the
Michigan Constitution, the legislature can't actually limit
the amount of time of the petition to 180 days. They would
have to put that up to a vote of the people, because the
constitution provides for that four-year period. That's
what it was before 168.472(a) came into effect. 168.472(a),
all it does and there's great confusion about this is
it treats signatures within that four-year period
differently on how they're qualified. If they're within 180
days, they're presumed valid by the Bureau when they canvass
the petitions. If they're outside of 180 days, you have to
rebut the signature for staleness. So before that went into
effect, there was no difference on 180-day or not, or
190-day old signature or whatever.
Co dust so you have some southern an that some

So just so you have some context on that, even going back to 1908, the early constitution, the term and the length of petitioning has always been set by the Michigan Constitution. The legislature actually cannot change that. They can try and they may well do, as we saw the Senate do, but that's going to be overturned in court. They can't change the constitution without a vote of the people. So just so you have that context, historically, prior to 168.472(a) coming into effect, there was a four-year period



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and within that four-year period there was no test for staleness. Staleness means someone is dead, they've registered in a different jurisdiction outside of the state, or it's outside of the four-year period. And you can go back and look at the 1923 case -- I think it's called Hamilton v Deland which discusses this, when we used to elect the governor by two-year periods -- that the legislature actually has no authority to change that constitutional period.
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So I know there's a lot of talk about SB 776 but, you know, there's also a lot of case law about trying to retroactively apply new standards to an ongoing campaign. That, frankly, can't be done. So even if that is done, we still need some sort of intelligent process for rebutting these, the staleness. And I would submit this is really easy to do. You just give the Bureau authority to use what they think is reasonable to rebut it. And I think it's the QVF because that's what state law directs being used, but there's probably other ways. I mean, they could probably use the CVF or something. So I think you should just give them discretion to use reasonable means to rebut. We've proposed a single log similar to what Mr. Thomas said where we could, you know, line by line lay it out.

But June 1st is steadily approaching. That's the final deadline to turn in signatures. And we may want to



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1
        turn in much faster than that, and we've got to know how to
2
        do it. There's no -- there is no way to do it. So we hope
3
         you take some action on this really soon. I'd be happy to
        take any questions if anybody has any.
4
                   MS. BRADSHAW: Any questions from the Board?
6
                   MR. SHINKLE: Well, an affidavit is an affidavit.
7
        You make a statement and you just get it notarized.
8
        what kind of a form is Mr. Hank talking about?
9
                   MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Mr. Hank has sent a letter to
        us with a suggested format, and we're responding to that.
10
11
        We should have that to him early next week which would be,
12
        under the current law, what would be required. Yeah, it's
13
        pretty straightforward. There's not much to it in terms of
14
         a documentation.
15
                   MS. PERo: So you're saying there already is
16
        something in place?
17
                   MR. THOMAS: Well, nobody has, first of all, ever
18
                But, I mean, yeah. Our procedure was is that it's
19
        an affidavit from a clerk, or a certificate or affidavit
20
        from a clerk, and then a record showing that they were
21
        registered at the time they signed. So, I mean, one will be
22
        a registration record and the other will be an affidavit or
23
        certificate.
24
                   MR. HANK: Mr. Shinkle, if I just may, it's not
25
         clear understand Michigan law whether an affidavit requires
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1
        a notary. In fact, the state has all sorts of forms of
2
        affidavits that don't require a notary. Traditionally, I
3
         think most people consider an affidavit to require a notary.
4
        But the problem with the vaqueness of that is we don't know
        what's acceptable. So we don't want to go through and have
6
        100,000 people sign something that won't work when we turn
7
        it in. So thank you.
8
                   MS. BRADSHAW: Thank you much.
9
                   MR. HANK: Sure.
10
                   MS. BRADSHAW: Thank you very much. Okay.
                                                               Ellis
11
        Boal?
12
                   REPORTER: Please state your full name and spell
13
        it for me.
14
                   MR. BOAL: First name Ellis, that's E-l-l-i-s.
15
        Last name Boal, spelled B, as in "boy," -o-a-l. A few
16
        minutes ago I heard Chris Thomas referred to as Chris rather
17
        than Mr. Thomas. I like that. I like first names. Please
18
         call me Ellis, if you care to speak with me.
19
                   Just a few quick comments. It looks like there
20
        will not be a vote today. Had there been a vote, I would be
21
        questioning the propriety of that, being an absent member,
22
        but I guess that's moot.
23
                   Just an additional point to what Jeff Hank said to
        you a moment ago about the continuing bindingness of the
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        four-year governor's term. And he didn't mention an
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important Supreme Court case called Wolverine Golf Club,
which was relied on by the Attorney General. And the reason
why Wolverine Golf Club, a 1971 case, is -- and it was cited
for you in our letters in January. The reason that's
important is because the Wolverine Golf Club addresses
statutory initiatives, whereas the Consumers Power case,
which has been before this Board before, was only about
constitutional initiatives. And so the Consumers Power case
upheld the constitutionality of 472a, but it made reference
only to Article XII, Section 2.
                                 There's no reference
whatsoever in that opinion about Article II, Section 9.
John Pirich, the attorney for the plaintiffs in that case,
told you in 1986, in his letter of the day before, that that
opinion was only as applied to constitutional initiatives.
So whatever else you decide, the Attorney General's opinion
continues to bind you as to statutory initiatives. It was
only overturned as to constitutional initiatives. I've said
this before. I've asked for anybody who disagrees with me
to say that they disagree with me, including Chris Thomas,
including John Griffin, who is back here representing the
oil and gas industry, and no one has come forward with any
counter argument to that. So I consider that this stands,
you know, unrebutted.
          Finally, the last point, I'm not sure it's
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Page 23

necessary to say this before this Board. But I made a



ractual error in my written testimony to the Erections
Committee last week, and I'm going to correct that to the
Elections Committee. But I just would like to make it
public right now, because the same error may have been
stated by our literature. What I said to the Elections
Committee was collectors for Michigan's well-liked Bottle
Bill used this period, meaning the governor's term. And
I've come to realize that that's not correct, that the
Bottle Bill signatures were collected in an approximately
two-month period. However, there was a Michigan Court of
Appeals case called Line v The State of Michigan from 1988
which stated that numerous petitions were collected
signatures collected using more than the 180-day period.
The Bottle Bill was not specifically stated as one of them,
but there are numerous examples of petitions having been
submitted. Some were enacted, some not, but they were
accepted. So I just wanted to make that correct that
error. Any questions?
MS. BRADSHAW: Questions from the Board? Thank
you very much. Or unless there is Chris.
MR. THOMAS: I guess I would only say I don't have
a case to cite about a legislative initiative. I would say
we have applied it to a legislative initiative as we've

Page 24

canvassed petitions ever since the 1986 case. So I guess

there is a feeling that if it's good for one, it's good for



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the other. I don't see anything that specifically would say that if 180 days is good for getting ten percent of the vote, why wouldn't it be good for getting eight percent of the vote? So we have operated under it just so. I take your point. I don't have a case and I don't have anything else. But just so the record's clear, we have operated that way.
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MR. BOAL: My initial reaction when I first got involved in this controversy was the same as Chris'; that if it applies to one, why wouldn't it apply to the other. the legislative history of Article XII, Section 2, and Article II, Section 9 are different. They were enacted four years -- five years apart. One was in 1908, the other in 1913. The Wolverine Golf Club case, which was about Daylight Savings Time and held unconstitutional part of the Election Law which had stood for 30 years and yet it was overturned by Wolverine Golf Club, was specifically about Article II, Section 9. There were two opinions of the Court of Appeals judges in that case and an opinion of a dissenting Court of Appeals judge, and both of the two concurring majority opinions of the Court of Appeals were referred to and complimented -- I forget the exact words of the Supreme Court -- as compelling the conclusion that the time period involved in that case, which was a time period prior to -- for submitting the petitions, not a collection





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        period but it still had to do with the time period; that
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        that provision was unconstitutional under Article II,
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         Section 9. So I commend to you, please, to read the
        Wolverine Golf Club case, which was cited by Frank Kelly and
        was not overruled by Consumers Power. Thank you.
6
                   MS. BRADSHAW: Thank you very much.
                   MR. THOMAS: I believe the statute that he's
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        referring to in that case was the statute required that
        initiatives be filed ten days before the beginning of the
10
        legislative session. And that's what was thrown out. And I
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        would say it was so much nicer to argue about Daylight
12
        Savings Time than all these other topics.
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                   MS. PERO: It was getting dark so --
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                   MR. THOMAS: Yes.
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                  MS. BRADSHAW: Mr. Alan Fox, please.
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                  REPORTER: Please state your full name and spell
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        it.
18
                             It's Alan Fox, A-1-a-n F-o-x.
                   MR. FOX:
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                   MS. BRADSHAW: It's public comments so no worries.
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                   MR FOX: Oh, this is not -- okay. I thought it
21
        was always public comment.
22
                   MR. THOMAS: You don't have to tell the truth.
23
                   MR. FOX: Okay. I don't know when to stop telling
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        the truth.
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                   MS. PERO: Do you feel more comfortable now?
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MR. FOX: I just got used to it finally. I want to say, first, I'm encouraged by Director Thomas' report on what the staff is looking at by way of using the Qualified Voter File rather than requiring the petitions to go to 1500 different clerks to get affidavits as a way of verifying what would otherwise be stale signatures.
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I just wanted to make one small point that's important. As he said, the Qualified Voter File has a full voter history with lots of different dates when a voter's status changes. And that's available to the staff; it's not available to the public. The public file has no history. If a voter moves from one municipality to another, they get a new voter ID number. Sometimes if their name has changed and they stay in the same municipality, they also get a new ID number. That's been inconsistent over time. And so those of us who play with the public version of the Qualified Voter File do our best to figure out when the record has -- represents the same person but has a different ID number or other different information. There's no clean way to do it, and some mistakes are made. A person with a fairly common name, particularly if other people with that same name are born in the same year, can easily be confused, if they move, which is the right person. Another important fact is that -- and properly so -- the file that the staff has access to has full dates of birth; the public file only



there any questions?

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        has the year of birth. And that also makes that comparison
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        a little muddy.
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                  That said, using the file that is available to the
        public, it's certainly possible to do the sorts of reports
        that the staff is looking at. They will not be 100-percent
        reliable, they'll be the best that can be done with what's
        available. And so my expectation is that some of the names
8
        that people verify will turn out not to be properly -- the
9
        correct person because of those sorts of ambiguities. I
        don't know if there's any way to avoid that. It's certainly
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11
        an issue that people dealing with petitions and qualifying
12
        signatures for the ballot have had to deal with all along.
13
        It's not a huge number, but it's not going to be 100-percent
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foolproof. That said, I think it can be done and look

forward to certainly giving it a shot in the next couple of

months, once we have some certainty about exactly what it is

that needs to be provided to the Bureau. Thank you. Are

MS. BRADSHAW: Any questions from the Board?

MR. THOMAS: I think our ID number does stay. No?

MR. FOX: I've been playing with the Qualified

Voter File more than anybody else over time. I'll say that

and challenge anybody to disagree with that.

MR. THOMAS: Okay. Well, that's a point.

MR. FOX: It certainly changes whenever somebody



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        moves from one municipality to another and that's, I think,
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        a recognition of the fact that by law people remain
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        registered in a municipality, not registered with the state
        as a whole.
5
                   MR. THOMAS: Right; right.
6
                   MR. FOX: When names change, I've seen some cases
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        where the ID number is maintained, some when it's not. And
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        my guess is that has to do with how the local clerk
        processes such a change.
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                   MR. THOMAS: Well, it's something we should sit
11
        down with you on -- we'd be happy to do that -- and get your
12
        expertise, as well.
13
                   MR. FOX: Okay. Be glad to do that.
                                                         Thank you
14
        very much.
15
                   MS. BRADSHAW: Any other questions? Thank you.
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                   MR. FOX: Thank you.
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                   MS. PERO: Thanks.
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                   MS. BRADSHAW: Luanne, are you ready?
19
                   REPORTER: Please state your full name and spell
20
        it.
21
                   MS. KOZMA: Luanne Kozma, L-u-a-n-n-e K-o-z-m-a.
22
        Okay. Thanks. And I'm not a lawyer.
23
                   MS. BRADSHAW: No worries, it's just public
24
        comment.
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                   MS. KOZMA: But I might talk about a couple laws.
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I had a prepared thing to say, but I think I'm just going to mention a few things here because some of it was already covered, and I didn't know about Mr. Thomas's new concept for what he's thinking of.

Last April this Board approved our petition as to form, as you know, and our signature gathering began with the law that's on the books now with the 180-day limitation with the rebuttable presumption. So even though we didn't, you know, understand all the ins and outs that we do now of the rebuttable presumption part, we certainly have enjoyed this law all this time for this whole year. And one of the reasons for your -- the Board's preapproval of the petition as to form in the first place is that you want -- I believe Ms. Matuzak might have mentioned this, that you want these petitions to be accurate and valid petitions so that when people are going out gathering signatures and signing petitions, that they know that this is going to be a real petition that's going to, you know, meet approval. And the whole idea there is that their signatures will count, you know, that it will not have all been for nought. And you've had this rebuttal procedure on the books for the past 30 years, but it was never improved upon or explained to the public or to ballot initiative proponents for all those years. It's not on your website. It's only in the format of minutes of a meeting that was held 30 years ago. So a





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lot could have been done to -- at any time since 1986 to improve the transparency of this process and facilitate it, you know, better. I guess it's great that you're doing it now. However, you know, here we figured it out now, the simple truth that the QVF does provide the information that's needed and that's all that's really been needed since 1998 when the QVF was established.
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But I'd like to make the big point about what we've called the two-timer policy, the concept that was adopted by the Board back in 1986 when it wasn't just a matter of proving that the signer was valid at the time that they signed but also during this period prior to submittal, 180 days prior to submittal, so that a person needs to basically prove themselves valid twice. That is nowhere in the law. It is not in the constitution. And this Board has the policy to not make that same error again, but to fix it, and to, you know, correct that today or the next time you meet, so that we don't have this onerous process of trying to deal with, you know, different addresses. Are they -were they a voter at this address in January QVF? Were they at this address, at the address when they signed? The only thing that matters is the date that they signed. what they see on the petition sheet when they sign it. The petition sheet does not say, "Now, you've got to promise to still be a registered voter for your signature to count, you





know, later on in January." That's not there. So we can't put that stuff into the law. It's not something that the Board of Canvassers should be able to do. And I urge you to strike that from the new policy. It sure would make life easier for everyone on the staff, and all of the paperwork that's been, you know, suggested to attach to these petitions would be unnecessary. It would just be a matter of a simple verification, knowing full well that there are some problems, as Alan Fox just pointed out, with minor -- I would imagine it would be very few times that someone would not be found and it would not be completely accurate.

So we -- as Jeff Hank mentioned, we only have two months before the ultimate deadline but we, you know, might want to submit earlier. So we really do need to have the procedure changed in a timely fashion. We can't be dealing with something last minute like that. It's not fair to the voters who signed our petitions to enact an onerous policy that piles on these impossible burdens. I really do think it would be seen to outsiders, you know, even beyond the state that it would be -- to keep that two-timer policy in place with all these additional paperwork requirements, that it would just be another attempt to make it irrebuttable. And we don't want that to happen either. We want this to go forward and put this before the voters, and I think they're expecting that to happen.



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Board today?

Т	it's up to us, of course, to coffect enough
2	signatures, which we're, you know, really working hard to
3	do. And this is not an easy process, as a person who is
4	just an average person. We've put a lot of our own money
5	into it. We're not getting, you know, huge donors from
6	afar, from out-of-state, pushing this process. This is a
7	real grassroots campaign by Michiganders who truly want to
8	see this on the ballot. And I think every campaign uses
9	this QVF database to validate signatures. We've been using
10	it to do this all along. And I guess I won't belabor that
11	point, because I think that's already been talked about.
12	I'm really pleased that we've hired Practical Political
13	Consulting, which I know you're very familiar with them.
14	They do a great job.
15	So I really do think that our old signatures will
16	be rebutted accurately and fairly and there's really no
17	reason to impede that process. So thank you very much.
18	MS. BRADSHAW: Any questions from the Board?
19	Thank you very much.
20	MS. KOZMA: Okay.
21	MS. BRADSHAW: Before I close out this agenda

Page 33

item, is there anyone else who wishes to address the Board

on agenda item number five? Hearing none, is there any

other further business to be properly presented to this



1	MR. THOMAS: Do you want to say something about
2	the Davis case?
3	MS. BARTON: Sure.
4	MR. THOMAS: Denise is going to say something
5	about the Davis case.
6	MS. BRADSHAW: Okay.
7	MS. BARTON: Good afternoon, Madam Chair and
8	members of the Board. My name is Denise Barton. I'm
9	representing the Board here, and I'm from the Attorney
10	General's office. I just wanted to give you a status update
11	on the litigation that was filed by Robert Davis against the
12	Board of State Canvassers. Actually the reason why I was in
13	the hallway was because there was a phone conference on the
14	latest status, which there will be a hearing on March 30th
15	in front of Federal Judge Levy, at which time Mr. Davis has
16	sued the Board of State Canvassers and also the Wayne County
17	Election Commission in connection with the constitutionality
18	of the recall statute Michigan's recall statute.
19	Mr. Davis' attorney wanted to have the Board
20	members testify at that hearing and the judge, at least on
21	the record, indicated that she's not inclined to order that
22	at this time, and that Mr. Thomas actually will be there.
23	And so we have filed our response. We have filed our
24	response, and we will keep you posted. Thank you.
25	MS. BRADSHAW: Thank you very much. Is there any
	Page 34



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1
         other business? I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.
2
                    MR. SHINKLE: So moved.
 3
                    MS. BRADSHAW: We are adjourned. Thank you very
 4
         much.
                    (Meeting concluded at 3:47 p.m.)
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                                  Page 35
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A
<b>A-l-a-n</b> 26:18
able 8:3 18:25 32:3
absent 7:10,13
22:21
absentee 8:5
acceptable 22:5
accepted 24:17
access 27:25
accurate 30:15
32:11
accurately 33:16
Act 4:10
action 18:20 21:3
activity 12:5 16:8
16:10
<b>ADAM</b> 1:17
add 12:23
additional 22:23
32:21
address 17:6 31:20
31:21,21 33:22
addresses 23:5
31:19
adjourn 35:1
adjourned 35:3
Adjournment 2:25
adopted 31:10
<b>afar</b> 33:6
affect 8:10
affidavit 2:3 18:18
21:6,6,19,19,22
21:25 22:3
affidavits 22:2 27:5
<b>afternoon</b> 4:4 18:11
34:7
agenda 3:3 4:19 5:5
13:2 15:2,21 18:4
33:21,23
ago 22:16,24 30:25
ahead 6:12
Alan 2:21 18:8
Alaii 2.21 10.0
26:15,18 32:9
allayed 9:20
<b>Allegan</b> 2:11 3:4
14:8,14
allocation 7:5 9:8
allow 17:9,19
ambiguities 28:9
amendment 2:17
15:25
amount 19:5

anybody 21:4 23:18
28:22,23
apart 25:13
Appeals 24:11
25:19,20,21
APPEARANCES
1:15
applications 8:5
<b>applied</b> 23:14 24:23
applies 25:10
apply 20:12 25:10
approaching 18:21
20:24
approval 2:4 4:24
30:18
approve 4:14,17
approved 30:5
approximately 24:9
<b>April</b> 30:5
area 6:6
areas 6:4
argue 26:11
argument 23:22
<b>Article</b> 19:3 23:10
23:11 25:11,12,18
26:2
asked 18:16 21:18
23:18
asking 6:16 16:25
assistance 9:7
Assistants 1:17
attach 32:6
attached 6:22,23
12:11,16
attempt 32:22
attempt 32.22 attorney 1:17 23:2
23:12,15 34:9,19
authority 20:8,16
AV 8:8 9:18 10:21
available 27:10,11
28:3,7
average 33:4
avoid 9:13 28:10
aware 9:21
aye 4:25 5:1,2,3
12:18,19,20,21
14:1,2,3,4,20,21
14:22,23 15:16,17
15:18,19
10.10,17
B
<b>B</b> 22:15
book 9:6 16:0 17:22

back 8:6 16:9 17:23

19:18 20:5 23:20
31:10
<b>ballot</b> 6:13 9:15,20
10:12 11:6,14,14
28:12 30:23 33:8
<b>ballots</b> 5:22,24 6:4,5
6:5,9,17,25,25
7:25 8:1,5 9:14
10:11 11:1,3
<b>bar</b> 17:9
<b>Barton</b> 1:16 34:3,7
34:8
baseline 5:24
basically 10:19
31:14
batch 17:16
began 30:6
beginning 26:9
begun 7:15 behalf 18:15
belabor 33:10
believe 26:7 30:13
Bernie 7:2
best 6:12 27:17 28:6
better 31:3
beyond 6:18 12:8
32:19
<b>big</b> 31:8
biggest 11:15
<b>bill</b> 16:4,10 24:7,9
24:14
<b>bind</b> 23:16
bindingness 22:24
<b>birth</b> 17:5 27:25
28:1
bit 6:17 12:5
<b>Blanchard</b> 5:17,18
5:19
<b>Boal</b> 2:20 22:11,14
22:15 25:8
<b>board</b> 1:5,10,11
2:16,23 4:6,10
7:17 9:19 10:6,10
10:23 12:11.16
13:18,21,23 14:11
14:14 15:7,10,13
17:18 18:2,11
21:5 23:7,25
24:19 28:19 30:5
31:10,15 32:3
31:10,15 32:3 33:18,22,25 34:8
34:9,12,16,19
<b>Board's</b> 13:9 15:23

	1
30:12	C
<b>boards</b> 7:10,13 8:5	C
8:9,12 9:18 10:19	c
10:21	c
Bolton 1:22	
books 30:7,21	c
born 27:22	
<b>Bottle</b> 24:6,9,14	
boy 22:15	
BRADSHAW 1:10	
4:4,11,17,22 5:3	ا ا
10:15 11:8 12:15	C
	C
12:21 13:1,23	
14:4,17,23,24	C
15:13,19 18:2,10	C
21:5 22:8,10	C
24:19 26:6,15,19 28:19 29:15,18,23	c
28:19 29:15,18,23	
33:18,21 34:6,25	c
35:3	c
break 11:19 16:9	c
break-out 7:18,20	c
bring 17:10	``
Building 1:6	c
burdens 32:18	
	c
<b>Bureau</b> 18:16 19:12 20:16 28:17	
	c
<b>business</b> 2:23 33:24	c
35:1	
C	
<b>C</b> 1:16	c
call 4:5 22:18	
called 20:5 23:1	cl
24:11 31:9	
calls 11:12	cl
campaign 20:12	c
33:7,8	
campaigns 18:24	c
19:1	$ \tilde{c} $
campus 11:17,22	`
candidate 14:8	یا
	ci
candidates 8:24	ci
9:15	ci
canvass 2:6,9,11,13	
3:4 5:5 6:23 13:10	cl
19:12	cl
canvassed 7:18	cl
24:24	cl
Canvassers 1:5 4:6	cl
7 17 12 21 14 14	ı ~'

7:17 13:21 14:14

15:10 32:3 34:12

34:16

Canvassers' 2:16 Capitol 1:6 are 22:18 earries 5:4 12:22 14:5,24 15:20 ase 20:5,11 23:1,3 23:6,8,12 24:11 24:22,24 25:5,14 25:19,24 26:4,8 34:2,5 ases 29:6 east 6:25 7:1 14:9 15:5 aucuses 7:6 CER 1:22 ertain 5:8 ertainly 28:4,10,15 28:25 30:10 ertainty 28:16 ertificate 21:19,23 certification 2:6 5:5 ertified 1:22 13:20 14:13 15:10 ertify 12:11,16 13:10 Chair 1:10,10 34:7 challenge 28:23 **change** 8:17 9:25 10:1,13 16:12 17:18,18 19:20,23 20:8 29:6,9 hanged 27:13 32:15 **changes** 19:1 27:10 28:25 hecks 17:15 Chris 8:14 22:16,16 23:19 24:20 Chris' 25:9 CHRISTOPHER 1:11 ite 24:22 eited 23:3 26:4 eity 7:9,11,17 10:16 17:6 lean 27:19 lear 21:25 25:6 elerk 21:19,20 29:8 elerks 27:5 close 8:11,22 10:4 33:21 closely 7:16 **Club** 23:1,3,5 25:14



25:17 26:4
<b>codes</b> 17:10
<b>collect</b> 16:13 33:1
<b>collected</b> 24:9,12,13
collection 25:25
collectors 24:6
COLLEEN 1:11
come 13:1 17:23
23:21 24:8
comfortable 26:25
coming 9:7 10:13
19:25
commend 26:3
comment 2:16 18:4
26:21 29:24
comments 15:23
16:11,25 22:19
26:19
Commission 16:7
34:17
<b>committee</b> 16:7 24:2
24:3,6
<b>common</b> 27:21
comparison 28:1
compelling 25:23
compiled 6:21
complete 16:17
completely 32:11
complicated 17:13
complimented
25:22
concept 30:3 31:9
concluded 35:5
conclusion 25:23
concurring 25:21
conference 34:13
confused 27:22
confusion 19:9
congressional 7:4
7:11,14,19 8:8
10:22
connection 34:17
<b>consider</b> 22:3 23:22
consideration 2:4
4:12
constitution 2:18
16:1 19:4,7,18,20
19:23 31:15
constitutional 20:9
23:8,14,17
constitutionality
23:9 34:17
Consulting 22:12

**Consulting** 33:13

CANVASSERS MEET
Consumers 23:6,8
26:5
contained 13:8
16:22
CONTENTS 2:1
context 19:17,24
continuation 15:22
continue 17:22
18:25
continues 23:16
continuing 22:24
controversy 25:9
conventions 7:6,7
convert 17:9
copies 6:12,14
Corporation 1:23
correct 24:2,8,17
28:9 31:17
correctly 4:8
corresponds 9:19
<b>count</b> 30:19 31:25
counted 6:15
counter 23:22
counties 3:4 6:21
<b>counting</b> 7:10,13 8:5,8,12 9:18,19
8:5,8,12 9:18,19
10:6,8,10,19,21 10:23
county 2:9,11,13
7:16 13:8,15,21
14:8,14 15:4,10
17:6 34:16
couple 6:4 18:17
28:15 29:25
course 33:1
court 19:22 23:1
24:10 25:18,20,21
25:23
cover 18:8
covered 30:3
creates 6:17
current 21:12
CVF 20:20

D
dark 26:13
database 33:9
date 16:20 17:7
31:22
dates 27:9,25
<b>David</b> 13:15
<b>Davis</b> 34:2,5,11,15
<b>Davis'</b> 34:19

day 6:10 11:23
23:13
Daylight 25:15
26:11
days 2:18 16:2 19:5
19.12 13 25.2
19:12,13 25:2 26:9 31:13
dead 20:2
dead 20.2
deadline 20:25
32:13
deal 17:19 28:12
31:19
<b>dealing</b> 28:11 32:15
decide 23:15
defer 18:7
Deland 20:6
delegate 8:10
delegates 7:5,7 9:8
delegation 11:18
Decree 4 0.2 0.6
<b>Democrat</b> 8:2 9:6
Democratic 5:24 6:2
6:5,25
Democrats 5:24
<b>Denise</b> 1:16 34:4,8
DEPARTMENT
1:2
<b>Detroit</b> 7:9,11,17
9:3,9,10 10:16
<b>difference</b> 9:15 11:6
19:15
<b>different</b> 9:23 11:3
20:3 25:12 27:5,9
27:18,19 31:19
differently 11:4
19:11
difficulty 5:23
digested 16:10
<b>Director</b> 1:11 27:2
directs 20:18
disagree 23:19
28:23
disagrees 23:18
discretion 20:21
discusses 20:6
discussion 2:16
12:18 15:22 16:7
dissenting 25:20
<b>district</b> 2:10,12,14 7:4 8:8,13,13
7:4 8:8,13,13
10:22 13:14,20,25
14:6,7,13,19 15:3
15:9,15
districts 7:12 14 10

documentation
documentation
21:14
doing 6:6 31:3
Donald 7:1
donors 33:5
driver's 17:3
<u>E</u>
E-I-I-i-s 22:14
earlier 32:14
early 19:18 21:11
easier 32:5
easily 27:22
easy 11:14 20:16 33:3
effect 8:14 19:8,15
19:25
eight 25:3
either 32:23
elect 20:7
elected 13:16 15:4
election 2:10,12,14
3:4 6:10 7:3 12:9
13:7,16,19,24
14:9,12,18 15:8,8 15:14 25:16 34:17
elections 1:11,12 2:8
13:3 16:7 24:1,3,5
electronic 1:22 16:13,16
Ellis 2:20 22:10,14
22:18
enact 32:17
enacted 24:16 25:12
encouraged 27:2
Engler 5:16,17,18
5:19
enjoyed 30:10
entertain 35:1
entirely 11:22
equal 5:13
equipment 6:9
10:12
ERIK 1:16
error 24:1,4,18
31:16
essentially 17:14
established 31:7
estimate 8:25 event 9:5
exact 25:22

exactly 16:18 28:16

13:4,6,7,12

example 17:2
examples 24:15
Excel 17:2
Exhibit 3:2,3
<b>Exhibits</b> 3:1 4:3
expect 16:9
expectation 28:7
expecting 32:25
expertise 29:12
explained 30:22
extensive 6:7
F

F
F-o-x 26:18
facilitate 31:2
fact 22:1 27:24 29:2
factual 24:1
fair 32:16
fairly 8:22 27:21
33:16
familiar 33:13
fashion 32:15
faster 21:1
favor 4:23 12:18
14:1,20 15:16
feasible 17:17 Federal 34:15
feel 26:25
<b>feeling</b> 24:25 <b>fifth</b> 15:21
figure 27:17
figured 31:4
file 8:4 16:17,23
27:4 8 11 17 24
27:4,8,11,17,24 27:25 28:3,22
filed 2:19 8:5 16:2
26:9 34:11,23,23
<b>fill</b> 15:2
filled 13:6
final 20:25
finally 23:24 27:1
<b>find</b> 6:7
<b>Firm</b> 1:23
first 16:3 17:20
21:17 22:14,17
25:8 27:2 30:13
five 25:13 33:23
fix 31:16
flat 16:5
following 2:8 foolproof 28:14
forget 25:22
form 18:18 21:8



districts 7:12,14,19

30:6,13
format 17:2 21:10
30:24
forms 9:16 10:12
22:1
<b>forth</b> 16:5
forward 17:24,25
18:15,17 23:21
28:15 32:24
found 7:14 32:11
four 9:22 13:2 25:12
four-year 19:7,10
19:25 20:1,4
22:25
Fox 2:21 18:8 26:15
26:18,18,20,23
27:1 28:21,25
29:6,13,16 32:9
FRACASSI 1:17
Frank 26:4
frankly 20:13
<b>front</b> 34:15
full 17:5 18:12
22:12 26:16 27:8
27:25 29:19 32:8
further 2:23 12:18
16:10 33:24
$\mathbf{G}$

# G

**Gary** 15:4 gas 23:21 **gathering** 30:6,16 General 1:17 23:2 General's 23:15 34:10 getter 7:1 getting 18:16 25:2,3 26:13 33:5 give 7:20,23 9:6 20:16,20 34:10 given 12:12,17 **giving** 28:15 **glad** 29:13 **go** 5:4 6:12,13 7:6 8:3 13:12 18:3 20:4 22:5 27:4 32:23 going 7:22,24 9:6 18:5,9 19:18,22 24:2 28:13 30:1 30:16,17,18 34:4 Golf 23:1,3,5 25:14 25:17 26:4

good 4:4 5:21,22 6:2
6:2,6 8:25 16:7
18:11 24:25,25
25:2,3 34:7
governor 20:7
governor's 22:25
24:7
Granholm 5:16
grassroots 33:7
great 5:7 19:9 31:3
33:14
Griffin 23:20
<b>GRILL</b> 1:16
groups 10:8
gubernatorial 5:13
guess 8:9 9:13 22:22
24:21,24 29:8
31:3 33:10

### H H-a-n-k 18:14 hallway 34:13 Hamilton 20:6 **hand** 6:15 handle 6:8 Hank 2:20 18:10,11 18:14,14 21:8,9 21:24 22:9,23 32:12 happen 32:23,25 happens 13:9 happy 11:25 21:3 29:11 hard 5:23 33:2 heard 11:11 22:16 hearing 5:3 14:1 15:16 16:6 33:23 34:14,20 held 2:6,8 4:13,18 4:24 5:6 13:3 14:18 25:15 30:25 **help** 16:15 **high** 9:3,3 highest 5:11 7:1,3 hired 33:12 historically 19:24 history 16:17,22 25:11 27:9,11 **hold** 6:11 hope 21:2

hopefully 18:15

**hour** 6:16

**House** 16:6

# **Howell** 15:4 **huge** 28:13 33:5

TD 17 2 4 2 27 12 15
<b>ID</b> 17:3,4,9 27:13,15
27:19 28:20 29:7
idea 30:19
II 19:3 23:11 25:12
25:18 26:2
imagine 32:10
impede 33:17
impede 33:17 important 23:1,5
27:8,23
impossible 32:18
improve 31:2
improved 30:22
in-house 7:22
inclined 34:21
included 7:19
<b>including</b> 23:19,20
inconsistent 27:15
indicated 34:21
individual 15:4
industry 23:21
information 27:19
31:5
initial 25:8
initially 10.2 17.7
initially 10:2 17:7 17:13,20
1/:13,20
initiate 2:18
initiates 16:1
<b>initiative</b> 24:22,23
30:23
<b>initiatives</b> 23:6,8,14
23:16,17 26:9
ins 30:9
intelligent 20:14
interestingly 5:8
international 11:18
involved 25:9,24
irrebuttable 32:22
issue 7:9,9 11:8
28:11
issues 5:21 7:24
11:9
item 4:19 5:4 13:2
15:21 18:4 33:22
33:23
J

#### JEANNETTE 1:10 Jeff 22:23 32:12 Jeffrey 2:20 18:10 18:14 job 33:14 John 23:12,20 JOHNSON 1:3 judge 25:20 34:15 34:20 judges 25:19 June 20:24 jurisdiction 20:3

# K K 1:22 K-o-z-m-a 29:21 keep 4:5 32:20 34:24 **Kelly 26:4** Kent 2:9 3:4 13:14 13:21 kicking 17:16 kind 4:4 8:20 21:8 know 9:2 10:11,19 11:12 16:18,19,20 20:10,11,23 21:1 22:4 23:23 26:23 28:10 30:3,6,9,17 30:18,20 31:3,4 31:17,19 32:1,6 32:13,19 33:2,5 33:13

knowing 32:8

knows 18:19,20

Kozma 2:21 18:6,7

29:21,21,25 33:20

, , ,
L
L-u-a-n-n-e 29:21
LaGrand 13:15
laid 9:14
<b>Lansing</b> 1:6,18 4:1
Lapeer 2:13 3:4
15:3,10
large 8:9 10:10
latest 34:14
law 20:11,18 21:12
21:25 25:16 29:2
30:7,11 31:15
32:2
laws 29:25
lawyer 29:22
lay 20:23

**left** 9:17,25 **legislation** 2:18 16:1 legislative 10:13 24:22,23 25:11 26.10legislature 16:8 19:1 19:4.20 20:8 length 19:19 Let's 7:25 **letter** 21:9 23:13 letters 23:4 Levy 34:15 license 17:3 life 32:4 limit 19:4 limitation 30:7 line 17:8 20:23,23 24:11 literature 24:5 litigation 34:11 little 6:6,17 10:18 11:11 17:13,19 18:1 28:2 load 16:12 local 29:8 located 11:22 14:7 15:3 log 20:22 look 8:3 16:12 17:22 18:19 20:5 28:14 looked 16:11 **looking** 6:18 18:15 27:3 28:5 looks 22:19 lopsided 8:21 lot 6:10 7:24 20:10 20:11 31:1 33:4 lots 27:9 **lower** 5:11 Luanne 2:21 18:6,7

M
machines 12:1
Madam 34:7
maintained 29:7
majority 25:21
MALERMAN 1:12
13:5 14:6 15:1
<b>March</b> 1:7 2:6,8 4:2
4:13,15,18,25 5:6
12:12,17 13:3,7
13:19,21,24 14:12



J-e-f-f-r-e-y 18:14

January 23:4 31:20

32:1

14:14,18 15:8,11
15:14 34:14
marked 3:2,3 4:3
<b>Mary</b> 14:8
matter 31:11 32:7
matters 31:22
Matuzak 30:14
MCL 19:1
mean 8:18 9:25 10:4
11:12 20:19 21:7
21:18,21
meaning 24:7
means 20:2,21
meet 30:18 31:18
meeting 1:5 2:3,4
4:5,7,9,13,15,18
4:24 30:25 35:5
Meetings 4:10
MELISSA 1:12
member 1:11 22:21
members 13:5 34:8
34:20
<b>memo</b> 7:8
memorandum
13:12
mention 22:25 30:2
mentioned 30:14
32:12
method 17:12
<b>Michigan</b> 1:1,6,18
4:1 19:4,19 21:25
24:10,11
Michigan's 24:6
34:18
Michiganders 33:7
mid 9:4
MILegalize 18:15
million 5:8,12,20
6:24,25
mind 9:9,14
minor 32:9
minute 32:16
minutes 2:4 4:12,14
4:18,24 22:16
30:25
miscommunication
10:5
mistakes 27:20
mixed 8:2 10:20
11:1
mixture 7:13
moment 22:24

**money** 33:4

months 28:16 32:13 moot 22:22 motion 5:4 12:9,22 13:17 14:4,10,24 15:6,19 35:1 motions 13:11 move 4:14 12:10 13:18 14:11 15:7 17:24,25 18:17 27:23 moved 4:17 12:15 13:23 14:17 15:13 35:2
moves 27:12 29:1 moving 15:21 MSU's 11:17 muddy 28:2 municipality 27:12 27:14 29:1,3
N
name 17:5 18:12 22:12,14,15 26:16 27:13,21,22 29:19 34:8 names 22:17 28:7 29:6
necessary 7:5 9:1 23:25 need 6:13 8:7 18:20 18:25 20:14 32:14
needed 31:6,6 needs 28:17 31:13 net 8:17,19 Network 1:23 never 5:22 9:10,11
30:22 new 20:12 27:13,14 30:3 32:4 nice 6:19,19 nicer 26:11 NORM 1:10

normally 9:10 11:3 notarized 21:7 notary 22:1,2,3 noteworthy 6:24 Notice 2:3 4:7,9,23 nought 30:20 nowhere 31:14 number 1:23 5:11 5:11 6:8 8:1,18

10:12 13:2 17:3,4

17:8,8,8 18:3

0
o-a-l 22:15
<b>Obama</b> 5:25
obviously 6:1 7:10
office 2:10,12,14
13:20 14:13 15:9
15:15 34:10
Official 3:4
Oh 4:22 12:25 26:20
oil 23:21
okay 5:7 8:23 10:14
12:10,15 22:10
26:20,23 28:24
29:13,22 33:20
34:6
old 9:18 19:16 33:15
once 28:16
onerous 31:18 32:17
ones 9:17,25
ongoing 18:24 19:1
20:12
open 4:7,10
operated 25:4,6
operating 18:24
<b>opinion</b> 23:11,14,15
25:19
opinions 25:18,21
opportunity 17:19
19:2
opposed 5:3 12:21
14:4,24 15:19
options 16:14 17:25
order 4:6 18:1 34:21
Ottawa 1:18
ought 9:22
out-of-state 33:6
outs 30:9
outside 19:13 20:3,4
outsiders 32:19
overruled 26:5
overturned 19:22
23:17 25:17
P
<b>p.m</b> 1:7 4:2 35:5

27:13,15,19 28:13

28:20 29:7 33:23 **numbers** 8:9,11,24 9:12 12:11 17:9 **numerous** 24:12,15

D70546 1.17
<b>P79546</b> 1:17 <b>packet</b> 14:10 15:6
PAGE 2:1
paper 17:20
paperwork 32:5,21
part 25:15 30:10
particular 10:22
particularly 27:21
parties 7:23 8:6 9:6
parts 9:4 Party 7:2,24
pass 8:20
passed 16:4
passes 18:23
people 6:11,14,15
11:22 12:1 18:3
19:6,23 22:3,6
27:21 28:8,11
29:2 30:16
percent 5:9,10 9:5
10:20 25:2,3
period 16:5,22 19:7 19:10,25 20:1,4,9
24:7,10,13 25:24
25:24 26:1,1
31:12
periods 17:16 20:7
<b>PERo</b> 1:11 4:14,21
5:1,14,17 9:24
10:3,9,14 11:3,6
11:17,21,25 12:3
12:6,10,19 13:22
14:2,16,21 15:7
15:18 21:15 26:13 26:25 29:17
person 17:6 27:18
27:20,23 28:9
31:13 33:3,4
<b>petition</b> 2:17,19
15:25 16:2 17:7,8
19:5 30:5,12,18
31:23,24
petitioners 17:1 petitioning 19:19
petitioning 19:19
24:12,15,24 25:25
27:4 28:11 30:15
30:15,17 32:7,17
phone 34:13
physical 9:11
piles 32:18
<b>Pirich</b> 23:12
place 21:16 30:13

	32:21
	places 5:22 6:9 9:11
	plaintiffs 23:12
	play 27:16
	playing 28:21
	please 18:12 22:12
	22:17 26:3,15,16
	29:19
	pleased 33:12
	point 22:23 23:24
	25:5 27:7 28:24
	31:8 33:11
	pointed 32:9
	<b>policy</b> 16:12 17:18
	18:18 31:9,16
	32:4,17,20
	political 7:23 33:12
	polling 9:11
	possible 28:4
	posted 4:8,9 34:24
	posting 2:3
	Power 23:6,8 26:5
	Practical 33:12
	preapproval 30:12
	precinct 9:11,19
	10:7
	precincts 9:12 10:15
	11:21
	premise 18:24
	prepared 13:11 30:1
	presented 2:23
,	33:24
3	President 5:25
	presidential 2:6 5:6
	12:13,24 13:11
	presumed 19:12
	presumption 2:17
	15:24 16:6 30:8
	30:10
	<b>pretty</b> 8:25 11:13,14
	18:21 21:13
	previous 4:24
	primary 2:6 5:6,25
	12:13,24 13:11
5	prior 19:24 25:25
	31:12,13
	probably 8:11 17:25
	20:19,19
	problem 10:13 11:1
	11:15 22:4
	problems 32:9
	procedure 2:16
	procedure 2.10





**P41535** 1:16

**P64713** 1:16

21 10 20 21 22 15
21:18 30:21 32:15
procedures 6:8 15:24
<b>process</b> 16:13,25 17:17 20:14 31:2
31:18 33:3,6,17
processes 29:9
processes 29.9 progress 18:16
promise 31:24
properly 2:23 27:24
28:8 33:24
proponents 30:23
proportion 8:7
proportion 8.7
proposed 2:16 15:23
20:22
proposes 2:17 15:25
proposes 2.17 13.23 propriety 22:21
prove 31:14
<b>provide</b> 16:14 17:1
18:18 31:5
provided 17:4 28:17
provides 19:7
proving 31:11
provision 26:2
public 2:16 15:22
16:11 18:4 24:4
26:19,21 27:11,11
27:16,25 28:4
29:23 30:23
publicly 17:4
purposes 7:5
pushing 33:6
put 9:9 19:6 32:2,24
33:4
putting 6:7 8:15
10.9 16.10

Q
<b>qualified</b> 8:3 16:16
16:23 19:11 27:3
27:8,17 28:21
qualifying 28:11
question 8:17
questioning 22:21
questions 14:1,20
15:16 18:2 21:4,5
24:18,19 28:18,19
29:15 33:18
quick 22:19
quicker 16:15
quickly 17:10 18:21
quite 12:5

10:8 16:19

<b>QVF</b> 17:9 20:18 31:5,7,20 33:9
R

R	
ran 6:4	
reaction 25:8	
read 26:3	
ready 29:18	
real 30:17 33:7	
realize 24:8	
really 5:25 7:15	
8:19 9:18 11:15	
12:8 20:15 21:3	
31:6 32:14,18	
33:2,12,15,16	
reason 7:12 9:24	
23:2,4 33:17	
34:12	
reasonable 20:17,21	
reasons 30:12	
rebut 19:2,14 20:17	
20:21	
rebuttable 16:5	
30:8,10	
rebuttal 30:21	
rebutted 16:14	ı
33:16	
rebutting 2:17	
15:24 20:14	ı
recall 34:18,18	ı
received 6:20 8:6	ı
recognition 29:2	
recommended 12:9	ı
13:17	
	ı
record 13:9,18,24	
14:11 15:7,14 21:20,22 27:18	
34:21	
record's 25:6	
recorded 1:22 14:19	
Recorder 1:22	
recording 2:8 13:2	ı
recount 12:23	ı
reference 23:9,10	
referred 22:16	
25:22	
referring 26:8	١
regard 11:12 15:23	
regarding 2:16	
16:10 18:23	
regardless 18:23	
magistared 5:0 16:19	ı

**registered** 5:9 16:18

16:20,21 20:3

21:21 29:3,3
31:25
registration 1:23
21:22
reliable 28:6
relied 23:2
remain 29:2 remember 5:14
rendition 17:21
report 7:4 12:8
17:21 27:2
REPORTER 18:12
22:12 26:16 29:19
Reporting 1:23
reports 6:20 28:4
represent 12:11
representative 2:10
2:12,14 13:4,6,15
13:20,25 14:7,13
14:19 15:3,9,15
representing 23:20
34:9
represents 27:18 reproduce 6:9
Republican 6:5,25
7:2,24 8:2 9:6
request 17:23
requested 17:20
require 22:2,3
required 21:12 26:8
requirements 32:21
requires 21:25
requiring 27:4
research 6:6
responding 21:10
response 34:23,24 results 2:6,8,9,11,13
3:4,4 5:5 6:22
7:21 13:3,9,19,24
14:12,18 15:8,14
retroactively 20:12
revision 2:16
revisions 15:23
right 10:3 11:7,20
<b>right</b> 10:3 11:7,20 13:1 16:24 24:4
27:23 29:5,5
<b>Robert</b> 34:11
role 13:9
<b>Room</b> 1:6
rules 4:10
run 5:22 11:13
running 11:15
17:15

<b>RUTH</b> 1:3	33
	sign
S	21
Sanders 7:2	32
Sandra 1:22	sign
Savings 25:15 26:12	signi
saw 19:21	simi
saying 21:15	simp
<b>SB</b> 18:23 20:10	sing
schedule 4:5	sit 2
scoping 17:14	sittii
screen 17:11	size
second 17:12	skip
SECRETARY 1:3	smal
<b>Section</b> 19:3 23:10	smo
23:11 25:11,12,18	smo
26:3	some
see 6:19,21 7:8,25	28
8:20 11:25 25:1	soon
31:23 33:8	sorr
seen 12:5 29:6 32:19	sort
select 7:7	sorts
<b>Senate</b> 16:4,4 19:21	sour
sense 9:2	spea
sent 21:9	spea
separate 7:18,20	spea
10:6,11 13:11	spec
session 26:10	13
set 19:19	14
sets 16:4	spec
sheet 17:8,10 31:23	25
31:24	spell
Shinkle 1:10 4:16	26
5:2,16,19 8:14,17	spell
10:21 12:14,20,25	split
13:18 14:3,11,22	split
15:12,17 21:6,24 35:2	spre
short 11:14	17 sprii
shot 28:15	sprii
show 8:6,11,20,23	28
8:24 11:25	stale
showing 21:20	stale
showing 21.20 shows 7:20	20
side 6:2	stan
sign 22:6 31:23	stan
signature 2:17	stan
15:25 19:14,16	star
30:6 31:25	state
signatures 16:13	2:
19:2,10 20:25	9:4
24:0 12 27:6	1.4

24:9,13 27:6

28:12 30:16,19

	•
	33:2,9,15
	signed 16:20 17:6,7
-	
-	21:21 31:12,21,22
	32:17
	signer 31:11
2	signing 30:16
	similar 20:22
	simple 31:5 32:8
	single 13:8 20:22
	sit 29:10
	sitting 11:24
	size 10:2,5
	skipped 4:23
	small 9:12 27:7
	smooth 12:8
3	smoothly 11:13
	somebody 6:17 9:21
	28:25
	soon 21:3
	sorry 4:22,22
9	sort 20:14
,	sorts 22:1 28:4,9
	source 8:4
	speak 18:4 22:18
	speakers 18:3
	speaks 18:8
	special 2:8,10,12,14
	13:3,7,19,24
	14:12,18 15:8,14
	specifically 24:14
	25:1,17
	spell 18:13 22:12
	26:16 29:19
	spelled 22:15
5	split 9:10,12
	splits 9:13
	spreadsheet 9:7
	17:1
	spring 11:19
	staff 1:12 27:3,10,24
	28:5 32:5
	stale 2:18 16:1 27:6
	staleness 19:14 20:2
	20:2,15
	standards 20:12
	standards 20.12
	start 18:5
	started 11:15
	state 1:1,2,3,5,6,16
	2:10,12,14,16 4:6
	9:4 13:4,6,20,25
	14:7,13,18 15:2,9
	15:15 18:12 20:3
	· ·



6:23 15:21 16:24

talk 18:9 20:10

20 10 22 1 12	1 20.25	01 01 05 15 04 04	1	17.24
20:18 22:1,12	29:25	21:21 25:15,24,24	uses 33:8	17:24
24:11 26:16 29:3	talked 33:11	26:1,12 27:15	V	we're 6:6 7:22 16:24
29:19 32:20 34:12	talking 21:8	28:22 30:11 31:1		17:13 18:15,21
34:16	tell 6:13 26:22	31:11,17 34:15,22	v 20:6 24:11	21:10 33:2,5
stated 24:5,12,14	telling 26:23	timelines 16:19	vacancies 13:6	we've 6:21 7:22,25
statement 2:20,20	tells 9:22	timely 32:15	vacancy 13:14 15:1	13:11 20:21 21:1
2:21,21 12:12,17	ten 25:2 26:9	times 18:17 32:10	vagueness 22:4	24:23 31:9 33:4,9
21:7	term 19:18 22:25	today 4:5 17:22	valid 19:12 30:15	33:12
statewide 6:22	24:7	22:20 31:17 33:25	31:11,14	website 30:24
status 27:10 34:10	terms 17:15 21:13	told 23:13	validate 33:9	week 16:6 21:11
34:14	test 20:1	topics 26:12	verification 16:16	24:2
<b>statute</b> 26:7,8 34:18	testify 34:20	total 8:1,23 15:5	17:11 32:8	well-liked 24:6
34:18	testimony 24:1	totals 7:18	verify 16:15 28:8	went 11:17 19:14
<b>statutory</b> 2:17 15:24	thank 4:11 13:5	township 17:6	verifying 27:5	weren't 7:25
23:6,16	14:6 15:1 18:11	Traditionally 22:2	versa 8:15	West 1:18
stay 27:14 28:20	22:7,8,10 24:19	transparency 31:2	version 27:16	whatsoever 23:11
steadily 20:24	26:5,6 28:17	treats 19:10	vice 1:10 8:15	Whiteford 14:8
stood 25:16	29:13,15,16 33:17	true 12:11,16	void 2:18 16:1	wholly 13:8
stop 10:7 26:23	33:19 34:24,25	truly 33:7	vote 4:21 6:14 7:1	wish 18:3
straightforward	35:3	Trump 7:1	9:2 12:3 16:18	wishes 33:22
21:13	<b>Thanks</b> 18:7 29:17	truth 26:22,24 31:5	19:6,23 22:20,20	<b>Wolverine</b> 23:1,3,5
street 1:18 17:5	29:22	try 19:21	25:3,4	25:14,17 26:4
strike 32:4	they'd 11:3	trying 20:11 31:18	voter 7:10,13 8:4	won 14:8
stuff 32:2	thing 5:22 6:6,12	turn 20:25 21:1	16:17,17,23 17:3	words 25:22
submit 19:3 20:15	30:1 31:22	22:6 28:8	17:4,5 27:4,8,9,12	work 6:18 7:22
32:14	things 30:2	turn-in 18:21	27:13,17 28:22	16:12 22:6
<b>submittal</b> 31:12,13	think 6:24 7:23 8:25	turning 6:15	31:20,25	workable 18:1
submitted 24:16	9:4,9,20 10:1,5	turnout 5:7,8,21 6:2	voter's 27:9	worked 7:16 12:1
submitting 25:25	12:7 17:22 20:5	6:19 9:2	voters 5:9 8:4 32:17	working 16:24 33:2
sued 34:16	20:17,17,20 22:3	twice 31:14	32:24	works 11:14
suggested 21:10	28:14,20 29:1	two 6:16 7:23 11:1	votes 12:12,17	worries 26:19 29:23
32:6	30:1 32:18,24	16:14,15 25:18,20	13:16 14:9 15:5,5	wouldn't 25:3,10
suggestions 16:11	33:8,11,15	32:12	voting 11:18	written 24:1
<b>Support</b> 4:16 12:14	thinking 30:4	two-month 24:10		l
13:22 14:16 15:12	third 4:19 5:4 8:22	two-timer 31:9	W	X
supported 4:17	<b>Thomas</b> 1:11 4:9,11	32:20	<b>wait</b> 6:16	XII 23:10 25:11
12:16 13:23 14:17	5:7,15,18,20 8:16	two-year 20:7	waiting 6:11	
15:13	8:19 10:1,4,10,17		want 4:7 6:10 16:3	Y
<b>Supreme</b> 23:1 25:23	10:25 11:5,7,11	U	17:23,25 20:25	yeah 5:15,15,20
sure 4:7 6:11 9:21	11:20,24 12:2,4,7	ultimate 32:13	22:5 27:1 30:13	8:16 10:1,9 11:5
22:9 23:24 32:4	12:23 16:3 20:22	unconstitutional	30:14 32:14,23,23	12:2,4,6,7 21:9,12
34:3	21:9,17 22:16,17	25:15 26:2	33:7 34:1	21:18
swear 18:5	23:19 24:21 26:7	understand 21:25	wanted 12:3 17:21	year 17:5 27:22
system 17:15	26:14,22 28:20,24	30:9	24:17 27:7 34:10	28:1 30:11
	29:5,10 34:1,4,22	<b>undo</b> 7:16	34:19	years 9:22 25:13,13
T	<b>Thomas'</b> 27:2	unnecessary 32:7	wasn't 31:10	25:16 30:22,24,25
<b>TABLE 2:1</b>	Thomas's 30:3	unopposed 6:1	way 7:15 8:10 21:2	
tabulation 7:15	thought 26:20	unrebutted 23:23	25:7 27:3,5,20	Z
tabulator 11:9	three 13:5	<b>update</b> 16:3 34:10	28:10	
take 10:12 18:20	thrown 26:10	upheld 23:9	<b>Wayne</b> 7:16 34:16	0
21:3,4 25:4	Thursday 1:7 4:2	urge 32:3	ways 20:19	0-0-0-35:6
takes 4:19	time 4:12 5:23 16:21	use 6:13 7:6 17:2	we'll 4:12 5:4 6:7,18	
tall: 19:0 20:10	17-15 19-22 10-5	20:16:20:21	6.23 15.21 16.24	1 1





20:16,20,21

17:15 18:22 19:5

100001011			<u> </u>	
1 2:3 3:2 4:3 6:15	<b>22</b> 2:20	<b>8</b> 2:6,8 12:12,17		
1-800-632-2720	<b>23,229</b> 14:9	13:19,24 14:12		
1:24	<b>23,741</b> 15:5	15:8		
<b>1.2</b> 6:25	<b>24</b> 1:7 4:2 7:12,20	<b>80th</b> 2:12 13:4 14:7		
<b>1.3</b> 6:24	10:25 11:2	14:13,19		
<b>1.9</b> 5:11	<b>25</b> 10:19	<b>8151</b> 1:23		
<b>100</b> 7:10 10:21	<b>26</b> 2:21	<b>82</b> 15:3		
<b>100-percent</b> 28:5,13	<b>29</b> 2:21	<b>82nd</b> 2:14 13:4 15:9		
100,000 22:6		15:15		
<b>10th</b> 14:14	3	<b>83</b> 6:20		
<b>13</b> 2:10 8:13	<b>3</b> 2:6	8th 5:6 13:3,7 14:18		
<b>13,601</b> 13:16	<b>3:00</b> 1:7 4:2	15:14		
<b>13,907</b> 15:5	<b>3:47</b> 35:5	10.11.		
13th 7:11,14 8:15	<b>30</b> 25:16 30:21,25	9		
10:23	<b>30th</b> 34:14	9 19:3 23:11 25:12		
<b>14</b> 2:12 8:13	<b>3193</b> 1:22	25:18 26:3		
<b>14</b> 2.12 8.13 <b>14,860</b> 14:9	<b>321</b> 8:22	23.10 20.3		
14,800 14.9 14th 7:11,14 8:15	<b>33</b> 2:23			
10:23	<b>35</b> 2:25 5:9 9:5			
<b>15</b> 2:14,19 13:21	<b>373-1110</b> 1:19			
<b>15</b> 2.14,19 13.21 <b>1500</b> 27:4	<b>382</b> 8:2			
1500 27.4 15th 15:11	<b>39</b> 5:10			
	39 3.10			
<b>168.472(a)</b> 19:1,8,8 19:25	4			
<b>18</b> 2:20	4 2:3,4,8 3:2,3			
<b>180</b> 2:18 10:19 16:2	<b>426</b> 1:6			
19:5,11,13 25:2	<b>46</b> 5:10			
31:13	<b>472a</b> 23:9			
	<b>483,000</b> 7:2			
<b>180-day</b> 16:5,21 19:15 24:13 30:7	<b>48909</b> 1:18			
	40909 1.10			
190-day 19:16	5			
<b>1908</b> 19:18 25:13	<b>5</b> 2:6,16			
<b>1913</b> 25:14 <b>1923</b> 20:5	<b>500</b> 10:17,18			
	<b>517</b> 1:19			
<b>1971</b> 23:3 <b>1976</b> 5:10	<b>525</b> 1:18			
<b>1986</b> 18:18 23:13	<b>598,000</b> 7:3			
24:24 31:1,10	6			
<b>1988</b> 24:11	6 2:23			
1990 5:13	<b>6,744</b> 8:2			
<b>1998</b> 31:7	0,744 0.2			
1st 20:24	7			
2	7 2:25			
<b>2</b> 2:4 3:3 4:3 6:16	<b>7,126</b> 8:1			
	/			
23:10 25:11	<b>72</b> 5:9,12 <b>75th</b> 2:10 13:4,14			
<b>2.5</b> 5:8,20	13:20,25			
<b>2012</b> 6:1	776 16:4 18:23			
<b>2016</b> 1:7 2:6,8 4:2	20:10			
5:6 12:12,17	7th 4:13,15,18,25			
13:19,21,24 14:12	/ til ¬.13,13,10,43			
14:15 15:8,11 <b>20s</b> 9:4	8			
4US 7.4				

