

MICHIGAN ABSENTEE VOTER RIGHTS

Right to Vote by Absentee Ballot. You have the right to vote by absentee voter (AV) ballot if you:

- are unable to get to the polls without assistance
- are 60 years old or older
- expect to be absent from the city or township where you vote for the whole time the polls are open
- are working as an elections inspector in a precinct other than the one where you are registered
- are unable to attend the polls because of your religious beliefs
- are in jail, awaiting arraignment or trial (if you are in jail after conviction you are not eligible to vote)

Right to Apply for an AV Ballot. You can apply for an AV ballot in person at the city or township clerk's office, or by sending your own written request to the clerk, or by using a pre-printed application form, which you can request from the clerk.

Returning AV Ballot Application. The application can be returned, in person or by mail, by you or by certain persons specified in the law, including any registered voter whose help you request. If you have some other person returning the application that person must sign a certificate on the application stating that he or she did not solicit or request to return the application

Application Receipt Deadline. An AV ballot application must be **received** by the clerk by 2:00 p.m. on the Saturday before the election (November 4, 2006) in order to have the ballot mailed to you. You are encouraged to apply early, particularly if you intend to apply for and/or return the ballot by mail.

Returning AV Ballot. Once you have voted the AV ballot it can be returned to the clerk only by you or by a member of your immediate family or someone residing in your household. Michigan law makes it a felony for anyone else to handle a ballot which has been marked.

AV Ballot Receipt Deadline. All AV ballots must be **received** by the clerk's office by 8:00 p.m., the scheduled poll closing time, on election day, November 7, 2006.

Voting Before Election Day. If you are eligible, you can vote by AV ballot in person at the office of the clerk at any time up to 4:00 p.m. on the day before election day, November 6, 2006.

Voting at polls after receiving AV ballot. If you have received an AV ballot, a notation will be made by your name on the precinct poll list. If you then attempt to vote in person, you will not be permitted to do so unless you surrender the unvoted AV ballot.

Emergency AV Voting. You may have someone deliver a written request for an emergency AV ballot to the clerk before 4:00 p.m. on election day, November 7, 2006, if you are prevented from voting because of:

- family death or illness requiring you to leave the community
- personal illness or accident

The completed emergency AV ballot must be received by the clerk by 8:00 p.m. on election day, November 7, 2006.

Paid for by the Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 606 Townsend, Lansing, MI 48933. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.