



Michigan  
*Office of the Auditor General*  
**REPORT SUMMARY**

*Performance Audit*  
*Bureau of Elections*  
*Department of State*

Report Number:  
231-0235-11

Released:  
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*The Bureau of Elections' (BOE's) mission is to maintain the best balance of cost and quality in carrying out the Secretary of State's role in administering the State's elections process. BOE carries out the responsibilities assigned to the Secretary of State under the Michigan Election Law, the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, the Lobby Act, provisions of the Casino Interest Registration Act, the National Voter Registration Act, and the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA).*

***Audit Objective:***

To assess the effectiveness of BOE's efforts to provide reliable and secure registered voter information in the Qualified Voter File (QVF) in compliance with the Michigan Election Law and federal HAVA.

***Audit Conclusion:***

We concluded that BOE's efforts were moderately effective in providing reliable and secure registered voter information in the QVF. We noted three reportable conditions (Findings 1 through 3).

***Reportable Conditions:***

BOE, in conjunction with local clerks, should strengthen control procedures to prevent, detect, and correct instances in which ineligible voters are recorded in the QVF as having voted (Finding 1).

BOE should provide additional direction distinguishing local-level and State-level

responsibilities to help ensure the accuracy and integrity of records contained in the QVF (Finding 2).

BOE should provide additional guidance to local clerks to help strengthen QVF access controls to ensure the integrity and security of QVF records (Finding 3).

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***Audit Objective:***

To assess the effectiveness of BOE's efforts to administer required training programs in compliance with the Michigan Election Law and federal HAVA.

***Audit Conclusion:***

We concluded that BOE's efforts were moderately effective in administering required training programs in compliance with the Michigan Election Law and federal HAVA. We noted two reportable conditions (Findings 4 and 5).

**Reportable Conditions:**

BOE should enhance controls to further promote compliance with the Michigan Election Law regarding training of election officials, training coordinators, and election precinct inspectors (Finding 4).

BOE needs to improve its efforts related to election official and election precinct inspector training coordinator accreditation programs (Finding 5).

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**Audit Objective:**

To assess the effectiveness of BOE's efforts to comply with reporting and disclosure requirements of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, Lobby Act, and Casino Interest Registration Act.

**Audit Conclusion:**

We concluded that BOE's efforts were moderately effective in complying with reporting and disclosure requirements of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, Lobby Act, and Casino Interest Registration Act. We noted three reportable conditions (Findings 6 through 8).

**Reportable Conditions:**

BOE's efforts did not ensure compliance with the timeliness requirement established by Section 16 of the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (Section 169.216(6) of the *Michigan Compiled Laws*) in its review of campaign statements and reports (Finding 6).

BOE should revise its memorandum of understanding with the Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB) to define each party's specific responsibilities to monitor for prohibited contributions by persons with casino interests (Finding 7).

BOE did not ensure that casino interest registration forms were complete. Also, BOE did not directly notify persons who failed to register as holding a casino interest (Finding 8).

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**Agency Response:**

Our audit report contains 8 findings and 9 corresponding recommendations. The Department's preliminary response indicates that it agrees with 7 recommendations and partially agrees with 2 recommendations.

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A copy of the full report can be obtained by calling 517.334.8050 or by visiting our Web site at: <http://audgen.michigan.gov>



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