

Order

Michigan Supreme Court
Lansing, Michigan

April 22, 2026

ADM File No. 2024-07

Amendment of Rule 6
of the Rules Concerning
the State Bar of Michigan

Megan K. Cavanagh,
Chief Justice

Brian K. Zahra
Richard H. Bernstein
Elizabeth M. Welch
Kyra H. Bolden
Kimberly A. Thomas
Noah P. Hood,
Justices

On order of the Court, notice of the proposed changes and an opportunity for comment in writing and at a public hearing having been provided, and consideration having been given to the comments received, the following amendment of Rule 6 of the Rules Concerning the State Bar of Michigan is adopted, effective October 1, 2026.

[Additions to the text are indicated in underlining and
deleted text is shown by strikeover.]

Rule 6. Representative Assembly.

Sections 1-3 [Unchanged.]

Section 4. Nomination and Election of Representatives.

A representative is elected by the active members having their principal offices in a judicial circuit. To be nominated, a member must have his or her principal office or primary residence, or regularly practice law in the judicial circuit and file a petition signed by ~~at least 5 persons entitled to vote for~~ the nominee with the secretary at the principal office of the State Bar between April 1 and April 30. Voting eligibility is determined annually on May 1. Before June 2, the secretary shall mail or electronically deliver a ballot to everyone entitled to vote. When an assembly member seeks reelection, the election notification must disclose his or her incumbency and the number of meetings of the assembly that the incumbent has attended in the following form: “has attended ___ of ___ meetings during the period of [his or her] incumbency.” A ballot may not be counted unless marked and returned to the secretary at the principal office of the State Bar in a sealed envelope bearing a postmark date not later than June 15, or returned electronically or telephonically in conformity with State Bar election procedure not later than June 15. A board of tellers appointed by the president shall canvass the ballots and the secretary shall certify the count to the supreme court clerk. A member of or candidate for the assembly may not be a teller. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be declared elected. In the case of a tie vote, the tellers shall determine the successful candidate by lot. An election will occur in each judicial circuit every 3 years, except that in a judicial circuit entitled to 3 or more representatives, one-third will be elected each year. If a short-term representative is

to be elected at the same election as a full-term one, the member with the higher vote total is elected to the longer term.

Section 5. [Unchanged.]

Section 6. Vacancy.

If an elected representative ceases to be a member of the State Bar of Michigan, dies during his or her term of office, moves his or her principal office or primary residence out of the judicial circuit he or she represents and is no longer regularly practicing law in that circuit, or submits a written resignation acceptable to the chairperson, the chairperson shall declare that a vacancy exists. If an elected representative does not attend two consecutive meetings of the assembly without being excused by the chairperson because of a personal or professional emergency, or does not attend three consecutive meetings of the assembly for any reason or reasons, the chairperson shall declare that a vacancy exists.

When a vacancy exists, the remaining representatives from the affected judicial circuit or, if there are none, the State Bar-recognized local bar associations in the affected judicial circuit, shall nominate a successor prior to the next meeting of the assembly. The assembly may appoint such nominee or, in the event of failure to receive such nomination, any lawyer from the affected judicial circuit, to fill the vacancy, effective immediately upon such appointment and continuing until the position is filled by the election process.

In the event that at the time a vacancy arises under this rule more than eighteen months remain in the term of an elected representative, there will be an election for the unexpired term at the next annual election of representatives. If there are less than eighteen months remaining in the term of an elected representative when a vacancy arises, no interim election will be held. The interim appointment ends when the secretary certifies the election count, and the person elected shall take his or her seat immediately.

Sections 7-8 [Unchanged.]

Staff Comment (ADM File No. 2024-07): The amendment of Rule 6 addresses the nomination and election of members of the Representative Assembly, including their eligibility for nomination and their terms and vacancies.

The staff comment is not an authoritative construction by the Court. In addition, adoption of a new rule or amendment in no way reflects a substantive determination by this Court.



I, Elizabeth Kingston-Miller, Clerk of the Michigan Supreme Court, certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the order entered at the direction of the Court.

April 22, 2026

Elizabeth Kingston-Miller

Clerk