

**Testimony of
Representative Rick Outman (R-Six Lakes)**

**Before the Committee on Redistricting and Elections
Hearing on HB 5297
Michigan House of Representatives
Tuesday, February 7, 2012**

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee-

The Bill that I am introducing is aimed at expanding the use of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) to state and local elections for uniformed service members and overseas voters.

This bill will allow the use of the FWAB in state and local races, as well as provide a mechanism for overseas voters to access important ballot information. In particular, the Secretary of State's Bureau of Elections will make an electronic version of the ballot format, as well as ballot information available on the internet or by email.

HB 5297 is currently supported by the Secretary of State.

Thank you for allowing me to provide this testimony. I have representatives from the Secretary of State's office with me today. We look forward to any questions you may have.