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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Fiscal Agency

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House Bill 4348

Sponsor: Representative Ralph Ostling

Committee: State Affairs

Senate Committee: State Affairs, Tourism, and Transportation

Date Completed: 5-10-88

SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4348 as passed by the House:

The bill would amend Public Act 9 of 1964 to provide that the Michigan Coordinate System of 1927 could not be used after December 31, 1989, and to require that the Michigan Coordinate System of 1983 be the sole system used after that date. The Act adopted the Michigan Coordinate System of 1927 in order to define the location of points on the surface of the earth within the State. The bill provides that either the 1927 or the 1983 system could be used until December 31, 1989.

Under the bill, coordinates in the 1983 system would depend upon and would have to conform to the values published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Geodetic Survey (NOAA/NGS), or any agency replaced by the NOAA/NGS. The bill contains the coordinates, described by latitude, degrees, and minutes, that divide the State into north, central, and south zones.

The bill provides that coordinates purporting to define the position of a point or a boundary could not be presented to be recorded unless the recording document contained an estimate, expressed as a standard deviation, of the positional tolerance of the coordinates being recorded. Descriptions of tracts of land by reference to a subdivision, line, or corner of the U.S. public land surveys or by reference to a subdivision plat recorded according to the Subdivision Control Act would continue to take precedence over descriptions based on either the 1927 or 1983 coordinate system, but the bill specifies that descriptions of the locations of survey stations or land boundary corners by either of the coordinate systems would be considered "complete, legal and satisfactory".

MCL 54.231 et al.

Legislative Analyst: G. Towne

FISCAL IMPACT

The Department of Transportation reports no fiscal impact to that Department. The Department of Natural Resources reports minimal administrative costs.

Fiscal Analyst: B. Bowerman

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.