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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 611 (as reported without amendment)

Sponsor: Senator Vern Ehlers

Committee: Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

Date Completed: 10-31-89

RATIONALE

The Recreation Bond Implementation Act was enacted in 1988 to provide for the implementation of the recreation bond ballot proposal approved by the State's electorate that year. The ballot proposal and the Act provide for the distribution of \$65 million to be used for grants and loans to local units of government for public recreation projects and \$5 million to be used for grants and loans to local units for discouraging the development of open space and undeveloped lands that are not zoned for industrial use. The Act also requires the Natural Resources Commission annually to submit to the Governor and several Committees of the Legislature a list of projects recommended for funding. The Act specifies that the estimated cost of those eligible local public recreation projects cannot exceed one-third of the amount annually authorized for local public recreation projects. The \$70 million authorized for local projects, however, is a total and not an annual authorization. For this reason, some feel the one-third restriction should be based on the total \$70 million authorization.

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Recreation Bond Implementation Act to delete the word "annually" from the provision under which the cost of eligible local public recreation projects each year cannot exceed one-third of the amount authorized "annually" for those projects.

MCL 318.577

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

ARGUMENTS**Supporting Argument**

Since the Act's authorization for the funding of local public recreation projects, as approved by the electorate, is a total and not an annual amount, the annual restriction should be dropped.

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S.B. 611 (10-31-89)