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MICHIGAN SONG COMMISSION

House Bill 4119

Sponsor: Rep. Kirk Profit

Committee: House Oversight and Ethics

Complete to 1-30-97

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4119 AS INTRODUCED 1-28-97

The bill would create a "Michigan state song commission" in the Department of State to designate and adopt one or more songs as the state song(s).

The commission would consist of seven members, one member each being appointed by the governor, the Senate Majority Leader, the Senate Minority Leader, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House, the attorney general, and the secretary of state. Members of the legislature would be ineligible to serve as members of the commission, as would any individual (or member of their immediate family) or member of an organization who submitted a song or melody to the commission for consideration. Any vacancies on the commission would be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. The first meeting of the commission would have to be held not later than February 1, 1998. A majority of the commission members would constitute a quorum for transacting business, and action by the commission would be by majority of the votes cast. Members would serve without compensation, but could be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official commission duties.

The commission would meet and evaluate songs and melodies submitted by state residents, and would designate and adopt one or more songs as the state song(s). The commission also could designate and adopt other melodies that represented the musical heritage of Michigan. Once a song or melody was designated and adopted by the commission, commission members would be prohibited from divulging the name of the song or melody to anyone outside the commission until the first Monday of Michigan week in 1998, at which time the commission would issue a joint press release, in conjunction with the governor and the legislators who sponsored House Bill 4119, describing the songs and melodies designated and adopted by the commission under the bill.

Analyst: S. Ekstrom

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.