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## SCHOOL CODE PETITIONS

### House Bill 5201 (Substitute H-2) First Analysis (5-6-98)

**Sponsor: Rep. Penny Crissman**  
**Committee: Local Government**

#### ***THE APPARENT PROBLEM:***

A package of more than 60 bills has been introduced in an effort to make uniform the requirements for petitions found in the many acts that govern the operation of political subdivisions. These petitions typically are for referendums or to support candidacies. The House Committee on Local Government has reported out nearly all of these bills, and the House has passed many of them. An additional bill, dealing with petitions under the Revised School Code, remained behind in committee so that some technical issues could be addressed. (For information on the package as a whole, see the analysis of House Bill 5138, et al.)

#### ***THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:***

The bill would amend the Revised School Code to make petitions in the code subject to Section 488 of the Michigan Election Law and to make violations of petition requirements subject to penalties in the election law. The bill is tie-barred to House Bill 5138, which would amend the election law to create the new Section 488. That section specifies that petition provisions in the election law would apply to petitions authorized or required by the various statutes that refer to Section 488.

MCL 380.853

#### ***FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:***

There is no information at present.

#### ***ARGUMENTS:***

##### ***For:***

This bill is part of a package of bills that would amend more than 60 acts related to the operation of political subdivisions to standardize petition requirements. It addresses petitions in the Revised School Code and would make the forms for petitions, as well as requirements for signing and circulating petitions, in

that act conform to requirements in the Michigan Election Law.

#### ***POSITIONS:***

There are no positions at present.

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Analyst: C. Couch

■ 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.