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**SFA****BILL ANALYSIS**

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Senate Bill 813 (Substitute S-3 as passed by the Senate)  
Sponsor: Senator Ken Sikkema  
Committee: Reapportionment

Date Completed: 11-16-99

### **CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Revised Judicature Act to require the use of data from the actual enumeration conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, for the determination of any change in the boundaries Court of Appeals districts. The bill also provides that, in accordance with Article VI, Section 8 of the State Constitution, the Court of Appeals districts would have to be drawn on county lines and be as nearly as possible of equal population.

The bill provides that, "In order to continue the prior practice and not to change or alter the historic method by which court of appeals districts are determined," any change in the Court of Appeals districts' boundaries would have to be determined by use of population data from the United States Bureau of the Census identical to those from the actual enumeration conducted by the Census Bureau for the apportionment of the Representatives of the U.S. House of Representatives in the U.S. decennial census. The apportionment data for redistricting, however, could not include any population that was not allocated to specific census blocks within the State, such as Americans residing overseas, even if that population were legally included in the State's apportionment data for the purpose of allocating seats among the states.

District boundaries could not be determined by use of Census Bureau population counts derived from any other means, including the use of statistical sampling to add or subtract population by inference. Other governmental census figures of total population could be used if taken after the last decennial U.S. census and the U.S. census figures were not adequate for the purposes of the Act. A contract could be entered into with the U.S. Census Bureau or any other governmental unit to make any special census if the latest U.S. decennial census figures were not adequate for the Act's purposes.

MCL 600.302

Legislative Analyst: S. Lowe

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on State government. Potential costs related to a special census, if a future United States decennial census were determined to be inadequate, would depend on the scope of the special census.

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.