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FISCAL ANALYSIS

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HOUSE BILL 5026 SUBSTITUTE H-2

Sponsor: Rep. Steve Vear

First House Committee: Criminal Justice

FLOOR ANALYSIS - 2/8/02

Analyst(s): Marilyn Peterson

SUMMARY

The bill would amend the Michigan Penal Code to ease certain restrictions on the transportation of pistols. It would have no significant fiscal impact on the state or local units of government.

ANALYSIS

Under the Michigan Penal Code, in order to transport a pistol in a vehicle a person either must have a license to carry a concealed weapon (CCW) or meet one of several other conditions under which pistols can be transported in vehicles (such as when the pistol is unloaded, wrapped and in the trunk, and being transported by a licensed hunter who is going to or from a hunting area). The bill would delete various conditions pertaining to why the pistol is being transported, while retaining with modification the conditions pertaining to how the pistol is transported. Thus, under the bill, someone without a CCW license could transport a pistol in a vehicle, providing the pistol was unloaded, in the trunk or other inaccessible part of the vehicle, and in closed case or container designed for the storage of firearms.

Violation of the penal code's restrictions on pistols in vehicles is a felony punishable by up to five years in prison, a fine of up to \$2,500, or both. However, assuming that prosecutions due to failure to meet the conditions being deleted by the bill are rare, the bill would have no significant fiscal impact on the state or local units of government.