

Legislative Analysis



POLLING PLACE LOCATIONS

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 5031 (H-1) as referred to second committee

Sponsor: Rep. Ann M. Bollin

1st Committee: Elections and Ethics

2nd Committee: Ways and Means

Complete to 12-4-19

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5031 would amend the Michigan Election Law to expand the types of locations that could be used as polling places. Currently, school buildings, fire stations, police stations, and other publicly owned or controlled buildings must be used as polling places. Other buildings owned by tax-exempt organizations may be designated if public buildings are not available or convenient. Additionally, housing facilities or complexes in which 150 or more people reside may be designated.

The bill would provide that, except for privately owned buildings owned by a person that is a sponsor of a political committee or independent committee, any privately owned clubhouse or conference center located within an apartment or condominium complex, hotel or motel conference center, or recreation clubhouse such as a golf course clubhouse or park complex clubhouse, could also be designated as a polling place.

MCL 168.662

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 5031 would have no fiscal impact on the Department of State but may provide marginal cost savings to local units of government by allowing buildings other than publicly owned buildings to be designated as polling locations.

POSITIONS:

Representatives of the Council of Election Officials testified in support of the bill. (10-16-19)

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

Livingston County (10-16-19)

Michigan League of Conservation Voters (10-30-19)

American Civil Liberties Union (10-30-19)

The Michigan Secretary of State indicated a neutral position on the bill. (10-16-19)

The Michigan Sierra Club indicated opposition to the bill. (10-30-19)

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