



Senate Fiscal Agency  
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## BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 788 (Substitute S-3 as reported)  
Sponsor: Senator Jim Runestad  
Committee: Elections

### **CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Michigan Campaign Finance Act to do the following:

- Define "recall candidate" and "recall committee" and amend other definitions.
- Prescribe requirements for a recall committee, including a requirement for a committee to have a treasurer and to designate a financial institution as an official depository for funds.
- Specify that an account in a financial institution would not be required until the recall committee received a contribution or made an expenditure.
- Prohibit a recall committee from accepting a contribution or making an expenditure if that committee did not have a treasurer.
- Allow a recall candidate to serve as treasurer in a recall committee.
- Require an individual acting on behalf of a recall committee to report any contributions he or she received to the treasurer at least five days before the closing date of any campaign statement required to be filed by the committee.
- Prohibit contributions received by a recall committee from being comingled with other funds of an agent of the recall committee or of any other person.
- Prescribe requirements for when a recall committee would have to be terminated.
- Require all unspent funds in the recall committee to be returned to donors in the order they were received or, if an individual donor were deceased, to the donor's next of kin.
- Specify that a person who violated the bill would be subject to a maximum civil fine of \$1,000.
- Require a recall committee to include certain information in its statement of organization.
- Increase certain campaign contribution limits.

MCL 169.203 et al.

Legislative Analyst: Stephen P. Jackson

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill's criminal penalties could have a negative fiscal impact on the State and local government. Violations of the bill would be punishable as misdemeanors and felonies of varying severity. More misdemeanor and felony arrests and convictions could increase resource demands on law enforcement, court systems, community supervision, jails, and correctional facilities. The average cost to State government for felony probation supervision is approximately \$3,400 per probationer per year. For any increase in prison intakes, in the short term, the marginal cost to State government would be approximately \$5,800 per prisoner per year. Any associated increase in fine revenue would increase funding to public libraries.

Date Completed: 3-25-22

Fiscal Analyst: Joe Carrasco, Jr.