Legislative Analysis



REQUIRE CERTAIN COUNTY EXECUTIVES TO BE ELECTED IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEARS

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

House Bill 4536 as introduced Sponsor: Rep. Joseph A. Aragona

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

Committee: Elections Complete to 5-22-23

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4536 would amend 1966 PA 293, which governs charter counties, to require a charter county with a population under 1,000,000 that elects a county executive to align those elections with those at which the president is elected starting in 2024. The bill would apply only to Macomb County.

The act requires a county charter for a county with a population of less than 1,500,000 to provide for a salaried county executive who is elected at large on a partisan basis and to prescribe the county executive's authority, duties, and responsibilities.

Under the bill, notwithstanding any charter provision to the contrary, both of the following would apply to a county with a population of less than 1,000,000 that elects a county executive:

- Beginning January 1, 2025, the existing elected office of county executive would be abolished and replaced with a new elected office of county executive (as provided below).
- At the November 2024 general election, and every fourth year thereafter, a county executive who is a qualified elector in the county would have to be elected at large on a partisan basis for a four-year term that begins on the January 1 following the election. (This would correspond to years in which the president is elected, e.g., 2024, 2028, 2032, etc.)

Wayne and Macomb Counties are currently the only two counties in Michigan organized under 1966 PA 293. The bill would apply to Macomb County (2020 population 881,217) but not to Wayne County (2020 population 1,793,561).

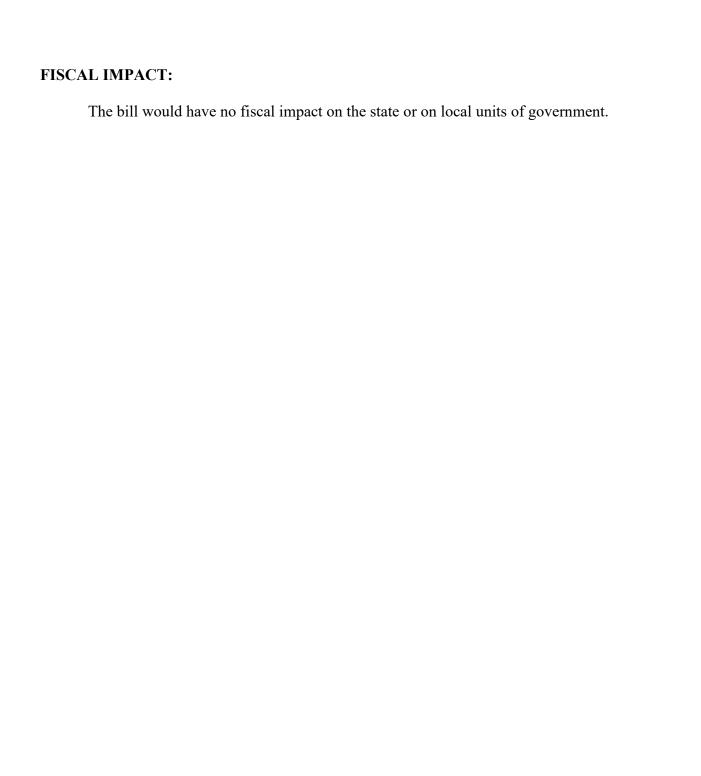
Proposed MCL 45.514b

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 4536 is similar to Senate Bill 525 from the 2021-2022 legislative session. SB 525 passed the Senate but did not advance out of the House Local Government and Municipal Finance Committee.

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¹ A summary of Senate Bill 525 can be found here: http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2021-2022/billanalysis/House/pdf/2021-HLA-0525-325350FC.pdf.



Legislative Analyst: Holly Kuhn Fiscal Analyst: Michael Cnossen

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[■] This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.