

Legislative Analysis



ALLOW HIRED TRANSPORTATION TO POLLING PLACES

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

House Bill 4568 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Karen Whitsett
Committee: Elections
Revised 8-15-23

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

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4568 would eliminate the Michigan Election Law's prohibition on hiring transportation to bring voters to a polling place.

Currently, it is illegal under the Michigan Election Law to hire a motor vehicle to transport voters to an election, unless the voters are physically unable to walk. (There is no prohibition on drivers who volunteer their services.) Violations are a misdemeanor punishable by up to 90 days' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$500, or both.

MCL 168.931

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4568 would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on local units of government. Under the bill, hiring a motor vehicle to transport voters to an election would no longer be a misdemeanor offense. The bill would reduce both costs to local county jails and penal fine revenue going to public and county law libraries. Because the costs of incarceration in a local county jail vary by jurisdiction, and the number of individuals who would no longer be charged with the eliminated misdemeanor offense is not known, the exact savings to locals cannot be determined and there is no practical way to estimate the revenue that would be lost by public and county law libraries.

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