

REQUIRE CERTAIN CHARTER COUNTY EXECUTIVES TO BE ELECTED IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEARS

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

Senate Bill 525 (S-1) as passed by the Senate

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

Sponsor: Sen. Paul Wojno

House Committee: Local Government and Municipal Finance

Senate Committee: Local Government

Complete to 3-21-22

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 525 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 unless, by April 1, 2022, its board of county commissioners adopts a resolution to keep its county executive elections aligned with those at which the governor is elected. 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:

- At the November 2022 general election, a county executive who is a qualified elector in the county would have to be elected at large on a partisan basis for a two-year term that begins January 1, 2023, and ends December 31, 2024.
- 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.)

However, the county executive of a county described above could continue to be elected at large on a partisan basis for a four-year term concurrent with the term of office of the governor if, by April 1, 2022, the board of county commissioners adopts a resolution to continue to elect the county's county executive on that basis. (The governor is elected in even-numbered years that are not presidential election years, e.g., 2022, 2026, 2030, 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

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state, counties, or other local units of government.

Legislative Analyst: Rick Yuille
Fiscal Analyst: Michael Cnossen

■ 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.