

SB – 472 REMONUMENTATION

Action to Date: This legislation was introduced by Senator Howard Walker in September of 2013. The bill was voted out of the Senate Local Government & Elections Committee in December.

A/E/S POSITION: We support

ISSUE

Re monumentation is a statewide program authorized by the Legislature in 1990 providing for the research, recovery, monumenting and preservation of original survey positions as established by the Original Government Surveyors with the positions having been subsequently used as a basis for issuing of a patent from the government to the private sector and thus defining all property boundaries. The remonumentation program is funded by fees imposed upon documents filed with the Register of Deeds.

Problems began occurring after the dissolution of the Remonumentation Commission in 1996. The Commission was comprised of several Professional Surveyors and private citizens from various geographic regions across the state which played a key role in policy decision made by the Office of Land Surveying & Remonumentation (OSLR). Once the Commission no longer existed, policy decisions were made internally with the OSLR without the involvement of the experts in the field. There were several Memorandums issued by the OSLR that drastically changed the way the program worked.

KEY POINTS

- Restoring the county option of including center quarter corners and closing quarter corners.
- Providing for the county option of omitting very low-value corners from the county plan.
- Restoring the county option of densifying, upgrading, and/or maintaining active geodetic control.
- Restoring the Remonumentation Commission as provided for in the original 1990 act.
- Clarifying the various roles of the County Representative, Grant Administrator and Peer Review Group.

ACTION REQUESTED:

- **Support the passage of SB 472 and address the concerns existing in the current Remonumentation program.**

Public Hearing on SB 472

March 13, 2014 at 10:30 AM

House standing Committee on Local Government

Chaired by Representative Amanda Price

- The Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors (MSPS) has been working on the proposed legislation for 4 to 5 years.
- Early in the process a joint committee with Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation (OLSR) of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) was established to work on differences in regards to Memo's 15 and 16 issued by OLSR.
- In the last 3 to 4 months after the Public Hearings in the Senate both MSPS and LARA worked closely together and have jointly concurred on the present proposed legislation.
- LARA has indicated that they are neutral on the legislation and that they will be able to administer the proposed SB 472.
- MSPS looks forward to a continued working relationship with OLSR on many issues, including whatever roll MSPS can play in the adoption of revised Administrative Rules and model county plans yet to come.
- We would be happy to work with this committee and the House of Representatives to answer questions in regards to the "Remonumentation of the State of Michigan".
- MSPS Legislative Committee and the MSPS Board of Directors ask for support from the House of Representatives for this important proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

John F. Korr, Jr., PS - No. 24600
Chairman of the MSPS Legislative Committee

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