



**House  
Legislative  
Analysis  
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BD. OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

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House Bill 4487

Sponsor: Rep. John Bennett

Committee: Urban Affairs

Complete to 7-2-87

**A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4487 AS INTRODUCED 4-15-87**

The bill would amend the Home Rule Cities Act to require a city water and sewage system that serves more than 35 percent of the population of the state to provide for a board of water commissioners, with members to be appointed or elected within 90 days after the effective date of the bill. The board would be representative of the total service area of the system, and would consist of nine members. Five of the members would be city residents appointed by the mayor, and the other four would represent the other participating municipalities and be elected by an assembly to be held within 30 days after the effective date of bill. Each city, village or township served by the system, except for the city that established it, would have one vote for each 10,000 persons of population. Of the four members, one would be a certified public accountant, and one a mechanical engineer.

Members of the commission would serve four-year terms. Of the initial terms of members appointed by the mayor of the city that established the water and sewage system, two would be for a term of one year, one for two years, one for three years, and one for four years. Of the initial terms of members appointed by an assembly, the nominee receiving the greatest number of votes would be elected to a four-year term, the nominee receiving the second greatest number of votes would be elected to a three-year term, the nominee receiving the third greatest number of votes would be elected to a two-year term, and the nominee receiving the fourth greatest number of votes would be elected to a one-year term. A term of office scheduled to expire on a date other than January 15 would be extended to the January 15 immediately following the scheduled date of expiration. Members of the commission would serve without compensation, but would receive an expense allowance, to be determined by the legislative body of the city and paid from the revenues of the water and sewage system. Members appointed by the mayor could be removed from office by the mayor, and a vacancy would be filled by the mayor for the remainder of the unexpired term. Members appointed by an assembly could only be removed by a majority vote of the assembly, and a vacancy in office could only be filled in the same manner as the original election, for the remainder of the unexpired term. After the first meeting of an assembly, a meeting of the assembly could be called by two of the members, and would be called if a vacancy occurred.

Five members of a commission would constitute a quorum. The commission would advise the legislative body of the city on the setting of rates and charges, would have powers and duties in accordance with the powers and duties prescribed by the charter of the city that established the water and sewage system, but would not be responsible for the obligations of the legislative body of the city for debt retirement under outstanding bond covenants.

MCL 117.1