



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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CERTAIN BOARDS AS PLANNING COMMISSIONS

House Bills 4527 - 4530 (Substitutes H-2)
First Analysis (6-2-87)

Sponsor: Rep. Donald Van Singel
Committee: Economic Development & Energy

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H.B. 4527 - 4530 (6-2-87)

THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

In small communities, many of the citizens who serve on planning commission boards are the same people who serve on the boards of the downtown development authority, the economic development authority, and the tax increment finance authority. This makes it difficult to schedule planning commission meetings. It therefore makes sense to make a place on the agendas of these other boards for planning commission business.

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

House Bill 4527 (MCL 125.32) would amend current law to allow a city or village that had not established a planning commission and had a population of less than 5,000 to have either the board of directors of its Economic Development Corporation, its Downtown Development Authority, or its Tax Increment Finance Authority serve as its planning commission. House Bill 4527 is tie-barred to House Bills 4528 to 4530, which would amend the Downtown Development Authority Act (MCL 125.1658), the Economic Development Corporations Act (MCL 125.1607B), and the Tax Increment Finance Authority Act (MCL 125.1808), to require those bodies, if serving as planning commissions, to include planning commission business on their agendas. House Bills 4528, 4529 and 4530 are each tie-barred to House Bill 4527.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

According to the House Fiscal Agency, the bill has no fiscal implications for the state. (6-1-87)

ARGUMENTS:

For:

Finding people to serve on planning commissions is frequently a problem in smaller communities. It therefore makes sense to use those resources that are already available — downtown development authorities, economic development authorities, and tax increment finance authorities — to cover this necessary function.

Against:

Why should such legislation cover only cities and villages with populations under 5,000? Small townships could also benefit from the provisions of the bills.

POSITIONS:

The Michigan Municipal League supports the bill. (5-29-87)

The Department of Commerce has no position on the bill. (6-1-87)