

**SFA**

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Fiscal Agency

Lansing, Michigan 48909

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**House Bill 4230 (as reported without amendment)**

Sponsor: Representative Michael Griffin

House Committee: Towns and Counties

Senate Committee: Local Government and Veterans

Date Completed: 11-20-87

***RATIONALE***

Public Act 359 of 1941 provides for the control of "certain noxious weeds within the state", and allows townships, cities, and villages during the month of March to publish a warning that weeds not cut by June 1 will be cut by the municipality at the owner's expense. Many townships, however, would like to have their neighborhoods spruced up by Memorial Day weekend. Also, it is reported that many weeds not cut before June 1 are difficult to control, which defeats the purpose of the Act.

***CONTENT***

House Bill 4230 would amend Public Act 359 of 1941, to change the deadline for weed cutting from June 1 to May 1. Also, under the bill, the notice could specify that weeds "may be cut" rather than "will be cut" by the municipality.

MCL 247.64a

***FISCAL IMPACT***

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

***ARGUMENTS******Supporting Argument***

By allowing municipalities to demand that weeds be cut earlier in the spring, the bill would ensure that weeds were eliminated before they got out of control. This would not only promote neighborhood beautification, but also improve safety, since many tall weeds on corner lots can obstruct motorists' visibility. In addition, by stating that municipalities "may" instead of "will" cut the weeds, the bill would recognize the fact that not all municipalities have the financial resources to enforce the Act.

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