



Senate Fiscal Agency
P. O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536



Telephone: (517) 373-5383
Fax: (517) 373-1986
TDD: (517) 373-0543

Senate Bills 755 and 756 (as reported without amendment)
Sponsor: Senator Michael Switalski (S.B. 755)
Senator Roger Kahn, M.D. (S.B. 756)
Committee: Education

CONTENT

Senate Bill 755 would amend the Michigan Election Law to delete provisions permitting a school district to call a special election on a special election date.

Specifically, a school district may call a special election to submit a ballot question to borrow money, increase a millage, or establish a bond if an initiative petition signed a minimum number of registered electors is filed with the county clerk. If the special election is not scheduled to be held on a regular election date, it must be held on a Tuesday. A special election may not be held within 30 days before or 35 days after a regular election date. A school district may call only one special election in each calendar year. The bill would delete those and related provisions.

The Law also requires a special election to be held on a regular election date, except as otherwise provided, and designates regular election dates in February, May, August, and November. The bill would retain these provisions.

Senate Bill 756 would amend the Election law to delete a provision permitting a school board to submit a ballot question to the school electors on a special election date. A school board still could submit a ballot question to the electors on a regular election date or a date when a city or township is holding an election.

The bills are tie-barred to each other.

MCL 168.641 (S.B. 755)
168.312 (S.B. 756)

Legislative Analyst: Curtis Walker

FISCAL IMPACT

The bills would have no fiscal impact on State government.

There would be minimal savings to school districts due to the elimination of the "floater" date for special elections for the purpose of borrowing money, increasing a millage, or establishing a bond. On average, not more than 10 "floater" date special elections are held per year. School districts still would have the option to use one of the other four dates specified for the special elections, and it is presumed that instead of using a "floater" date, a district would choose one of the other four dates, thereby not generating any savings (unless the district chose a local election on which to "piggyback", which is an option already available).

Date Completed: 3-12-10

Fiscal Analyst: Kathryn Summers