Legislative Analysis



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USING 2010 CENSUS DATA FOR 2020

House Bill 4819 as introduced Sponsor: Rep. Julie Calley Committee: Tax Policy Complete to 5-11-21

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4819 would amend the Glenn Steil State Revenue Sharing Act to base population data for the state in 2020 on the 2010 federal decennial census instead of the 2020 census.

Generally, "population" for the purposes of distributing revenues to local units of government is based on the latest decennial census, with other specified adjustments. However, the 2020 census has been delayed by COVID-19 and related factors. While apportionment data was provided in late April of 2021, redistricting data (including counts of population by race, ethnicity, voting age, housing occupancy status, and other counts at the census block level) that was expected by March 31, 2021, is now planned for a September 30, 2021, delivery.¹

Accordingly, the bill would provide that, for the 2020 census only, the population data used to determine distributions in 2020 would be from the 2010 census. Then, the 2020 census would be effective for all distributions made on or after October 1, 2021.

MCL 141.903

FISCAL IMPACT:

Because the amount of constitutional revenue sharing distributed annually is dependent upon actual sales tax revenue, the bill would have no impact upon state revenue or the amount of constitutional revenue sharing. However, using the 2010 decennial census for distributions made during the 2020-21 state fiscal year will result in different payments to cities, villages, and townships than the 2020 decennial census, had the data been available.

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[■] This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

¹https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2021/statement-redistricting-data-timeline.html