Legislative Analysis



MAKE CERTAIN ROAD OBSTRUCTION A MISDEMEANOR

Phone: (517) 373-8080 http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa

House Bill 4664 as introduced Sponsor: Rep. Alicia St. Germaine

Analysis available at http://www.legislature.mi.gov

Committee: Judiciary Complete to 8-20-25

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4664 would amend section 676b of the Michigan Vehicle Code, which prohibits an unauthorized individual from blocking, obstructing, impeding, or otherwise interfering with the normal flow of vehicular, streetcar, or pedestrian traffic on a public street or highway using a barricade, object, device, or their body. An individual who violates these provisions is responsible for a civil infraction and must pay a civil fine of up to \$100.

The bill would create a new criminal penalty for obstructing a road that would apply when an individual violates the above prohibition while participating in an assembly of 10 or more individuals. An individual who violates this provision would be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for up to 93 days, a fine of up to \$5,000, or both.

MCL 257.676b

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4664 would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on local units of government. The number of convictions that would result under provisions of the bill is not known. Violations would be misdemeanors, and new misdemeanor convictions would result in increased costs related to county jails and/or local misdemeanor probation supervision. Costs of local incarceration in county jails and local misdemeanor probation supervision, and how those costs are financed, vary by jurisdiction. The fiscal impact on local court systems would depend on how provisions of the bill affected court caseloads and related administrative costs. It is difficult to project the actual fiscal impact to courts due to variables such as law enforcement practices, prosecutorial practices, judicial discretion, case types, and complexity of cases. Any increase in penal fine revenue would increase funding for public and county law libraries, which are the constitutionally designated recipients of those revenues.

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