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HOUSE FISCAL AGENCY

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HB4516 AS INTRODUCED

Sponsor
Committee

Rep. Laura Toy
TRANSPORTATION

Analyst(s) Hamilton, William

Completed 4/16/01

State Fiscal Impact

Local Fiscal Impact

Cost Indeterminate/Increase
Revenues None

Cost None
Revenues None

The bill would amend Public Act 51 of 1951 to require the Michigan Department of Transportation to install noise abatement measures along existing portions of limited access highways if noise levels along those highways have increased to more than 70 decibels due to improvements made to the highway, and residential property is located 100 yards or less from the traveled portion of the highway.

This bill relates to "Type II" noise abatements - which involve the retrofit of noise abatement measures to existing highways where residential areas existed prior to the roadway construction. A June 24, 1999 report to the State Transportation Commission indicated that based on a 1976 survey there were 1,135 sites where there were four or more residences adjacent to a freeway. The department's presentation also indicated that 213 of those sites had predicted sound levels greater than 80 decibels. The number of sites may have changed since the time of that survey.

Recognizing that the bill does not prescribe a specific noise abatement measure, we note that the department has estimated that sound walls - one such measure - cost approximately \$2 million per mile for each side of an expressway.

We have not determined the number of sites that would meet the criteria proposed in the bill, and do not have cost estimates of what appropriate noise abatement measures would cost. To the extent that the bill requires the department to install noise abatement measures that it would not otherwise have installed, it would increase state costs.