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BILL ANALYSIS

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House Bill 5113 (as reported by the Committee of the Whole)  
Sponsor: Representative Jerry O. Kooiman  
House Committee: Local Government and Urban Policy  
Senate Committee: Local, Urban and State Affairs

### **CONTENT**

The bill would amend Public Act 293 of 1966, which governs charter counties, to require charter counties with a population over 600,000 to have 17 to 35 county commissioners. Currently, these counties must have 25 to 35 commissioners.

MCL 45.504

Legislative Analyst: J.P. Finet

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have no impact on State or local revenue but could reduce local unit expenses. The bill would affect counties that are charter counties and have a population of more than 600,000. Under the 2000 Census, Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties exceed 600,000 in population and, given historical growth rates, Kent County is likely to exceed 600,000 in the 2010 Census. Wayne County is the only one of these counties that is a charter county. If Macomb or Oakland County converted to a charter county, it would be affected by the bill. Similarly, if Kent County became a charter county and the population did exceed 600,000 in the 2010, Kent County would be affected by the bill in 2010.

Under the bill, Wayne County could reduce the number of county commissioners from the current 19 commissioners, to 17. Similarly, if either Macomb or Oakland County became a charter county, it could reduce the number of commissioners to 17, from the 26 commissioners in Macomb County and the 25 commissioners in Oakland County. Similarly, if the population of Kent County exceeded 600,000 in the 2010 Census, the county would not be required to increase the number of county commissioners. Currently, Kent County has 19 commissioners and is legally able to reduce the number of commissioners to any number. However, if Kent County became a charter county, the bill would restrict the minimum number of commissioners to 17.

Date Completed: 9-14-04

Fiscal Analyst: David Zin