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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 884 (as introduced 2-17-22)
Sponsor: Senator Ruth Johnson
Committee: Elections

Date Completed: 2-23-22

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Michigan Election Law to do the following:

- **Require an electronic voting system acquired on or after March 1, 2022, to be manufactured in the United States.**
- **Prohibit the Board of State Canvassers from approving an electronic voting system acquired on or after March 1, 2022, if it were manufactured outside of the United States.**

The Michigan Election Law, among other things, prescribes requirements for an electronic voting system. Under the bill, an electronic voting system acquired on or after March 1, 2022, would have to be manufactured in the United States.

The Law prohibits an electronic voting system from being used unless it is approved by the Board of State Canvassers as meeting various requirements. If the Board determines that an approved electronic voting system no longer meets those requirements, it may disapprove that system. A voting system that the Board has disapproved may not be used in an election unless it is reapproved. Under the bill, for an electronic voting system acquired on or after March 1, 2022, the Board could not approve that electronic voting system if it were manufactured outside of the United States. The bill would not prohibit the repair, maintenance, or acquisition of components necessary for the proper operation of a system that was acquired before March 1, 2022.

Sections 795 and 795a of the Law include various references to "voting system". The bill instead would refer to "electronic voting system".

MCL 168.795 & 168.795a

Legislative Analyst: Eleni Lionas

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill likely would have no fiscal impact on State or local government. The bill would prohibit the State or local units of government from purchasing electronic voting systems manufactured outside of the United States. Thus, if voting systems manufactured outside of the United States were available for purchase at a cheaper price, the State and local units of government would be prohibited from purchasing those systems and could have to pay a higher price for a US-manufactured system.

Fiscal Analyst: Joe Carrasco

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