

67TH DISTRICT COURT: CITY OF FENTON

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Senate Bill 471 (S-3) as reported from House committee

Sponsor: Sen. Dave Robertson

House Committee: Judiciary

Senate Committee: Judiciary

Complete to 2-17-16

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

(Enacted as Public Act 41 of 2016)

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 471 would amend the Revised Judicature Act (MCL 600.8134) to clarify that the fourth division of the 67th Judicial District includes the City of Fenton.

Currently, the 67th Judicial District consists of Genesee County, except for the City of Flint. The district is divided into four election districts. The fourth division consists of the cities of Fenton, Grand Blanc, and Swartz Creek and the townships of Fenton, Argentine, Grand Blanc, Mundy, Gaines, and Clayton.

Public Act 60 of 2014 allows the governing bodies of Genesee County and the City of Flint to approve by resolutions the consolidation of the 67th district and the 68th district (which consists of the City of Flint). If the consolidation is approved, the 68th district will be abolished and the 67th district will consist of Genesee County and be divided into five election divisions. As with the current 67th district, the fourth division will consist of the Cities of Fenton, Grand Blanc, and Swartz Creek and the townships of Argentine, Clayton, Fenton, Gaines, Grand Blanc, and Mundy. The fifth division will consist of Flint.

Under Senate Bill 471, the fourth division of the 67th district, either as it exists currently or as it may be consolidated with the current 68th district, would include the City of Fenton, which is located in both Genesee County and Oakland County.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City of Fenton, which is in Genesee County, annexed just under 10 acres of land located in Oakland County in 2004. Since that time, some housing has been developed on the annexed parcel, with the potential for more. However, the statutory language describing the 67th District Court states the district includes only the County of Genesee. This has reportedly created uncertainty as to which judicial district (the 67th or the 52nd, which includes most of Oakland County) has jurisdiction over matters in the Oakland County parcels annexed to the City of Fenton, and in which judicial election the residents of the annexed parcels may vote. The bill clarifies that the fourth division of the 67th District Court would include all of the City of Fenton, including the annexed parcels located in Oakland County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

SB 471 would have no fiscal impact on the state or on local units of government.

POSITIONS:

A representative of the County of Oakland testified in support of the bill. (2-9-16)

Legislative Analyst: Susan Stutzky
Fiscal Analyst: Robin Risko

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