

PROHIBIT 'VALUABLE CONSIDERATION' DURING CANDIDATE RECRUITMENT

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<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4053 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Earl Poleski
Committee: Elections
Complete to 10-27-15

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

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4053 would amend the Michigan Election Law to prohibit an individual from *promising* or *providing* any 'valuable consideration' to an individual to encourage that individual to run or not to run as a candidate for election to a political office.

Further, the bill would prohibit an individual from *accepting* any 'valuable consideration' to run or not to run for political office.

The bill specifies that an individual who violated these prohibitions would be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than one year, or a fine of not more than \$500, or both.

Definitions. The bill would define "valuable consideration" to mean that term as defined in Section 931 of the Michigan Election Law, but specifies that 'valuable consideration' does not include a contribution or an expenditure, as those terms are used in the Michigan Campaign Finance Act. In Section 931 of the Michigan Election Law [at MCL 168.931(4)], "*valuable consideration*" includes, but is not limited to, money, property, a gift, a prize or chance for a prize, a fee, a loan, an office, a position, an appointment, or employment.

MCL 168.931(c)

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4053 would have no fiscal impact on state government. Local government could be impacted in that the bill adds a new misdemeanor, which could increase costs related to county jails or local probation supervision. Misdemeanor fines would go to public libraries.

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