

SENATE BILL No. 322

May 12, 2015, Introduced by Senators ZORN, JONES, NOFS and BRANDENBURG and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

A bill to amend 1909 PA 283, entitled

"An act to revise, consolidate, and add to the laws relating to the establishment, opening, discontinuing, vacating, closing, altering, improvement, maintenance, and use of the public highways and private roads; the condemnation of property and gravel therefor; the building, repairing and preservation of bridges; maintaining public access to waterways under certain conditions; setting and protecting shade trees, drainage, and cutting weeds and brush within this state; providing for the election or appointment and defining the powers, duties, and compensation of state, county, township, and district highway officials; and to prescribe penalties and provide remedies,"

by amending section 6 of chapter IV (MCL 224.6), as amended by 2012 PA 14.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

CHAPTER IV

Sec. 6. (1) Except as otherwise provided by law and under subsection (4), (5), (7), or (8), in a county where the county road system is adopted, a board of county road commissioners consisting of not less than 3 members or more than 5 members shall be elected

1 by the people of the county. The initial road commissioners shall
2 be appointed by the county board of commissioners or elected at a
3 general or special election called for that purpose, as determined
4 by the county board of commissioners. The county board of
5 commissioners may by resolution provide for staggered terms of
6 office for the road commissioners under this subsection so that not
7 more than 2 road commissioners' terms of office expire in the same
8 year.

9 (2) If the road commissioners are appointed, they shall hold
10 office only until January 1 of the first odd numbered year
11 following the date of appointment. If the road commissioners are to
12 be elected at a general or special election, notice of the
13 election, embodying a copy of the resolutions of the county board
14 of commissioners, giving the number and terms of the office of the
15 road commissioners to be elected, shall be published by the clerk
16 as required by section 3 of this chapter.

17 (3) The regular election of county road commissioners shall be
18 held at the general election on the first Tuesday after the first
19 Monday in November. The term of office of an elected county road
20 commissioner ~~shall commence~~ **COMMENCES** on January 1 in the year
21 following his or her election. The notice of the election shall be
22 given at the time notice is given of the general election of county
23 officers.

24 (4) The election of county road commissioners ~~shall~~ **IS** not be
25 mandatory in any county that contains all or part of 12 surveyed
26 townships as determined by the government survey of the county.
27 Except as provided under subsection (5), in a county under this

1 subsection the county board of commissioners, by a majority of its
2 members elect, may appoint the county road commissioners. A county
3 road commissioner appointed under this subsection shall not be
4 removed from office before the expiration of his or her term of
5 office without being given written notice of the charges made
6 against him or her and an opportunity to appear before the county
7 board of commissioners for a hearing on the charges.

8 (5) In a county having a population of 750,000 or more that
9 has adopted a charter under 1966 PA 293, MCL 45.501 to 45.521, the
10 powers and duties that are otherwise provided by law for a board of
11 county road commissioners may be reorganized by amendment to the
12 charter. In a county having a population of 750,000 or more with a
13 charter commission proposing a charter under 1966 PA 293, MCL
14 45.501 to 45.521, the powers and duties that are otherwise provided
15 by law for a board of county road commissioners may be reorganized
16 under the charter if, at the election considering the approval of
17 the charter, the voters approve both the charter and a separate
18 ballot question presented by the charter commission to reorganize
19 the board of county road commissioners. Funds provided to the
20 county under 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.651 to 247.675, shall only be
21 expended for the purposes provided under 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.651 to
22 247.675.

23 (6) If the county board of commissioners proposes to alter the
24 number of county road commissioners as allowed under this act, the
25 county board of commissioners shall hold not less than 1 public
26 hearing on the proposed change to the road commission. The county
27 board of commissioners shall give notice as required under the open

1 meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275, of the time and
2 place of the public hearing not less than 28 days before the
3 hearing. The county board of commissioners shall also provide
4 written notice of the hearing to the county road commission and, if
5 available, by posting the notice on the county's website. The
6 county board of commissioners may vote on whether to alter the
7 number of county road commissioners at the meeting noticed under
8 this subsection.

9 (7) Except as otherwise provided under subsection (5) and
10 subject to the requirement provided in subsection (9), ~~before~~
11 ~~January 1, 2015,~~ the powers, duties, and functions that are
12 otherwise provided by law for an appointed board of county road
13 commissioners may be transferred to the county board of
14 commissioners by a resolution as allowed under section 11 of 1851
15 PA 156, MCL 46.11. The appointed board of county road commissioners
16 of that county is dissolved on the date specified in the resolution
17 adopted under this subsection, and the county board of
18 commissioners is authorized to receive and expend funds as allowed
19 under 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.651 to 247.675.

20 (8) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (5) and subject
21 to the requirement provided in subsection (9), ~~before January 1,~~
22 ~~2015,~~ the county board of commissioners in a county with an elected
23 board of county road commissioners may, by a resolution as allowed
24 under section 11 of 1851 PA 156, MCL 46.11, submit to the qualified
25 and registered electors of the county at the next regular election
26 to be held in the county the question of transferring the powers,
27 duties, and functions of the elected board of county road

1 commissioners of that county to the county board of commissioners.
2 If a majority of the qualified and registered electors of the
3 county voting on the question vote in favor of transferring the
4 powers, duties, and functions of the elected board of county road
5 commissioners of that county to the county board of commissioners,
6 the elected board of county road commissioners of that county is
7 dissolved and the county board of commissioners is authorized to
8 receive and expend funds as allowed under 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.651
9 to 247.675.

10 (9) Before adopting a resolution under subsection (7) or (8),
11 the county board of commissioners shall conduct, at a minimum, 2
12 public hearings on whether to transfer the powers, duties, and
13 functions of the board of county road commissioners to the county
14 board of commissioners.

15 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
16 unless Senate Bill No.323

17 of the 98th Legislature is enacted into law.