

Legislative Analysis



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Senate Bill 570 as passed by the Senate
Sponsor: Sen. Mallory McMorrow
House Committee: Elections
Senate Committee: Elections and Ethics
Complete to 11-7-23

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

(Enacted as Public Act 254 of 2023)

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 570 would amend the Michigan Election Law to prohibit a county clerk from participating in an election audit if that clerk is a precinct delegate of a political party or an officer or member of a political party's governing body.

The Michigan Election Law grants the secretary of state (SOS) the authority to audit election precincts and to supervise county clerks during the election audit process. Under the bill, a county clerk who is an officer or member of a governing body of a national, state, or local political party or who is a precinct delegate of a political party would be ineligible to direct, supervise, or conduct an audit in any capacity and would have to instead appoint a designee. The designee also could not be affiliated with a political party in these roles.

MCL 168.31a

BACKGROUND:

Proposal 2 of 2022 amended the state constitution to require the SOS to conduct election audits and to prohibit political party members, officers, and precinct delegates from having any role in the direction, supervision, or conduction of an election audit. Senate Bill 570 would incorporate this change into the Michigan Election Law.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state or local units of government.

Legislative Analyst: Holly Kuhn
Fiscal Analyst: Michael Crossen

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