



Elizabeth K. Mase

*Bill Analysis*  
Legislative Service Commission

## **Am. H.B. 472**

124th General Assembly

(As Reported by H. Local Government & Townships)

**Reps. Schmidt, Roman, Seitz, Carano, Webster, Clancy, Young, Schneider, Schaffer, Blasdel, Setzer, McGregor**

---

### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Eliminates the ten-year limitation for township lighting contracts.
- Permits lighting district contracts to be continually renewed.

---

### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

#### **Current law**

Current law permits a board of township trustees to provide artificial lights in the unincorporated area of the township, either by having the township itself install a lighting system or by contracting with a person to furnish lights that will be owned by the township or that person. If the board decides to contract for the lights and estimates the cost to exceed \$15,000, the board must bid the contract and award it to the lowest and best bidder. The contract cannot be for a period of more than ten years. (Sec. 515.01.)

Current law also provides for township property owners to petition for artificial lighting of streets that abut their property and, in doing so, for the creation of a lighting district in the unincorporated area of the township. If the board of township trustees, after following a specified procedure, approves the district, a lighting contract may be entered into. It must be competitively bid if the board estimates the cost for the lighting improvements for the area to be more than \$15,000. In that situation, the board may either award the contract to the lowest and best bidder or reject all bids. Any contract so awarded cannot be for a period of longer than ten years. (Secs. 515.02 to 515.06, not in the bill; secs. 515.07 and 515.08, in the bill.)

**Changes proposed by the bill**

The bill permits a board of township trustees to award these lighting contracts without any limitation on their length (secs. 515.01, 515.08, and 515.13(A)). It also permits a lighting district contract to be "continually renewed by the board" unless a proper petition is filed for discontinuing the lighting before the expiration of the existing contract. The board may do so in its discretion exercised "in the best interest of the lighting district." (Sec. 515.081.)

---

**HISTORY**

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	01-15-02	p. 1232
Reported, H. Local Gov't & Townships	03-07-02	pp. 1493-1495

H0472-RH.124/jc

