
Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill permits townships to create regulations necessary to control noise within any area zoned for residential use. The bill excludes from such regulations agricultural activities, legal oil and gas mining activities, and reclamation operations. Existing businesses and industries are also exempted if the noise they create does not substantially increase. Any violation of noise regulations passed by a township is a minor misdemeanor.

Current law only permits townships to regulate noise from motor vehicles and establishments, such as bars, that sell alcohol for consumption on the establishment's premises - if that establishment is adjacent to a residential area.

Fiscal effects. Counties and municipalities could have additional court and enforcement costs for any permissive noise control legislation passed by townships resulting in minor misdemeanor offenses or civil cases from private persons. The bill could also generate court fee revenue from such cases, but not fine revenue, which would go to the affected township.

Townships that choose to adopt regulations under the expanded authority provided in the bill could have additional enforcement costs and could gain additional fine revenue from any violators fined under the regulations.

□ *LBO staff: Alexander C. Heckman, Budget/Policy Analyst*

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