



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

Washington Square Building, Suite 1025
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: 517/373-6466

MICHIGAN ORNAMENTAL PLANT COUNCIL

RECEIVED

MAY 23 1989

House Bill 4278 *Mich. State Law Library*
Sponsor: Rep. Thomas L. Hickner
Committee: Appropriations

Complete to 4-10-89.

SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4278 AS INTRODUCED 2-22-89

The bill would amend the Insect Pest and Plant Disease Act to create an eight-member Michigan Ornamental Plant Council in the Department of Agriculture. Members would be appointed for two-year terms by the governor from lists submitted by the Michigan Association of Nurserymen, and would consist of two growers of nursery stock, two landscape contractors, two retailers of nursery stock, one owner or operator of any business regulated by the act, and the director of the Department of Agriculture, or his or her designee. The council would provide for research on ornamental plants (including methods of planting, growing, controlling insects and diseases, marketing, processing, distribution, advertising, sales production, and product development) and generally help the nursery and landscape industry expand domestic and foreign markets for its products.

License fee structures under the act would be changed. Plant growers and dealers would continue to pay \$20 annual fees for licenses, but the annual license fees for nurserymen and nursery dealers would be based on gross annual sales of nursery stock rather than being a flat \$50 annual fee. Nurserymen and nursery dealers whose gross annual sales were less than \$7,500 would pay \$75 for an annual license, but those with annual sales of \$7,500 or more would pay annual fees of \$200. Plant growers' and dealers' fees and \$50 of each nurserymen's and nursery dealers' fees would be credited to the state general fund. The balance of the fees collected would be credited to the general fund, but used solely for council expenses.

The bill would take effect October 31, 1989.

MCL 286.202 et al

House Bill 4278 (4-10-89)