

# HOUSE BILL No. 5497

February 14, 1990, Introduced by Reps. Honigman and Wallace and referred to the Committee on Public Utilities.

A bill to regulate the temperature setting of certain water heaters; and to require certain persons to provide notice.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Sec. 1. A person who installs a new water heater in a  
2 single family or multi-unit residential dwelling shall preset the  
3 thermostat on the water heater no higher than 120 degrees  
4 Fahrenheit or 49 degrees Celsius.

5       Sec. 2. Prior to a tenant taking occupancy in a rented or  
6 leased single family or multi-unit residential dwelling, the  
7 owner of the dwelling shall set the thermostat on the water  
8 heater for the dwelling no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit or  
9 49 degrees Celsius.

10       Sec. 3. A water heating system may have a temperature  
11 setting higher than provided in sections 1 and 2 if the system is  
12 designed to restrict the temperature of water at the point it

1 flows from the tap to not more than 120 degrees Fahrenheit or 49  
2 degrees Celsius.

3       Sec. 4. (1) The occupant of a residential dwelling may set  
4 the thermostat on the water heater for the dwelling at a tempera-  
5 ture higher than that allowed under this act.

6       (2) If the occupant resets the thermostat of the water  
7 heater under subsection (1), the person regulated under section 1  
8 or 2 shall not be liable for damages caused by the resetting of  
9 the thermostat by the occupant.

10       Sec. 5. (1) A utility company providing the energy for a  
11 water heater regulated under this act shall at least annually  
12 include in its billings a statement that a water heater with a  
13 thermostat set higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit or 49 degrees  
14 Celsius may cause severe burns and result in excessive energy  
15 consumption.

16       (2) A person regulated under this act shall after the effec-  
17 tive date of this act attach a notice to the thermostat, at the  
18 time the thermostat is set, stating that a water heater with a  
19 thermostat set higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit or 49 degrees  
20 Celsius may cause severe burns and result in excessive energy  
21 consumption.