SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 647

A bill to restrict the use and disclosure of certain statements made by law enforcement officers.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 1. As used in this act:
- 2 (a) "Involuntary statement" means information provided by a
- 3 law enforcement officer, if compelled under threat of dismissal
- 4 from employment or any other employment sanction, by the law
- 5 enforcement agency that employs the law enforcement officer.
- 6 (b) "Law enforcement agency" means the department of state
- 7 police, the department of natural resources, or a law enforcement
- 8 agency of a county, township, city, village, airport authority,
- 9 community college, or university, that is responsible for the
- 10 prevention and detection of crime and enforcement of the criminal
- 11 laws of this state.

2

- 1 (c) "Law enforcement officer" means all of the following:
- 2 (i) A person who is trained and certified under the commission
- 3 on law enforcement standards act, 1965 PA 203, MCL 28.601 to
- **4** 28.616.
- 5 (ii) A local corrections officer as defined in section 2 of the
- 6 local corrections officers training act, 2003 PA 125, MCL 791.532.
- 7 (iii) An emergency dispatch worker employed by a law enforcement
- 8 agency.
- 9 Sec. 3. An involuntary statement made by a law enforcement
- 10 officer, and any information derived from that involuntary
- 11 statement, shall not be used against the law enforcement officer in
- 12 a criminal proceeding.
- Sec. 5. An involuntary statement made by a law enforcement
- 14 officer is a confidential communication that is not open to public
- 15 inspection. The statement may be disclosed by the law enforcement
- 16 agency only under 1 or more of the following circumstances:
- 17 (a) With the written consent of the law enforcement officer
- 18 who made the statement.
- 19 (b) To a prosecuting attorney or the attorney general pursuant
- 20 to a search warrant, subpoena, or court order, including an
- 21 investigative subpoena issued under chapter VIIA of the code of
- 22 criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 767a.1 to 767a.9. However, a
- 23 prosecuting attorney or attorney general who obtains an involuntary
- 24 statement under this subdivision shall not disclose the contents of
- 25 the statement except to a law enforcement agency working with the
- 26 prosecuting attorney or attorney general or as ordered by the court
- 27 having jurisdiction over the criminal matter or, as

Senate Bill No. 647 as amended December 5, 2006

- 1 constitutionally required, to the defendant in a criminal case.
- 2 (c) To officers of, or legal counsel for, the law enforcement
- 3 agency or the collective bargaining representative of the law
- 4 enforcement officer, or both, for use in an administrative or legal
- 5 proceeding involving a law enforcement officer's employment status
- 6 with the law enforcement agency or to defend the law enforcement
- 7 agency or law enforcement officer in a criminal action. However, a
- 8 person who receives an involuntary statement under this subdivision
- 9 shall not disclose the statement for any reason not allowed under
- 10 this subdivision, or make it available for public inspection,
- 11 without the written consent of the law enforcement officer who made
- 12 the statement.
- 13 (d) To legal counsel for an individual or employing agency for
- 14 use in a civil action against the employing agency or the law
- 15 enforcement officer. Until the close of discovery in that action,
- the court shall preserve <
by reasonable means>> the confidentiality of the involuntary
- 17 statement <
by reasonable means>>, which may include granting
- 18 protective orders in connection with discovery proceedings, holding
- 19 in camera hearings, or ordering any person involved in the
- 20 litigation not to disclose the involuntary statement without prior
- 21 court approval.