

**Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules**  
MOAHR-Rules@michigan.gov

**AGENCY REPORT TO THE  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (JCAR)**

**1. Agency Information**

**Agency name:**

Health and Human Services

**Division/Bureau/Office:**

Economic Stability Administration

**Name of person completing this form:**

Mary Brennan

**Phone number of person completing this form:**

517-242-9634

**E-mail of person completing this form:**

BrennanM@michigan.gov

**Name of Department Regulatory Affairs Officer reviewing this form:**

Mary Brennan

**2. Rule Set Information**

**MOAHR assigned rule set number:**

2021-87 HS

**Title of proposed rule set:**

Family Independence Program

**3. Purpose for the proposed rules and background:**

The purpose of these rules is to set guidance for DHHS on how to process and determine eligibility for the cash assistance program, specifically the Family Independence Program. The changes intend to address the ability for both applicants and recipients to choose either an in-house or telephone interview for benefits. The rules currently address only in-person interviews but offer alternatives only for undue hardship. Because many of the recipients and applicants have medical issues, transportation issues, or feel uncomfortable with the current COVID numbers, it may not be feasible or safe for the Department or the client to come into the MDHHS building to conduct an in-person interview. The change will be also allowing telephone interviews for the public without restriction of proving hardship.

**4. Summary of proposed rules:**

The purpose of these rules is set guidance for DHHS on how to process and determine eligibility for the Family Independence and State Disability Assistance programs. DHHS seeks to amend the current rules to add telephone interview, in addition to in-person interview, for application review. These rules seek to improve client customer service by allowing a telephone interview in the event of the recipient having medical issues, transportation issues, child care issues, or having to take leave from his or her employment in order to complete the a application process.

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**5. List names of newspapers in which the notice of public hearing was published and publication dates:**

Oakland Press; March 8, 2022; Battle Creek Enquirer; March 8, 2022; Marquette Mining Journal, March 9, 2022

**6. Date of publication of rules and notice of public hearing in Michigan Register:**

3/15/2022

**7. Date, time, and location of public hearing:**

3/22/2022 09:00 AM at Grand Tower-Room 1A , 235 S. Grand Avenue, First Floor, Lansing, MI 48933

**8. Provide the link the agency used to post the regulatory impact statement and cost-benefit analysis on its website:**

<https://ARS.apps.lara.state.mi.us/Transaction/RFRTransaction?TransactionID=1345>

**9. List of the name and title of agency representative(s) attending public hearing:**

Lana Karadsheh, Department Analyst, Cash Assistance Program

**10. Persons submitting comments of support:**

None

**11. Persons submitting comments of opposition:**

None

**12. Persons submitting other comments:**

None

**13. Identify any changes made to the proposed rules based on comments received during the public comment period:**

	<b>Name &amp; Organization</b>	<b>Comments made at public hearing</b>	<b>Written Comments</b>	<b>Agency Rationale for Rule Change and Description of Change(s) Made</b>	<b>Rule number &amp; citation changed</b>
1					

**14. Date report completed:**

4/12/2022