



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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SALES OF LEGISLATIVE OFFICE FURNITURE

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House Bill 4682 as introduced
First Analysis (3-9-88)

MAR 30 1988

Sponsor: Rep. Sal Rocca
Committee: State Affairs

Mich. State Law Library

H.B. 4682 (3-9-88)

THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

Public Act 389 of 1982 reportedly was enacted to allow former Governor Milliken to purchase a state-owned security gate at his Traverse City home and certain pieces of office furnishings. The provisions of that act, now contained in Public Act 431 of 1984, authorize the Department of Management and Budget (DMB) to sell to former legislators and governors office furnishings and other equipment used by them. The state historical museum (which is under the Department of State) traditionally has loaned antiques and other historical items to legislators for use in their offices, but with the passage of Public Act 389, the museum, concerned about the possible loss of valuable items from its collections, has confined its loans to only those items previously used by legislators. With the lending program curtailed, legislators and the public have less of an opportunity to enjoy items that otherwise would be gathering dust in a warehouse. It has been suggested that certain limits be placed on the purchase of office furnishings by former governors and legislators, so that the state's historical heritage may be better protected, and with that protection, may be made more accessible to legislators and the public.

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

The bill would amend the Management and Budget Act to require that office furnishings and equipment sold to state legislative and executive officials be less than 30 years old, and that any such office furnishings be determined by the Department of State to be of no historical significance. Further, the bill would delete the provision that the sale be based on the replacement value of the property as determined by the purchasing division of DMB. (This language created an apparent conflict with the language specifying that property is to be sold at fair market value.)

MCL 18.1275

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

According to the House Fiscal Agency, the bill would have no fiscal implications for the state. (3-8-88)

ARGUMENTS:

For:

The bill would protect historical items on loan to legislators and the governor from subsequent purchase by those officeholders, thus allowing more of the items from the state historical collections to be put on public display, and preventing the loss of possibly valuable articles.

POSITIONS:

The Department of State supports the bill. (3-8-88)

The Department of Management and Budget supports the bill. (12-7-88)