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PROHIBIT RACE-BASED CONSUMER DISCRIMINATION

House Bill 5183

Sponsor: Rep. Derrick Hale

Committee: Constitutional Law and Ethics

Complete to 8-24-00

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5183 AS INTRODUCED 12-9-99

The Michigan Consumer Protection Act specifies that “unfair, unconscionable, or deceptive methods, acts, or practices in the conduct of trade or commerce” are unlawful, and defines such methods, acts, or practices in a list provided in the act. The bill would amend the act to add to this list of unlawful methods, acts, or practices, pricing identical goods or services differently based on the race of the potential customer.

More specifically, the bill would make it unlawful to sell or offer to sell either of the following:

- (1) Goods that differed only in identifiable racial characteristics, unless the price for the sale of those goods were identical (unless the manufacturing cost of the products were not substantially the same;
- (2) Identical goods or services to members of different races at different prices.

MCL 445.903

House Bill 5183 (8-24-00)

Analyst: S. Ekstrom

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.