

SENATE BILL No. 217

February 11, 2009, Introduced by Senators ALLEN, PAPPAGEORGE, HARDIMAN, BARCIA, KAHN and JACOBS and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

A bill to identify commerce centers; to target state funding; and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state agencies and officials.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
2 "commerce center act".

3 Sec. 2. The legislature finds that it is in the public
4 interest to recognize certain communities as commerce centers
5 because of their urban and commercial character and that to improve
6 commercial growth and development in this state it is necessary to
7 provide these target areas with certain funding and assistance
8 programs.

9 Sec. 3. As used in this act:

1 (a) "Commerce center" means a city, village, or township that
2 meets all of the following conditions:

3 (i) Owns and operates a water and sewer system.

4 (ii) Allows for high-density and mixed use zoning.

5 (iii) Has an expedited permitting process.

6 (iv) Has a master plan that includes all of the following:

7 (A) A walkable streetscapes development plan.

8 (B) A transportation plan.

9 (C) An open space preservation plan.

10 (D) An economic development plan.

11 (E) An arts and cultural development plan.

12 (F) A technology infrastructure plan.

13 (G) A universal housing plan.

14 (b) "Department" means the department of energy, labor, and
15 economic growth.

16 Sec. 4. (1) The department shall annually identify each city,
17 village, or township that qualifies as a commerce center under this
18 act.

19 (2) The department shall make recommendations to the
20 legislature for funding and program development that will assist
21 commerce centers in encouraging commercial growth and development.

22 (3) The department shall report annually to the legislature
23 regarding the activities and success of each commerce center
24 located in this state.