

# SENATE BILL No. 272

March 17, 2011, Introduced by Senators KOWALL, BRANDENBURG, GREEN, ROBERTSON, MARLEAU, EMMONS, ROCCA, CASPERSON, BOOHER, JONES, JANSEN, NOFS, PAPPAGEORGE, PROOS, SCHUITMAKER, MOOLENAAR, CASWELL, HANSEN, COLBECK, RICHARDVILLE and KAHN and referred to the Committee on Economic Development.

A bill to amend 1969 PA 306, entitled "Administrative procedures act of 1969," by amending sections 32, 40, 43, 61, and 64 (MCL 24.232, 24.240, 24.243, 24.261, and 24.264), section 40 as amended by 1999 PA 262, section 43 as amended by 1989 PA 288, and section 61 as amended by 1982 PA 413.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 32. (1) Definitions of words and phrases and rules of  
2 construction prescribed in any statute ~~and which~~ **THAT** are made  
3 applicable to all statutes of this state ~~and~~ also apply to rules  
4 unless clearly indicated to the contrary.

1 (2) A rule or exception to a rule shall not discriminate in  
2 favor of or against any person. ~~and a~~ A person affected by a rule  
3 is entitled to the same benefits as any other person under the same  
4 or similar circumstances.

5 (3) The violation of a rule is a crime when so provided by  
6 statute. ~~A UNLESS PROVIDED FOR BY STATUTE, A~~ rule shall not ~~make an~~  
7 ~~act or omission to act a crime or~~ **DESIGNATE AN ACT OR OMISSION AS A**  
8 **CRIME AND SHALL NOT** prescribe a criminal penalty for violation of a  
9 rule.

10 (4) An agency may adopt, by reference in its rules and without  
11 publishing the adopted matter in full, all or any part of a code,  
12 standard or regulation ~~which~~ **THAT** has been adopted by an agency of  
13 the United States or by a nationally recognized organization or  
14 association. The reference shall fully identify the adopted matter  
15 by date and otherwise. The reference shall not cover any later  
16 amendments and editions of the adopted matter, but if the agency  
17 wishes to incorporate them in its rule it shall amend the rule or  
18 promulgate a new rule therefor. The agency shall have available  
19 copies of the adopted matter for inspection and distribution to the  
20 public at cost and the rules shall state where copies of the  
21 adopted matter are available from the agency and the agency of the  
22 United States or the national organization or association and the  
23 cost thereof as of the time the rule is adopted.

24 (5) **AN AGENCY SHALL NOT PROMULGATE OR ADOPT A RULE MORE**  
25 **STRINGENT THAN THE APPLICABLE FEDERAL STANDARD UNLESS SPECIFICALLY**  
26 **AUTHORIZED BY STATUTE.**

27 (6) **IF AN AGENCY ADOPTS RULES IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT A**

1 FEDERALLY DELEGATED PROGRAM, THE AGENCY SHALL ADOPT THE RULES AND  
2 STANDARDS AS PROMULGATED OR ADOPTED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
3 UNLESS A MORE EFFICIENT PROCESS IS SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY  
4 STATUTE.

5 (7) A GUIDELINE, OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM, BULLETIN,  
6 INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT, OR FORM WITH INSTRUCTIONS IS CONSIDERED  
7 MERELY ADVISORY AND SHALL NOT BE GIVEN THE FORCE AND EFFECT OF LAW.  
8 AN AGENCY SHALL NOT RELY UPON A GUIDELINE, OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM,  
9 BULLETIN, INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT, OR FORM WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO  
10 SUPPORT THE AGENCY'S DECISION TO ACT OR REFUSE TO ACT IF THAT  
11 DECISION IS SUBJECT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW. A COURT SHALL NOT RELY UPON  
12 A GUIDELINE, OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM, BULLETIN, INTERPRETIVE  
13 STATEMENT, OR FORM WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO UPHOLD AN AGENCY DECISION  
14 TO ACT OR REFUSE TO ACT.

15 (8) WHERE A STATUTE PROVIDES THAT AN AGENCY MAY PROCEED BY  
16 RULE-MAKING OR BY ORDER AND AN AGENCY PROCEEDS BY ORDER IN LIEU OF  
17 RULE-MAKING, THE ORDER SHALL NOT BE GIVEN GENERAL APPLICABILITY TO  
18 PERSONS WHO WERE NOT PARTIES TO THE PROCEEDING OR CONTESTED CASE  
19 PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF THE ORDER.

20 (9) A RULE SHALL NOT EXCEED THE RULE-MAKING DELEGATION  
21 CONTAINED IN THE STATUTE AUTHORIZING THE RULE-MAKING.

22 Sec. 40. (1) When an agency proposes to adopt a rule that will  
23 apply to a small business and the rule will have a disproportionate  
24 impact on small businesses because of the size of those businesses,  
25 the agency **SHALL CONSIDER EXEMPTING SMALL BUSINESSES AND, IF NOT**  
26 **EXEMPTED, THE AGENCY** proposing to adopt the rule shall reduce the  
27 economic impact of the rule on small businesses by doing ~~1-or more~~

1 ALL of the following when it is lawful and feasible in meeting the  
2 objectives of the act authorizing the promulgation of the rule:

3 (A) IDENTIFY AND ESTIMATE THE NUMBER OF SMALL BUSINESSES  
4 AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED RULE AND ITS PROBABLE EFFECT ON SMALL  
5 BUSINESSES.

6 (B) ~~(a)~~—Establish differing compliance or reporting  
7 requirements or timetables for small businesses under the rule  
8 AFTER PROJECTING THE REQUIRED REPORTING, RECORD-KEEPING, AND OTHER  
9 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

10 (C) ~~(b)~~—Consolidate, ~~or~~ simplify, OR ELIMINATE the compliance  
11 and reporting requirements for small businesses under the rule AND  
12 IDENTIFY THE SKILLS NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH THE REPORTING  
13 REQUIREMENTS.

14 (D) ~~(c)~~—Establish performance ~~rather than design standards,~~  
15 ~~when appropriate~~—STANDARDS TO REPLACE DESIGN OR OPERATIONAL  
16 STANDARDS REQUIRED IN THE PROPOSED RULE.

17 ~~——(d) Exempt small businesses from any or all of the~~  
18 ~~requirements of the rule.~~

19 (2) THE FACTORS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) (A) TO (D) SHALL BE  
20 SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED IN THE SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT.

21 (3) ~~(2)~~—If ~~appropriate in~~—IN reducing the disproportionate  
22 economic impact on small business of a rule as provided in  
23 subsection (1), an agency ~~may~~—SHALL use the following  
24 classifications of small business:

25 (a) 0-9 full-time employees.

26 (b) 10-49 full-time employees.

27 (c) 50-249 full-time employees.

1           (4) ~~(3)~~—For purposes of subsection ~~(2)~~—(3), an agency may  
2 include a small business with a greater number of full-time  
3 employees in a classification that applies to a business with fewer  
4 full-time employees.

5           (5) ~~(4)~~—This section and section 45(3) do not apply to a rule  
6 ~~which~~—**THAT** is required by federal law and ~~which~~—**THAT** an agency  
7 promulgates without imposing standards more stringent than those  
8 required by the federal law.

9           Sec. 43. (1) Except in the case of an emergency rule  
10 promulgated in the manner described in section 48, a rule is not  
11 valid unless processed in compliance with ~~section 42~~—**SECTIONS 39,**  
12 **40, 42, AND 45(3)** and unless in substantial compliance with section  
13 41(2), (3), (4), and (5).

14           (2) A proceeding to contest **THE VALIDITY OF THE PROCESSING OF**  
15 a rule on the ground of noncompliance with the requirements of  
16 ~~sections~~—**SECTION 39, 40, 41, and 42, OR 45(3), OR ANY COMBINATION**  
17 **THEREOF**, shall be commenced within 2 years after the effective date  
18 of the rule.

19           (3) **AN AGENCY DETERMINED TO HAVE VIOLATED THIS CHAPTER**  
20 **REGARDING THE PROCESSING OF A RULE IS LIABLE FOR DAMAGES AS AWARDED**  
21 **IN AN ACTION BROUGHT UNDER SECTION 64(2).**

22           Sec. 61. (1) The filing of a rule under this act raises a  
23 rebuttable presumption that the rule was adopted, filed with the  
24 secretary of state, and made available for public inspection as  
25 required by this act.

26           (2) The publication of a rule in the Michigan register, the  
27 Michigan administrative code, or in an annual supplement to the

1 code raises a rebuttable presumption that **THE FOLLOWING OCCURRED:**

2 (a) The rule was adopted, filed with the secretary of state,  
3 and made available for public inspection as required by this act.

4 (b) The rule printed in the publication is a true and correct  
5 copy of the promulgated rule.

6 ~~— (c) All requirements of this act relative to the rule have  
7 been complied with.~~

8 (3) The courts shall take judicial notice of a rule ~~which~~**THAT**  
9 becomes effective under this act.

10 Sec. 64. (1) Unless an exclusive procedure or remedy is  
11 provided by a statute governing the agency, the validity or  
12 applicability of a rule, **INCLUDING THE FAILURE OF AN AGENCY TO**  
13 **ACCURATELY ASSESS THE IMPACT OF THE RULE ON BUSINESSES, INCLUDING**  
14 **SMALL BUSINESSES, IN ITS REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT,** may be  
15 determined in an action for declaratory judgment ~~when~~**IF** the court  
16 finds that the rule or its threatened application interferes with  
17 or impairs, or imminently threatens to interfere with or impair,  
18 the legal rights or privileges of the plaintiff. The action shall  
19 be filed in the circuit court of the county where the plaintiff  
20 resides or has his **OR HER** principal place of business in this state  
21 or in the circuit court for Ingham county. The agency shall be made  
22 a party to the action. ~~An action for declaratory judgment may not  
23 be commenced under this section unless the plaintiff has first  
24 requested the agency for a declaratory ruling and the agency has  
25 denied the request or failed to act upon it expeditiously. This  
26 section shall not be construed to prohibit the determination of the  
27 validity or applicability of the rule in any other action or~~

1 proceeding in which its invalidity or inapplicability is asserted.

2 (2) A PERSON ALLEGING A VIOLATION OF CHAPTER 3 REGARDING THE  
3 PROCESSING OF A RULE MAY BRING AN ACTION FOR DAMAGES IN THE CIRCUIT  
4 COURT OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PLAINTIFF RESIDES OR IN THE  
5 CIRCUIT COURT FOR INGHAM COUNTY. IF THE COURT DETERMINES THAT SUCH  
6 A VIOLATION HAS OCCURRED, IT MAY AWARD UP TO 10 TIMES THE COST OF  
7 ANY PERMIT FEES AS WELL AS THE ACTUAL AND REASONABLE COSTS INCURRED  
8 FOR WITNESS AND ATTORNEY FEES.