Legislative Analysis



REPEAL PROVISION OF DEBT MANAGEMENT ACT

Phone: (517) 373-8080 http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa

House Bill 6190 as reported from committee

Analysis available at http://www.legislature.mi.gov

Sponsor: Rep. Ann M. Bollin Committee: Oversight

Committee: Oversight Complete to 6-29-22

SUMMARY:

House Bill 6190 would repeal section 9 of the Debt Management Act. The act regulates debt management businesses (which enter into contracts with debtors to manage the payment of their financial obligations) and prescribes requirements for debt management contracts, permissible fees, and standards for the licensure of debt management businesses, as well as prohibiting certain activities and practices.

Section 9 currently allows the director of the Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) to deny, revoke, suspend, or postpone a license issued or applied for under the act for any of the following:

- Conviction of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.
- Violating provisions of the act, departmental rules, or any order or condition of license.
- Fraud or deceit in obtaining a license.
- Indulging in dishonest or unethical conduct.
- Insolvency, meaning that the licensee's liabilities exceed its assets; the licensee cannot pay its debts as they mature; or the licensee or applicant has filed in bankruptcy, receivership, or assignment for the benefit of creditors.
- Failure to reasonably supervise agents or employees.

Section 9 also requires DIFS to give notice to the licensee of the facts or conduct warranting the intended action, before commencing the action, and provides the licensee an opportunity to show compliance and retain the license. Further, section 9 allows summary suspension of a license if DIFS finds that the public health, safety, or welfare requires emergency action.

MCL 451.419 (repealed)

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 6190 would not have an appreciable fiscal impact on the Department of Insurance and Financial Services, given the limited number of instances to which the existing law applies.

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POSITIONS:

A representative of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy testified in support of the bill. (6-15-22)

NFIB indicated support for the bill. (6-21-22)

Legislative Analyst: Susan Stutzky Fiscal Analyst: Marcus Coffin

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