

# HOUSE BILL NO. 5263

October 26, 2023, Introduced by Reps. Paquette, St. Germaine, Wozniak, Bezotte, DeBoyer, BeGole, Aragona, Johnsen, Rigas, Smit, Carra, Roth, Borton, Bruck and Jaime Greene and referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled  
"Public health code,"  
(MCL 333.1101 to 333.25211) by adding section 2670.

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

1           **Sec. 2670. (1) A person shall not conduct pathogen enhancement**  
2 **engineering or research.**

3           **(2) A person that violates subsection (1) is guilty of a**  
4 **felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years, a fine**  
5 **of not more than \$100,000.00, or both.**

1           (3) If an individual reports conduct to the department that  
2 leads to the discovery that another person is violating subsection  
3 (1), the department shall reward that individual with \$50,000.00.

4           (4) The department shall notify individuals who are employed  
5 by biological research facilities of the potential for a reward  
6 under subsection (3). The department shall also create and  
7 distribute to individuals described under this subsection education  
8 materials that include the Biological Weapons Convention Treaty and  
9 18 USC 175.

10          (5) As used in this section:

11          (a) "Pathogen enhancement engineering or research" means the  
12 act of altering a naturally or synthetically derived pathogen to  
13 enhance environmental persistence, transmissibility, pathogenicity,  
14 infectivity, or virulence.

15          (b) "Person" means that term as defined in section 1106 or a  
16 governmental entity.