HOUSE BILL NO. 6162

November 26, 2024, Introduced by Rep. Farhat and referred to the Committee on Economic Development and Small Business.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding part 192.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1	PART 192
2	BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT
3	Sec. 19201. As used in this part:
4	(a) "Baseline environmental assessment" means that term as
5	defined in sections 20101 and 21302.
6	(b) "Brownfield project" or "project" means the entire project

- 1 to be undertaken, including, but not limited to, the actual site
- 2 remediation and the resulting economic development.
- 3 (c) "Corrective action" means that term as defined in section
- 4 21302.
- 5 (d) "Department" means the department of environment, Great
- 6 Lakes, and energy.
- 7 (e) "Due care activities" means those response activities
- 8 conducted under sections 20107a and 21304c.
- 9 (f) "Eligible activities" includes any of the following for
- 10 projects with funding allocated under the program:
- 11 (i) Baseline environmental assessment activities.
- 12 (ii) Investigations.
- 13 (iii) Due care activities.
- 14 (iv) Response activities.
- 15 (v) Removal and closure of underground storage tanks in
- 16 accordance with parts 211 and 213.
- 17 (vi) Removal of universal waste, PCB-ballasts, transfers,
- 18 capacitors, refrigerant gases, batteries, chemical, mercury
- 19 switches, or other hazardous materials.
- 20 (vii) Industrial cleaning.
- 21 (viii) Removal and disposal of lake or river sediments that
- 22 exceed part 201 cleanup criteria for unrestricted residential use
- 23 from or related to an economic development project, if the upland
- 24 property is a facility or would become a facility as the result of
- 25 disposition of dredged spoils.
- 26 (ix) The following activities, provided that the total cost of
- 27 these activities does not exceed the total cost of project-related
- 28 activities identified in subparagraphs (i) to (viii):
- 29 (A) Removal of uncontaminated surficial material and debris

- 1 from the eligible property, provided it was not generated or
- 2 accumulated by the authority or the developer, including, but not
- 3 limited to tires, furniture, building debris, appliances, abandoned
- 4 vehicles, general refuse, and localized buried debris not
- 5 associated with landfills or dumps.
- 6 (B) Demolition of lead, asbestos, or mold abatement that is 7 not a response activity.
- 8 (g) "Eligible property" for projects with funding allocated
- 9 under the program means property that is known or suspected to be a
- 10 facility under part 201 or a site or property under part 213 that
- 11 was used or is currently being used for commercial, industrial,
- 12 public, or residential purposes.
- 13 (h) "Facility" means that term as defined in section 20101.
- (i) "Local unit of government" means a county, city, village,
- 15 or township, or an agency of a county, city, village, or township;
- 16 or a brownfield redevelopment authority, an economic development
- 17 corporation, or an authority or other public body created by or in
- 18 accordance with state law.
- 19 (j) "Measurable economic benefit" means the permanent jobs
- 20 that are created or retained, the capital invested, the increased
- 21 tax base, or other quantifiable benefits to the applicable county,
- 22 city, village, and township where the project is located.
- (k) "Measurable environmental benefit" means the extent that
- 24 the requirements of part 201 or 213, or both, are advanced at a
- 25 brownfield project where environmental conditions inhibit the
- 26 site's redevelopment or reuse.
- 27 (l) "Program" means the brownfield redevelopment grant and
- 28 revolving loan program created under section 19205.
- 29 (m) "Response activity" means that term as defined in section

- 1 20101, and includes, but is not limited to, corrective actions and
- 2 activities that are more protective of the public health, safety,
- 3 and welfare and the environment than required by section 20107a or
- 4 21304c.
- 5 Sec. 19203. The department shall expend money from 1 of the
- 6 following funds, on appropriation, to provide grants and loans
- 7 under the program:
- 8 (a) The revitalization revolving loan fund created in section
- 9 20108a.
- 10 (b) The state brownfield redevelopment fund created in section
- 11 8a of the brownfield redevelopment financing act, 1996 PA 381, MCL
- 12 125.2658a.
- (c) Other funding sources as necessary and appropriate.
- 14 Sec. 19205. (1) The department shall create a brownfield
- 15 redevelopment grant and revolving loan program for the purpose of
- 16 making grants and loans to local units of government for eligible
- 17 activities at eligible properties with redevelopment potential.
- 18 (2) The department shall not issue a grant or loan under the
- 19 program unless all of the following conditions are met:
- 20 (a) The applicant is a local unit of government.
- 21 (b) The applicant demonstrates to the department the
- 22 capability of administering and managing the grant or loan.
- (c) The applicant demonstrates to the department that there is
- 24 an identifiable source of funds for the future maintenance and
- 25 operation of the activities funded with money from the program, if
- 26 appropriate.
- 27 (d) Within the last 24 months, the applicant has successfully
- 28 undergone an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted
- 29 auditing standards or an emergency manager has been appointed for

- 1 the applicant under the local financial stability and choice act,
- 2 2012 PA 436, MCL 141.1541 to 141.1575.
- 3 (e) Within the last 24 months, the department has not revoked
- 4 or terminated a grant to the applicant and the department has not
- 5 determined that the applicant demonstrated an inability to manage a
- 6 grant.
- 7 (f) The applicant is not responsible for causing a release or
- 8 threat of release under part 201 or part 213 at the site proposed
- 9 for grant or loan funding, except as provided in section 19208(1).
- 10 Sec. 19207. (1) Grants and loans issued under the program must
- 11 meet the following conditions:
- 12 (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a recipient is not
- 13 eligible to receive more than the following:
- (i) One grant per year, not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 per grant.
- 15 (ii) One loan per year, not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 per loan.
- 16 (b) Brownfield projects that have significant economic and
- 17 environmental benefit may be considered for more than 1 grant or
- 18 loan in separate fiscal years, provided that the loan or grant
- 19 agreement includes project-specific benchmarks for eligible
- 20 activities and failure to satisfy a benchmark would terminate the
- 21 project's eligibility for additional grant or loan funding, as
- 22 applicable.
- 23 (2) The department may award a grant only if it determines
- 24 that all of the following apply:
- 25 (a) The property is an eligible property.
- 26 (b) The proposed development of the property is expected to
- 27 result in measurable economic benefit in excess of the grant amount
- 28 requested by the applicant.
- 29 (c) The proposed project is in, or will result in, compliance

- 1 with all applicable state laws and rules.
- 2 (3) The department may award a loan only if it determines that
- 3 all of the following apply:
- 4 (a) The property is known or suspected to be an eligible
- 5 property.
- 6 (b) The property has economic development potential based on
- 7 the applicant's planned use of the property.
- 8 (c) The proposed project is in, or will result in, compliance
- 9 with applicable state laws and rules.
- 10 Sec. 19208. (1) A grant or loan may be used to fund assessment
- 11 of due care activities necessary to facilitate redevelopment if the
- 12 party responsible for an activity causing a release is not the
- 13 owner or operator of the proposed redevelopment.
- 14 (2) A loan may be used to fund response activities if both of
- 15 the following are met, as applicable:
- 16 (a) The party responsible for an activity causing a release is
- 17 not the seller and is not, or will not be, the owner or operator of
- 18 the property to receive funding.
- 19 (b) The recipient of the funding can show that response
- 20 activities are appropriate in relation to the redevelopment.
- 21 (3) A grant may be used to fund response activities if the
- 22 conditions under subsection (4) are met and the department
- 23 determines that the project is in the public interest.
- 24 (4) A loan may be used to fund appropriate response activities
- 25 related to redevelopment and due care activities necessary to
- 26 facilitate redevelopment of the property if the party responsible
- 27 for an activity causing a release at the eligible property meets
- 28 both of the following:
- 29 (a) Is a local unit of government.

- 1 (b) Has a proposed redevelopment plan for the property with 2 measurable economic benefit.
- 3 Sec. 19209. (1) An application for a grant or loan from the
- 4 program must be made on a form and in a manner prescribed by the
- 5 department. The department may require the applicant to provide any
- 6 information reasonably necessary to allow the department to make a
- 7 determination required by this part.
- 8 (2) The department shall accept, and consider for approval,
- 9 applications for grants and loans throughout the year. The
- 10 department shall make final application decisions not later than 90
- 11 days after receipt of a complete application. A complete
- 12 application must include all of the following:
- 13 (a) The location of the property.

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- (b) The current use and ownership of the property.
- 15 (c) The relevant history and the past use and ownership of the 16 property.
- 17 (d) The environmental condition of the property.
- 18 (e) A description of the proposed eligible activities and the 19 reasons proposed eligible activities are necessary.
 - (f) An itemized budget for the proposed eliqible activities.
- 21 (g) A schedule for the completion of the proposed eligible 22 activities.
- 23 (h) A description of the proposed project and measurable 24 economic benefit.
- 25 (i) If the property is not owned by the applicant, a draft of 26 an enforceable agreement between the property owner and the
- 27 applicant that commits the property owner to cooperate with the
- 28 applicant, including a commitment to allow access to the property
- 29 to complete, at a minimum, the proposed eligible activities.

- 1 (j) For loans, a resolution from the governing body of the
 2 applicant committing to repayment of the loan. If the applicant is
 3 a sub-unit of a local unit of government, the resolution required
 4 under this subdivision must be from the county, city, village, or
 5 township under which the sub-unit was formed.
- 6 (k) A letter or resolution from the city, township, or village
 7 where the project will be developed that demonstrates support for
 8 the project and that the project complies with all local zoning and
 9 planning ordinances.
- 10 (1) Any other relevant information required by the department.
- 11 (3) The department shall review a complete application12 received under subsection (2) using the following considerations:
 - (a) Whether the proposed project is authorized by this part.
- 14 (b) Whether the proposed project is consistent with local
 15 planning and zoning for the area in which the proposed project is
 16 located.
- 17 (c) Whether the proposed project provides a measurable 18 environmental benefit.

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- 19 (d) Whether the proposed project provides a measurable 20 economic benefit.
- 21 (e) Whether the proposed project will significantly contribute 22 to the local unit of government's economic and community 23 redevelopment or the revitalization of adjacent neighborhoods.
 - (f) The viability and schedule of the proposed redevelopment.
- 25 (g) The level of public and private commitment and other 26 resources available for the proposed project.
- 27 (h) How the proposed project relates to a broader economic and 28 community development plan for the local unit of government.
- 29 (i) Whether the proposed project is likely to be undertaken

- 1 without assistance from this state.
- 2 (j) Other criteria considered relevant by the department.
- 3 Sec. 19211. (1) To receive grant or loan funds, approved
- 4 applicants must enter into a grant or loan agreement with the
- 5 department. At a minimum, the grant or loan agreement must contain
- 6 all of the following information:
- 7 (a) The eligible activities to be undertaken with grant or
- 8 loan funds.
- 9 (b) The budget for utilizing the grant or loan funds.
- 10 (c) An implementation schedule for the eligible activities.
- 11 (d) Reporting requirements, including, at a minimum, the
- 12 following:
- 13 (i) The grant or loan recipient shall submit progress status
- 14 reports to the department on a form and in a manner prescribed by
- 15 and at a frequency determined by the department.
- 16 (ii) The grant or loan recipient shall provide a final report
- 17 after completing the grant- or loan-funded activities within a time
- 18 frame determined by the department.
- 19 (e) Other provisions considered necessary by the department.
- 20 (2) If the property is not owned by the grant or loan
- 21 recipient, an enforceable agreement that provides for access and
- 22 meets the requirements of section 19209(2)(i) must be provided
- 23 before the department approves a work plan.
- 24 (3) Unless otherwise approved by the department, only
- 25 activities carried out and costs incurred after execution of a
- 26 grant or loan agreement are eligible. All eligible activities must
- 27 be consistent with an approved work plan.
- 28 (4) Grant funds must be disbursed on a reimbursement basis on
- 29 receipt of appropriate documentation. Loan funds must be disbursed

- 1 in draws based on an approved work plan, and supporting
- 2 documentation must be submitted after expenses are incurred.
- 3 (5) The department shall specify documentation requirements
- 4 for grants and loans on a form prescribed for requesting
- 5 reimbursement or draws.
- 6 Sec. 19213. Before making a grant or loan under the program,
- 7 the department shall consider the extent to which the making of the
- 8 grant or loan contributes to the achievement of a balanced
- 9 distribution of grants and loans throughout this state.
- 10 Sec. 19215. (1) A recipient of a grant or loan issued under
- 11 the program shall do both of the following:
- 12 (a) Keep an accounting of the money spent on the project or
- 13 facility in a generally accepted manner. An accounting under this
- 14 subdivision is subject to a postaudit.
- 15 (b) Obtain authorization from the department before
- 16 implementing a change that significantly alters the proposed
- 17 project.
- 18 (2) The department may revoke a grant or loan issued under the
- 19 program or withhold payment if the proposed project changes, is
- 20 delayed, or is not implemented, or if the recipient fails to comply
- 21 with the terms and conditions of the grant or loan agreement or
- 22 with the requirements of this part or the rules promulgated under
- 23 this part, or with other applicable law or rules. If a grant or
- 24 loan is revoked, the department may recover all funds awarded.
- 25 (3) To ensure timely completion of a project and receipt of
- 26 project deliverables defined by the work plan and any required
- 27 documentations and reports, the department may withhold 10% of the
- 28 grant or loan amount until the project is completed.
- 29 (4) If an approved applicant fails to sign a grant or loan

- 1 agreement within 90 days after receipt of a written grant or loan
- 2 offer by the department, the department may cancel the grant or
- 3 loan offer. The applicant may not appeal or contest a cancellation
- 4 under this subsection.
- 5 (5) The department may terminate a grant or loan agreement and
- 6 require immediate repayment of the grant or loan if the recipient
- 7 uses grant or loan funds for any purpose other than for the
- 8 approved activities specified in the grant or loan agreement. The
- 9 department shall provide the recipient written notice of the
- 10 termination 30 days before the termination.
- 11 Sec. 19216. (1) A loan issued under the program must be made
- 12 on the following terms:
- 13 (a) A loan interest rate of not more than 50% of the prime
- 14 rate as determined by the department as of the date of approval of
- 15 the loan.
- 16 (b) A loan repayment schedule that requires a loan recipient
- 17 to repay the loan in equal annual installments of principal and
- 18 interest beginning not later than 5 years after the first draw of
- 19 the loan and concluding not later than 15 years after the first
- 20 draw of the loan.
- 21 (2) On request of a loan recipient and a showing of financial
- 22 hardship related to the project that was financed in whole or in
- 23 part by the loan, the department may renegotiate the terms of an
- 24 outstanding loan, including the length of the loan, interest rate,
- 25 and repayment terms. The department shall not reduce or eliminate
- 26 the amount of the outstanding loan principal. The department shall
- 27 report to the legislature the number of loans refinanced under this
- 28 subsection, the local unit of government or authority responsible
- 29 for each loan refinanced, and the change in the terms of the loan,

- 1 as appropriate. This information may be included in the report
- 2 prepared by the department under section 19220.
- 3 (3) Repayments of principal and interest must be deposited in
- 4 1 of the following funds based on programmatic need:
- 5 (a) The revitalization revolving loan fund created in section
- 6 20108a.
- 7 (b) The state brownfield redevelopment fund created in section
- 8 8a of the brownfield redevelopment financing act, 1996 PA 381, MCL
- 9 125.2658a.
- 10 Sec. 19219. The department and the department of attorney
- 11 general may recover costs expended under this part for corrective
- 12 actions, response activities, and all other recoverable costs under
- 13 part 201 or 213 from parties that are responsible for an activity
- 14 that causes a release under part 201 or 213. Actions to recover
- 15 costs must be conducted in the manner provided for in part 201 or
- 16 213, as applicable.
- 17 Sec. 19220. Annually, the department shall submit a list of
- 18 the projects financed under this part during the previous fiscal
- 19 year to the governor, the standing committees of the house of
- 20 representatives and the senate that primarily address issues
- 21 pertaining to the protection of natural resources and the
- 22 environment, and the subcommittees of the house of representatives
- 23 and the senate on appropriations for natural resources and
- 24 environmental quality. The list must include the following
- 25 information:
- 26 (a) The name and location of the project.
- 27 (b) The nature of the project.
- (c) The amount of money allocated to the project.
- 29 (d) The county in which the project is located.

- 1 (e) Other information considered relevant by the department.
- 2 Sec. 19221. The governor shall include in the governor's
- 3 annual budget recommendations to the legislature a recommended
- 4 level of funding to provide for the activities necessary to
- 5 implement this part.
- 6 Sec. 19223. The department may promulgate rules in accordance
- 7 with the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL
- 8 24.201 to 24.328, to implement this part.