

Act No. 23  
Public Acts of 2004  
Approved by the Governor  
March 10, 2004  
Filed with the Secretary of State  
March 10, 2004  
EFFECTIVE DATE: March 10, 2004

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
92ND LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2004**

Introduced by Senator Allen

# **ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 800**

AN ACT to amend 1969 PA 306, entitled "An act to provide for the effect, processing, promulgation, publication, and inspection of state agency rules, determinations, and other matters; to provide for the printing, publishing, and distribution of certain publications; to provide for state agency administrative procedures and contested cases and appeals from contested cases in licensing and other matters; to create and establish certain committees and offices; to provide for declaratory judgments as to rules; to repeal certain acts and parts of acts; and to repeal certain parts of this act on a specific date," by amending sections 5, 8, 24, 28, 39, 41, 41a, 42, 44, 45, 45a, 49, 50, 52, and 53 (MCL 24.205, 24.208, 24.224, 24.228, 24.239, 24.241, 24.241a, 24.242, 24.244, 24.245, 24.245a, 24.249, 24.250, 24.252, and 24.253), sections 5, 8, 24, 41a, 42, 44, 45, 52, and 53 as amended and sections 28, 39, and 45a as added by 1999 PA 262 and section 41 as amended by 1993 PA 141.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

Sec. 5. (1) "License" includes the whole or part of an agency permit, certificate, approval, registration, charter, or similar form of permission required by law, but does not include a license required solely for revenue purposes, or a license or registration issued under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923.

(2) "Licensing" includes agency activity involving the grant, denial, renewal, suspension, revocation, annulment, withdrawal, recall, cancellation, or amendment of a license.

(3) "Michigan register" means the publication described in section 8.

(4) "Notice" means a written or electronic record that informs a person of past or future action of the person generating the record.

(5) "Notice of objection" means the record adopted by the committee that indicates the committee's formal objection to a proposed rule.

(6) "Party" means a person or agency named, admitted, or properly seeking and entitled of right to be admitted, as a party in a contested case.

(7) "Person" means an individual, partnership, association, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, governmental subdivision, or public or private organization of any kind other than the agency engaged in the particular processing of a rule, declaratory ruling, or contested case.

(8) "Processing of a rule" means the action required or authorized by this act regarding a rule that is to be promulgated, including the rule's adoption, and ending with the rule's promulgation.

(9) "Promulgation of a rule" means that step in the processing of a rule consisting of the filing of a rule with the secretary of state.

(10) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a paper or electronic medium.

Sec. 8. (1) The office of regulatory reform shall publish the Michigan register at least once each month. The Michigan register shall contain all of the following:

(a) Executive orders and executive reorganization orders.

(b) On a cumulative basis, the numbers and subject matter of the enrolled senate and house bills signed into law by the governor during the calendar year and the corresponding public act numbers.

(c) On a cumulative basis, the numbers and subject matter of the enrolled senate and house bills vetoed by the governor during the calendar year.

(d) Proposed administrative rules.

(e) Notices of public hearings on proposed administrative rules.

(f) Administrative rules filed with the secretary of state.

(g) Emergency rules filed with the secretary of state.

(h) Notice of proposed and adopted agency guidelines.

(i) Other official information considered necessary or appropriate by the office of regulatory reform.

(j) Attorney general opinions.

(k) All of the items listed in section 7(m) after final approval by the certificate of need commission under section 22215 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.22215.

(2) The office of regulatory reform shall publish a cumulative index for the Michigan register.

(3) The Michigan register shall be available for public subscription at a fee reasonably calculated to cover publication and distribution costs.

(4) If publication of an agency's proposed rule or guideline or an item described in subsection (1)(k) would be unreasonably expensive or lengthy, the office of regulatory reform may publish a brief synopsis of the proposed rule or guideline or item described in subsection (1)(k), including information on how to obtain a complete copy of the proposed rule or guideline or item described in subsection (1)(k) from the agency at no cost.

(5) An agency shall electronically transmit a copy of the proposed rules and notice of public hearing to the office of regulatory reform for publication in the Michigan register.

Sec. 24. (1) Before the adoption of a guideline, an agency shall give electronic notice of the proposed guideline to the committee, the office of regulatory reform, and each person who requested the agency in writing or electronically for advance notice of proposed action that may affect the person. The committee shall electronically provide the notice of the proposed guideline not later than the next business day after receipt of the notice from the agency to members of the committee and to members of the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives that deal with the subject matter of the proposed guideline. The notice shall be given by mail, in writing, or electronically transmitted to the last address specified by the person requesting the agency for advanced notice of proposed action that may affect that person. A request for notice is renewable each December. Only electronic notice shall be given to any member or agency of the legislative and executive branches.

(2) The notice required by subsection (1) shall include all of the following:

(a) A statement of the terms or substance of the proposed guideline, a description of the subjects and issues involved, and the proposed effective date of the guideline.

(b) A statement that the addressee may express any views or arguments regarding the proposed guideline or the guideline's effect on a person.

(c) The address to which written comments may be sent and the date by which comments shall be mailed or electronically transmitted, which date shall not be less than 35 days from the date of the mailing or electronic transmittal of the notice.

(d) A reference to the specific statutory provision about which the proposed guideline states a policy.

Sec. 28. (1) Before the adoption of a standard form contract that would have been considered a rule but for the exemption from rule-making under section 7(p) or a policy exempt from rule-making under section 7(q), an agency shall give electronic notice of the proposed standard form contract or policy to the committee and the office of regulatory reform. The committee shall provide an electronic copy of the notice not later than the next business day after receipt of the electronic notice from the agency to members of the committee and to members of the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives that deal with the subject matter of the proposed standard form contract or policy.

(2) The electronic notice required by subsection (1) shall include all of the following:

(a) A statement of the terms of substance of the proposed standard form contract or policy, a description of the subjects and issues involved, and the proposed effective date of the standard form contract or policy.

(b) A statement that the addressee may express any views or arguments regarding the proposed standard form contract or policy or the standard form contract's or policy's effect on a person.

(c) The address to which comments may be sent and the date by which the comments shall be mailed or electronically transmitted, which date shall not be less than 35 days from the date of the mailing or electronic transmittal of the notice.

(d) A reference to the specific statutory provision under which the standard form contract or policy is issued.

(3) If the value of a proposed standard form contract exempt from rule-making under section 7(p) is \$10,000,000.00 or more, the electronic notice required under subsection (1) shall include an electronic copy of the proposed standard form contract. If the value of the proposed standard form contract exempt from rule-making under section 7(p) is less than \$10,000,000.00, the agency shall provide an electronic or paper copy of the proposed standard form contract or policy to any legislator requesting a copy.

Sec. 39. (1) Before initiating any changes or additions to rules, an agency shall electronically file with the office of regulatory reform a request for rule-making in a format prescribed by the office of regulatory reform. The request for rule-making shall include the following:

(a) The state or federal statutory or regulatory basis for the rule.

(b) The problem the rule intends to address.

(c) An assessment of the significance of the problem.

(2) An agency shall not proceed with the processing of a rule outlined in this chapter unless the office of regulatory reform has approved the request for rule-making.

(3) The office of regulatory reform shall record the receipt of all requests for rule-making on the internet and shall make electronic or paper copies of approved requests for rule-making available to members of the general public upon request.

(4) The office of regulatory reform shall immediately make available to the committee electronic copies of the request for rule-making submitted to the office of regulatory reform. On a weekly basis, the office of regulatory reform shall electronically provide to the committee a listing of all requests for rule-making approved or denied during the previous week. The committee shall electronically provide a copy of the approved and denied requests for rule-making, not later than the next business day after receipt of the notice from the office of regulatory reform, to members of the committee and to members of the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives that deal with the subject matter of the proposed rule.

Sec. 41. (1) Except as provided in section 44, before the adoption of a rule, an agency shall give notice of a public hearing and offer a person an opportunity to present data, views, questions, and arguments. The notice shall be given within the time prescribed by any applicable statute, or if none, in the manner prescribed in section 42(1).

(2) The notice described in subsection (1) shall include all of the following:

(a) A reference to the statutory authority under which the action is proposed.

(b) The time and place of the public hearing and a statement of the manner in which data, views, questions, and arguments may be submitted by a person to the agency at other times.

(c) A statement of the terms or substance of the proposed rule, a description of the subjects and issues involved, and the proposed effective date of the rule.

(3) The agency shall transmit copies of the notice to each person who requested the agency in writing or electronically for advance notice of proposed action that may affect the person. If requested, the notice shall be by mail, in writing, or electronically to the last address specified by the person.

(4) The public hearing shall comply with any applicable statute, but is not subject to the provisions governing a contested case.

(5) The head of the promulgating agency or 1 or more persons designated by the head of the agency who have knowledge of the subject matter of the proposed rule shall be present at the public hearing and shall participate in the discussion of the proposed rule.

Sec. 41a. A member of the legislature may annually submit a written or electronic request to the office of regulatory reform requesting that a copy of all proposed rules or changes in rules, or any designated proposed rules or changes in rules submitted to the office of regulatory reform for its approval, be mailed or electronically transmitted to the requesting member upon his or her receipt by the office of regulatory reform.

Sec. 42. (1) Except as provided in section 44, at a minimum, an agency shall publish the notice of public hearing as prescribed in any applicable statute or, if none, the agency shall publish the notice not less than 10 days and not more than 60 days before the date of the public hearing in at least 3 newspapers of general circulation in different parts of the state, 1 of which shall be in the Upper Peninsula.

(2) Additional methods that may be employed by the agency, depending upon the circumstances, include publication in trade, industry, governmental, or professional publications or posting on the agency's website.

(3) In addition to the requirements of subsection (1), the agency shall electronically submit a copy of the notice of public hearing to the office of regulatory reform for publication in the Michigan register. An agency's notice shall be published in the Michigan register before the public hearing and the agency shall electronically file a copy of the notice of public hearing with the office of regulatory reform. Within 7 days after receipt of the notice of public hearing, the office of regulatory reform shall do all of the following before the public hearing:

(a) Electronically transmit a copy of the notice of public hearing to the committee.

(b) Provide notice electronically through publicly accessible internet media.

(4) After the office of regulatory reform electronically transmits a copy of the notice of public hearing to the committee, the committee shall electronically transmit copies of the notice of public hearing, not later than the next business day after receipt of the notice from the office of regulatory reform, to each member of the committee and to the members of the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives that deal with the subject matter of the proposed rule.

(5) After receipt of the notice of public hearing filed under subsection (3), the committee may meet to consider the proposed rule, take testimony, and provide the agency with the committee's informal response to the rule.

Sec. 44. (1) Sections 41 and 42 do not apply to an amendment or rescission of a rule that is obsolete or superseded, or that is required to make obviously needed corrections to make the rule conform to an amended or new statute or to accomplish any other solely formal purpose, if a statement to that effect is included in the legislative service bureau certificate of approval of the rule.

(2) Sections 41 and 42 do not apply to a rule that is promulgated under the Michigan occupational safety and health act, 1974 PA 154, MCL 408.1001 to 408.1094, that is substantially similar to an existing federal standard that has been adopted or promulgated under the occupational safety and health act of 1970, Public Law 91-596, 84 Stat. 1590. However, notice of the proposed rule shall be published in the Michigan register at least 35 days before the submission of the rule to the secretary of state pursuant to section 46(1). A reasonable period, not to exceed 21 days, shall be provided for the submission of written or electronic comments and views following publication in the Michigan register.

(3) For purposes of subsection (2), "substantially similar" means identical, with the exception of style or format differences needed to conform to this or other state laws, as determined by the office of regulatory reform pursuant to section 45(1).

Sec. 45. (1) The agency shall submit the proposed rule to the legislative service bureau for its formal certification. The submission to the legislative service bureau for formal certification shall be in the form of 4 paper copies and electronic transmission. The legislative service bureau shall promptly issue a certificate of approval indicating a determination that a proposed rule is proper as to all matters of form, classification, and arrangement. The office of regulatory reform may approve a proposed rule if it considers the proposed rule to be legal.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (6), after notice is given as provided in this act and before the agency proposing the rule has formally adopted the rule, the agency shall prepare an agency report containing a synopsis of the comments contained in the public hearing record and shall describe any changes in the proposed rules that were made by the agency after the public hearing. The office of regulatory reform shall transmit by letter to the committee copies of the rule, the agency reports, and certificates of approval from the legislative service bureau and the office of regulatory reform. The office of regulatory reform shall also electronically submit a copy of the rule, agency reports, and certificates of approval to the committee. The agency shall electronically transmit to the committee the records described in this subsection within 1 year after the date of the last public hearing on the proposed rule unless the proposed rule is a resubmission under section 45a(7).

(3) Except for a rule promulgated under sections 33, 44, and 48, the agency shall prepare and include with the notice of transmittal a regulatory impact statement containing all of the following information:

(a) A comparison of the proposed rule to parallel federal rules or standards set by a state or national licensing agency or accreditation association, if any exist.

(b) An identification of the behavior and frequency of behavior that the rule is designed to alter.

(c) An identification of the harm resulting from the behavior that the rule is designed to alter and the likelihood that the harm will occur in the absence of the rule.

(d) An estimate of the change in the frequency of the targeted behavior expected from the rule.

(e) An identification of the businesses, groups, or individuals who will be directly affected by, bear the cost of, or directly benefit from the rule.

(f) An identification of any reasonable alternatives to regulation pursuant to the proposed rule that would achieve the same or similar goals.

(g) A discussion of the feasibility of establishing a regulatory program similar to that proposed in the rule that would operate through market-based mechanisms.

(h) An estimate of the cost of rule imposition on the agency promulgating the rule.

(i) An estimate of the actual statewide compliance costs of the proposed rule on individuals.

(j) An estimate of the actual statewide compliance costs of the proposed rule on businesses and other groups.

(k) An identification of any disproportionate impact the proposed rule may have on small businesses because of their size.

(l) An identification of the nature of any report and the estimated cost of its preparation by small business required to comply with the proposed rule.

(m) An analysis of the costs of compliance for all small businesses affected by the proposed rule, including costs of equipment, supplies, labor, and increased administrative costs.

(n) An identification of the nature and estimated cost of any legal consulting and accounting services that small businesses would incur in complying with the proposed rule.

(o) An estimate of the ability of small businesses to absorb the costs estimated under subdivisions (l) through (n) without suffering economic harm and without adversely affecting competition in the marketplace.

(p) An estimate of the cost, if any, to the agency of administering or enforcing a rule that exempts or sets lesser standards for compliance by small businesses.

(q) An identification of the impact on the public interest of exempting or setting lesser standards of compliance for small businesses.

(r) A statement describing the manner in which the agency reduced the economic impact of the rule on small businesses or a statement describing the reasons such a reduction was not feasible.

(s) A statement describing whether and how the agency has involved small businesses in the development of the rule.

(t) An estimate of the primary and direct benefits of the rule.

(u) An estimate of any cost reductions to businesses, individuals, groups of individuals, or governmental units as a result of the rule.

(v) An estimate of any increase in revenues to state or local governmental units as a result of the rule.

(w) An estimate of any secondary or indirect benefits of the rule.

(x) An identification of the sources the agency relied upon in compiling the regulatory impact statement.

(y) Any other information required by the office of regulatory reform.

(4) The agency shall electronically transmit the regulatory impact statement required under subsection (3) to the office of regulatory reform at least 28 days before the public hearing required pursuant to section 42. Before the public hearing can be held, the regulatory impact statement must be approved by the office of regulatory reform. The agency shall also electronically transmit a copy of the regulatory impact statement to the committee before the public hearing and the agency shall make copies available to the public at the public hearing.

(5) The committee shall electronically transmit to the senate fiscal agency and the house fiscal agency a copy of each rule and regulatory impact statement filed with the committee, as well as a copy of the agenda identifying the proposed rules to be considered by the committee. The senate fiscal agency and the house fiscal agency shall analyze each proposed rule for possible fiscal implications that, if the rule were adopted, would result in additional appropriations in the current fiscal year or commit the legislature to an appropriation in a future fiscal year. The senate fiscal agency and the house fiscal agency shall electronically report their findings to the senate and house appropriations committees and to the committee before the date of consideration of the proposed rule by the committee.

(6) Subsections (2), (3), and (4) do not apply to a rule that is promulgated under sections 33, 44, and 48.

Sec. 45a. (1) Except as otherwise provided for in subsections (7) and (8), after receipt by the committee of the notice of transmittal specified in section 45(2), the committee has 21 calendar days in which to consider the rule and to object to the rule by filing a notice of objection approved by a concurrent majority of the committee members. A notice of objection may only be approved by the committee if the committee affirmatively determines by a concurrent majority that 1 or more of the following conditions exist:

(a) The agency lacks statutory authority for the rule.

(b) The agency is exceeding the statutory scope of its rule-making authority.

(c) There exists an emergency relating to the public health, safety, and welfare that would warrant disapproval of the rule.

(d) The rule is in conflict with state law.

(e) A substantial change in circumstances has occurred since enactment of the law upon which the proposed rule is based.

(f) The rule is arbitrary or capricious.

(g) The rule is unduly burdensome to the public or to a licensee licensed by the rule.

(2) If the committee does not file a notice of objection within the time period prescribed in subsection (1), the office of regulatory reform may immediately file the rule, with the certificates of approval, with the secretary of state. The rule shall take effect 7 days after the date of its filing unless a later date is indicated within the rule.

(3) If the committee files a notice of objection within the time period prescribed in subsection (1), the committee chair, the alternate chair, or any member of the committee shall cause bills to be introduced in both houses of the legislature simultaneously. Each house shall place the bill or bills directly on its calendar. The bills shall contain 1 or more of the following:

(a) A rescission of a rule upon its effective date.

(b) A repeal of the statutory provision under which the rule was authorized.

(c) A bill staying the effective date of the proposed rule for up to 1 year.

(4) The notice of objection filed under subsection (3) stays the ability of the office of regulatory reform to file the rule with the secretary of state for the following time periods:

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b) or (c), 21 consecutive calendar days.

(b) If both houses of the legislature are not in session for more than 14 consecutive calendar days but 21 or less consecutive calendar days following the filing of a notice of objection, the 21-day time period described in subdivision (a) shall toll, with the remainder of the 21-day time period available for consideration upon the return of both houses. In no case under this subdivision shall the combined time period for consideration by the committee and full legislature exceed 63 consecutive calendar days.

(c) If both houses of the legislature are not in session more than 21 consecutive calendar days following the filing of a timely notice of objection, the 21-day time period described in subdivision (a) shall toll, with the remainder of the 21-day time period available for consideration upon the return of both houses.

(5) If the legislation introduced pursuant to subsection (3) is defeated in either house and if the vote by which the legislation failed to pass is not reconsidered in compliance with the rules of that house, or if legislation introduced pursuant to subsection (3) is not adopted by both houses within the time period specified in subsection (4), the office of regulatory reform may file the rule with the secretary of state. Upon filing with the secretary of state, the rule shall take effect 7 days after the filing date unless a later date is specified within the rule.

(6) If the legislation introduced pursuant to subsection (3) is enacted by the legislature and presented to the governor within the 21-day period, the rules do not become effective unless the legislation is vetoed by the governor as provided by law. If the governor vetoes the legislation, the office of regulatory reform may file the rules immediately. The rule shall take effect 7 days after the date of its filing unless a later effective date is indicated within the rule.

(7) An agency may withdraw a proposed rule under the following conditions:

(a) With permission of the committee chair and alternate chair, the agency may withdraw the rule and resubmit it. If permission to withdraw is granted, the 21-day time period described in subsection (1) is tolled until the rule is resubmitted, except that the committee shall have at least 7 calendar days after resubmission to consider the resubmitted rule. The period of time between withdrawal and resubmission of the rule is not counted toward the 63-day limit for rule consideration described in subsection (4)(b).

(b) Without permission of the committee chair and alternate chair, the agency may withdraw the rule and resubmit it. If permission to withdraw is not granted, a new and untolled 21-day time period described in subsection (1) shall begin upon resubmission of the rule to the committee for consideration.

(8) Subsections (1) through (5) do not apply to rules adopted under sections 33, 44, and 48.

Sec. 49. (1) The secretary of state shall transmit, after copies of rules are filed in his or her office, a paper copy on which the day and hour of that filing have been indorsed, as follows:

(a) To the secretary of the committee and the office of regulatory reform.

(b) To the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the house of representatives for distribution by them to each member of the senate and the house of representatives. When the legislature is not in session, or is in session but will not meet for more than 10 days after the secretary and clerk have received the rules, the secretary and clerk shall mail or electronically transmit 1 copy to each member of the legislature at his or her home address.

(2) The secretary of the senate and clerk of the house of representatives shall present the rules to the senate and the house of representatives.

Sec. 50. (1) When the legislature is in session, the committee shall electronically notify the appropriate standing committee of each house of the legislature when rules have been transmitted to the committee by the secretary of state. If the committee determines that a hearing on those rules is to be held, it shall electronically notify the chairs of the standing committees. All members of the standing committees may be present and take part in the hearing.

(2) The chair or a designated member of the standing committee should be present at the hearing, but his or her absence does not affect the validity of the hearing.

Sec. 52. (1) If authorized by concurrent resolution of the legislature, the committee, acting between regular sessions, may suspend a rule or a part of a rule promulgated during the interim between regular sessions.

(2) The committee shall electronically notify the agency promulgating the rule, the secretary of state, the department of management and budget, and the office of regulatory reform of any rule or part of a rule the committee suspends. A rule or part of a rule suspended under this section shall not be published in the Michigan register or in the Michigan administrative code while suspended.

(3) A rule suspended by the committee continues to be suspended not longer than the end of the next regular legislative session.

Sec. 53. (1) Each agency shall prepare an annual regulatory plan that reviews the agency's rules. The annual regulatory plan shall be electronically transmitted to the office of regulatory reform.

(2) In completing the annual regulatory plan required by this section, the agency shall identify the rules it reasonably expects to process in the next year, the mandatory statutory rule authority it has not exercised, and the rules it expects to rescind in the next year.

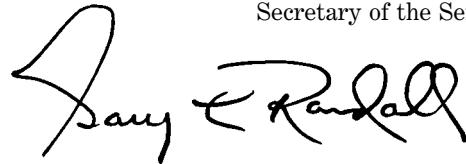
(3) The annual regulatory plans completed pursuant to this section are advisory only and do not otherwise bind the agency or in any way prevent additional action.

(4) Annual regulatory plans completed under subsection (1) shall be electronically filed with the office of regulatory reform by July 1 of each year. After the office of regulatory reform approves the plan for review, the office of regulatory reform shall electronically provide a copy of the plan of review to the committee. The committee shall electronically provide a copy of each agency plan of review, not later than the next business day after receipt of the plan of review from the office of regulatory reform, to members of the committee and to members of the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives that deal with the subject matter of rules the agency may propose.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Secretary of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved .....

.....  
Governor