

**ADMISSION OF CLERGYMEN TO VISIT PRISONERS**  
**Act 185 of 1859**

AN ACT to provide for the admission of clergymen to visit prisoners confined in any jail or prison in this state.

**History:** 1859, Act 185, Eff. May 18, 1859.

*The People of the State of Michigan enact:*

**800.291 Admission of clergymen.**

Sec. 1. That it shall be the duty of the keeper, or other persons having the control of any prison, jail, alms-house, house of correction, hospital or poor-house in the state of Michigan, to fix and appoint some suitable and convenient time, in each week, during which clergymen of all religious denominations may visit the inmates of such prison, jail, alms-house, house of correction, hospital or poor-house; and when any inmate of any jail, prison, alms-house, house of correction, hospital or poor-house, is dangerously sick and desires religious counsel, the clergyman of his choice shall be admitted to visit such inmate, and be permitted to administer to such inmate the rites of his church.

**History:** 1859, Act 185, Eff. May 18, 1859;—CL 1871, 8189;—How. 9901;—CL 1897, 2153;—CL 1915, 1832;—CL 1929, 17658;—CL 1948, 800.291.

**800.292 Duty of keeper.**

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of such keeper or other person in control, during the time fixed, in pursuance of the first section of this act, to give free access to any clergyman of any religious denomination, and to furnish such clergyman all reasonable facilities for interviews with the inmates, named in the first section: Provided, however, That the keeper or other persons, having the control of said prison or jail, alms-house, work-house, house of correction, hospital or poor-house shall first be satisfied that such clergymen are in good and regular standing in their profession, and are pastors of any church or religious congregation in this state.

**History:** 1859, Act 185, Eff. May 18, 1859;—CL 1871, 8190;—How. 9902;—CL 1897, 2154;—CL 1915, 1833;—CL 1929, 17659;—CL 1948, 800.292.