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BILL ANALYSIS

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House Bill 4455 (Substitute H-1 as passed by the House)  
Sponsor: Representative Michael C. Murphy  
House Committee: Health Policy  
Senate Committee: Health Policy

Date Completed: 12-6-06

### **CONTENT**

**The bill would require the Department of Community Health (DCH) to take specified actions with regard to minority health and to submit to the Legislature an annual report on the bill's impact.**

The DCH would have to do all of the following:

- Develop and implement a structure to address racial and ethnic health disparities in this State.
- Monitor minority health progress.
- Establish minority health policy.
- Develop and implement an effective statewide strategic plan for the reduction of racial and ethnic health disparities.
- Use Federal, State, and private resources, as available and within the limits of appropriations, to fund minority health programs, research, and other initiatives.
- Develop and implement recruitment and retention strategies to increase the number of minorities in the health and social service professions.
- Develop and implement awareness strategies targeted at health and social service providers in an effort to eliminate the occurrence of racial and ethnic health disparities.
- Identify and assist in the implementation of culturally and linguistically appropriate health promotion and disease prevention programs that would emphasize prevention and incorporate an accessible, affordable, and acceptable early detection and intervention component.
- Promote the development and networking of minority health coalitions.
- Provide funding, within the limits of appropriations, to support evidence-based preventative health, education, and treatment programs that included outcome measures and evaluation plans in minority communities.
- Provide technical assistance to local communities to obtain funding for the development and implementation of a health care delivery system to meet the needs, gaps, and barriers identified in the statewide strategic plan for eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities.

The DCH also would have to provide the following through interdepartmental coordination:

- Data and technical assistance to minority health coalitions and any other local entities addressing the elimination of racial and ethnic health disparities.

- Measurable objectives to minority health coalitions and any other local health entities for the development of interventions that addressed the elimination of racial and ethnic health disparities.

Additionally, the DCH would have to establish a web page on its website, in coordination with the State Health Disparities Reduction and Minority Health Section, that provided information or links to all of the following:

- Research within minority populations.
- A resource directory that could be distributed to local organizations interested in minority health.
- Racial- and ethnic-specific data, including morbidity and mortality.

One year after the bill's effective date and annually after that, the DCH would have to submit to the standing committees in the Senate and House of Representatives with jurisdiction over issues pertaining to public health a written report on the bill's status, impact, and effectiveness.

The bill is tie-barred to House Bill 4811, which would delete provisions of the Revised Judicature Act under which it is a defense to a product liability action against a drug manufacturer or seller that the drug was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Proposed MCL 333.2227

Legislative Analyst: Julie Cassidy

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The State of Michigan currently devotes financial and administrative resources to address disparities in health outcomes for racial and ethnic minorities. These efforts are largely coordinated through the Office of Minority Health in the Department of Community Health. Roughly \$2.4 million gross and \$1.5 million in State funds (GF/GP and Healthy Michigan Fund) are devoted to reducing health disparities in the State.

The State would have to devote additional staff and financial resources to fulfill the requirements of House Bill 4455 (H-1). These resources would be used to provide data, support, and outreach to community organizations, creating a web page, and fulfilling the reporting requirements established in the bill. The extent of this cost is difficult to determine because the Department is likely currently fulfilling some of the requirements proposed by the legislation, and language in the bill would limit activities by the Department to its current appropriation.

Fiscal Analyst: David Fosdick

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.