

# HOUSE BILL No. 5558

April 24, 2012, Introduced by Reps. Townsend, Greimel, Wayne Schmidt, Irwin, Durhal,  
Talabi and Cavanagh and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

A bill to amend 1975 PA 197, entitled

"An act to provide for the establishment of a downtown development authority; to prescribe its powers and duties; to correct and prevent deterioration in business districts; to encourage historic preservation; to authorize the acquisition and disposal of interests in real and personal property; to authorize the creation and implementation of development plans in the districts; to promote the economic growth of the districts; to create a board; to prescribe its powers and duties; to authorize the levy and collection of taxes; to authorize the issuance of bonds and other evidences of indebtedness; to authorize the use of tax increment financing; to reimburse downtown development authorities for certain losses of tax increment revenues; and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state officials,"

by amending section 1 (MCL 125.1651), as amended by 2011 PA 24.

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

1           Sec. 1. As used in this act:

2           (a) "Advance" means a transfer of funds made by a municipality  
3 to an authority or to another person on behalf of the authority in  
4 anticipation of repayment by the authority. Evidence of the intent

1 to repay an advance may include, but is not limited to, an executed  
2 agreement to repay, provisions contained in a tax increment  
3 financing plan approved prior to the advance, or a resolution of  
4 the authority or the municipality.

5 (b) "Assessed value" means 1 of the following:

6 (i) For valuations made before January 1, 1995, the state  
7 equalized valuation as determined under the general property tax  
8 act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.1 to 211.155.

9 (ii) For valuations made after December 31, 1994, the taxable  
10 value as determined under section 27a of the general property tax  
11 act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.27a.

12 (c) "Authority" means a downtown development authority created  
13 pursuant to this act.

14 (d) "Board" means the governing body of an authority.

15 (e) "Business district" means an area in the downtown of a  
16 municipality zoned and used principally for business.

17 (f) "Captured assessed value" means the amount in any 1 year  
18 by which the current assessed value of the project area, including  
19 the assessed value of property for which specific local taxes are  
20 paid in lieu of property taxes as determined in subdivision (z),  
21 exceeds the initial assessed value. The state tax commission shall  
22 prescribe the method for calculating captured assessed value.

23 (g) "Chief executive officer" means the mayor or city manager  
24 of a city, the president or village manager of a village, or the  
25 supervisor of a township or, if designated by the township board  
26 for purposes of this act, the township superintendent or township  
27 manager of a township.

1 (h) "Development area" means that area to which a development  
2 plan is applicable.

3 (i) "Development plan" means that information and those  
4 requirements for a development plan set forth in section 17.

5 (j) "Development program" means the implementation of the  
6 development plan.

7 (k) "Downtown district" means that part of an area in a  
8 business district that is specifically designated by ordinance of  
9 the governing body of the municipality pursuant to this act. A  
10 downtown district may include 1 or more separate and distinct  
11 geographic areas in a business district as determined by the  
12 municipality if the municipality enters into an agreement with a  
13 qualified township under section 3(7) or if the municipality is a  
14 city that surrounds another city and that other city lies between  
15 the 2 separate and distinct geographic areas. If the downtown  
16 district contains more than 1 separate and distinct geographic area  
17 in the downtown district, the separate and distinct geographic  
18 areas shall be considered 1 downtown district.

19 (l) "Eligible advance" means an advance made before August 19,  
20 1993.

21 (m) "Eligible obligation" means an obligation issued or  
22 incurred by an authority or by a municipality on behalf of an  
23 authority before August 19, 1993 and its subsequent refunding by a  
24 qualified refunding obligation. Eligible obligation includes an  
25 authority's written agreement entered into before August 19, 1993  
26 to pay an obligation issued after August 18, 1993 and before  
27 December 31, 1996 by another entity on behalf of the authority.

1           (n) "Fire alarm system" means a system designed to detect and  
2           annunciate the presence of fire, or by-products of fire. Fire alarm  
3           system includes smoke detectors.

4           (o) "Fiscal year" means the fiscal year of the authority.

5           (p) "Governing body of a municipality" means the elected body  
6           of a municipality having legislative powers.

7           (q) "Initial assessed value" means the assessed value, as  
8           equalized, of all the taxable property within the boundaries of the  
9           development area at the time the ordinance establishing the tax  
10          increment financing plan is approved, as shown by the most recent  
11          assessment roll of the municipality for which equalization has been  
12          completed at the time the resolution is adopted. Property exempt  
13          from taxation at the time of the determination of the initial  
14          assessed value shall be included as zero. For the purpose of  
15          determining initial assessed value, property for which a specific  
16          local tax is paid in lieu of a property tax shall not be considered  
17          to be property that is exempt from taxation. The initial assessed  
18          value of property for which a specific local tax was paid in lieu  
19          of a property tax shall be determined as provided in subdivision  
20          (z). In the case of a municipality having a population of less than  
21          35,000 that established an authority prior to 1985, created a  
22          district or districts, and approved a development plan or tax  
23          increment financing plan or amendments to a plan, and which plan or  
24          tax increment financing plan or amendments to a plan, and which  
25          plan expired by its terms December 31, 1991, the initial assessed  
26          value for the purpose of any plan or plan amendment adopted as an  
27          extension of the expired plan shall be determined as if the plan

1 had not expired December 31, 1991. For a development area  
2 designated before 1997 in which a renaissance zone has subsequently  
3 been designated pursuant to the Michigan renaissance zone act, 1996  
4 PA 376, MCL 125.2681 to 125.2696, the initial assessed value of the  
5 development area otherwise determined under this subdivision shall  
6 be reduced by the amount by which the current assessed value of the  
7 development area was reduced in 1997 due to the exemption of  
8 property under section 7ff of the general property tax act, 1893 PA  
9 206, MCL 211.7ff, but in no case shall the initial assessed value  
10 be less than zero.

11 (r) "Municipality" means a city, village, or township.

12 (s) "Obligation" means a written promise to pay, whether  
13 evidenced by a contract, agreement, lease, sublease, bond, or note,  
14 or a requirement to pay imposed by law. An obligation does not  
15 include a payment required solely because of default upon an  
16 obligation, employee salaries, or consideration paid for the use of  
17 municipal offices. An obligation does not include those bonds that  
18 have been economically defeased by refunding bonds issued under  
19 this act. Obligation includes, but is not limited to, the  
20 following:

21 (i) A requirement to pay proceeds derived from ad valorem  
22 property taxes or taxes levied in lieu of ad valorem property  
23 taxes.

24 (ii) A management contract or a contract for professional  
25 services.

26 (iii) A payment required on a contract, agreement, bond, or note  
27 if the requirement to make or assume the payment arose before

1 August 19, 1993.

2 (iv) A requirement to pay or reimburse a person for the cost of  
3 insurance for, or to maintain, property subject to a lease, land  
4 contract, purchase agreement, or other agreement.

5 (v) A letter of credit, paying agent, transfer agent, bond  
6 registrar, or trustee fee associated with a contract, agreement,  
7 bond, or note.

8 (t) "On behalf of an authority", in relation to an eligible  
9 advance made by a municipality, or an eligible obligation or other  
10 protected obligation issued or incurred by a municipality, means in  
11 anticipation that an authority would transfer tax increment  
12 revenues or reimburse the municipality from tax increment revenues  
13 in an amount sufficient to fully make payment required by the  
14 eligible advance made by the municipality, or eligible obligation  
15 or other protected obligation issued or incurred by the  
16 municipality, if the anticipation of the transfer or receipt of tax  
17 increment revenues from the authority is pursuant to or evidenced  
18 by 1 or more of the following:

19 (i) A reimbursement agreement between the municipality and an  
20 authority it established.

21 (ii) A requirement imposed by law that the authority transfer  
22 tax increment revenues to the municipality.

23 (iii) A resolution of the authority agreeing to make payments to  
24 the incorporating unit.

25 (iv) Provisions in a tax increment financing plan describing  
26 the project for which the obligation was incurred.

27 (u) "Operations" means office maintenance, including salaries

1 and expenses of employees, office supplies, consultation fees,  
2 design costs, and other expenses incurred in the daily management  
3 of the authority and planning of its activities.

4 (v) "Other protected obligation" means:

5 (i) A qualified refunding obligation issued to refund an  
6 obligation described in subparagraph (ii), (iii), or (iv), an  
7 obligation that is not a qualified refunding obligation that is  
8 issued to refund an eligible obligation, or a qualified refunding  
9 obligation issued to refund an obligation described in this  
10 subparagraph.

11 (ii) An obligation issued or incurred by an authority or by a  
12 municipality on behalf of an authority after August 19, 1993, but  
13 before December 31, 1994, to finance a project described in a tax  
14 increment finance plan approved by the municipality in accordance  
15 with this act before December 31, 1993, for which a contract for  
16 final design is entered into by or on behalf of the municipality or  
17 authority before March 1, 1994 or for which a written agreement  
18 with a developer, titled preferred development agreement, was  
19 entered into by or on behalf of the municipality or authority in  
20 July 1993.

21 (iii) An obligation incurred by an authority or municipality  
22 after August 19, 1993, to reimburse a party to a development  
23 agreement entered into by a municipality or authority before August  
24 19, 1993, for a project described in a tax increment financing plan  
25 approved in accordance with this act before August 19, 1993, and  
26 undertaken and installed by that party in accordance with the  
27 development agreement.

1           (iv) An obligation incurred by the authority evidenced by or to  
2 finance a contract to purchase real property within a development  
3 area or a contract to develop that property within the development  
4 area, or both, if all of the following requirements are met:

5           (A) The authority purchased the real property in 1993.

6           (B) Before June 30, 1995, the authority enters a contract for  
7 the development of the real property located within the development  
8 area.

9           (C) In 1993, the authority or municipality on behalf of the  
10 authority received approval for a grant from both of the following:

11           (I) The department of natural resources for site reclamation  
12 of the real property.

13           (II) The department of consumer and industry services for  
14 development of the real property.

15           (v) An ongoing management or professional services contract  
16 with the governing body of a county which was entered into before  
17 March 1, 1994 and which was preceded by a series of limited term  
18 management or professional services contracts with the governing  
19 body of the county, the last of which was entered into before  
20 August 19, 1993.

21           (vi) A loan from a municipality to an authority if the loan was  
22 approved by the legislative body of the municipality on April 18,  
23 1994.

24           (vii) Funds expended to match a grant received by a  
25 municipality on behalf of an authority for sidewalk improvements  
26 from the Michigan department of transportation if the legislative  
27 body of the municipality approved the grant application on April 5,

1 1993 and the grant was received by the municipality in June 1993.

2 (viii) For taxes captured in 1994, an obligation described in  
3 this subparagraph issued or incurred to finance a project. An  
4 obligation is considered issued or incurred to finance a project  
5 described in this subparagraph only if all of the following are  
6 met:

7 (A) The obligation requires raising capital for the project or  
8 paying for the project, whether or not a borrowing is involved.

9 (B) The obligation was part of a development plan and the tax  
10 increment financing plan was approved by a municipality on May 6,  
11 1991.

12 (C) The obligation is in the form of a written memorandum of  
13 understanding between a municipality and a public utility dated  
14 October 27, 1994.

15 (D) The authority or municipality captured school taxes during  
16 1994.

17 (w) "Public facility" means a street, plaza, pedestrian mall,  
18 and any improvements to a street, plaza, or pedestrian mall  
19 including street furniture and beautification, park, parking  
20 facility, recreational facility, right-of-way, structure, waterway,  
21 bridge, lake, pond, canal, utility line or pipe, **TRANSIT-ORIENTED**  
22 **DEVELOPMENT, TRANSIT-ORIENTED FACILITY**, building, and access routes  
23 to any of the foregoing, designed and dedicated to use by the  
24 public generally, or used by a public agency. Public facility  
25 includes an improvement to a facility used by the public or a  
26 public facility as those terms are defined in section 1 of 1966 PA  
27 1, MCL 125.1351, which improvement is made to comply with the

1 barrier free design requirements of the state construction code  
2 promulgated under the Stille-DeRossett-Hale single state  
3 construction code act, 1972 PA 230, MCL 125.1501 to 125.1531.  
4 Public facility also includes the acquisition, construction,  
5 improvement, and operation of a building owned or leased by the  
6 authority to be used as a retail business incubator.

7 (x) "Qualified refunding obligation" means an obligation  
8 issued or incurred by an authority or by a municipality on behalf  
9 of an authority to refund an obligation if 1 or more of the  
10 following apply:

11 (i) The obligation is issued to refund a qualified refunding  
12 obligation issued in November 1997 and any subsequent refundings of  
13 that obligation issued before January 1, 2010 or the obligation is  
14 issued to refund a qualified refunding obligation issued on May 15,  
15 1997 and any subsequent refundings of that obligation issued before  
16 January 1, 2010 in an authority in which 1 parcel or group of  
17 parcels under common ownership represents 50% or more of the  
18 taxable value captured within the tax increment finance district  
19 and that will ultimately provide for at least a 40% reduction in  
20 the taxable value of the property as part of a negotiated  
21 settlement as a result of an appeal filed with the state tax  
22 tribunal. Qualified refunding obligations issued under this  
23 subparagraph are not subject to the requirements of section 611 of  
24 the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2611, if  
25 issued before January 1, 2010. The duration of the development  
26 program described in the tax increment financing plan relating to  
27 the qualified refunding obligations issued under this subparagraph

1 is hereby extended to 1 year after the final date of maturity of  
2 the qualified refunding obligations.

3 (ii) The refunding obligation meets both of the following:

4 (A) The net present value of the principal and interest to be  
5 paid on the refunding obligation, including the cost of issuance,  
6 will be less than the net present value of the principal and  
7 interest to be paid on the obligation being refunded, as calculated  
8 using a method approved by the department of treasury.

9 (B) The net present value of the sum of the tax increment  
10 revenues described in subdivision (bb) (ii) and the distributions  
11 under section 13b to repay the refunding obligation will not be  
12 greater than the net present value of the sum of the tax increment  
13 revenues described in subdivision (bb) (ii) and the distributions  
14 under section 13b to repay the obligation being refunded, as  
15 calculated using a method approved by the department of treasury.

16 (iii) The obligation is issued to refund an other protected  
17 obligation issued as a capital appreciation bond delivered to the  
18 Michigan municipal bond authority on December 21, 1994 and any  
19 subsequent refundings of that obligation issued before January 1,  
20 2012. Qualified refunding obligations issued under this  
21 subparagraph are not subject to the requirements of section 305(2),  
22 (3), (5), and (6), section 501, section 503, or section 611 of the  
23 revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2305, 141.2501,  
24 141.2503, and 141.2611, if issued before January 1, 2012. The  
25 duration of the development program described in the tax increment  
26 financing plan relating to the qualified refunding obligations  
27 issued under this subparagraph is extended to 1 year after the

1 final date of maturity of the qualified refunding obligations. The  
2 obligation may be payable through the year 2025 at an interest rate  
3 not exceeding the maximum rate permitted by law, notwithstanding  
4 the bond maturity dates contained in the notice of intent to issue  
5 bonds published by the municipality. An obligation issued under  
6 this subparagraph is a qualified refunding obligation only to the  
7 extent that revenues described in subdivision (bb) (ii) and  
8 distributions under section 13b to repay the qualified refunding  
9 obligation do not exceed \$750,000.00.

10 (y) "Qualified township" means a township that meets all of  
11 the following requirements:

12 (i) Was not eligible to create an authority prior to January 3,  
13 2005.

14 (ii) Adjoins a municipality that previously created an  
15 authority.

16 (iii) Along with the adjoining municipality that previously  
17 created an authority, is a member of the same joint planning  
18 commission under the joint municipal planning act, 2003 PA 226, MCL  
19 125.131 to 125.143.

20 (z) "Specific local tax" means a tax levied under 1974 PA 198,  
21 MCL 207.551 to 207.572, the commercial redevelopment act, 1978 PA  
22 255, MCL 207.651 to 207.668, the technology park development act,  
23 1984 PA 385, MCL 207.701 to 207.718, and 1953 PA 189, MCL 211.181  
24 to 211.182. The initial assessed value or current assessed value of  
25 property subject to a specific local tax shall be the quotient of  
26 the specific local tax paid divided by the ad valorem millage rate.  
27 However, after 1993, the state tax commission shall prescribe the

1 method for calculating the initial assessed value and current  
2 assessed value of property for which a specific local tax was paid  
3 in lieu of a property tax.

4 (aa) "State fiscal year" means the annual period commencing  
5 October 1 of each year.

6 (bb) "Tax increment revenues" means the amount of ad valorem  
7 property taxes and specific local taxes attributable to the  
8 application of the levy of all taxing jurisdictions upon the  
9 captured assessed value of real and personal property in the  
10 development area, subject to the following requirements:

11 (i) Tax increment revenues include ad valorem property taxes  
12 and specific local taxes attributable to the application of the  
13 levy of all taxing jurisdictions other than the state pursuant to  
14 the state education tax act, 1993 PA 331, MCL 211.901 to 211.906,  
15 and local or intermediate school districts upon the captured  
16 assessed value of real and personal property in the development  
17 area for any purpose authorized by this act.

18 (ii) Tax increment revenues include ad valorem property taxes  
19 and specific local taxes attributable to the application of the  
20 levy of the state pursuant to the state education tax act, 1993 PA  
21 331, MCL 211.901 to 211.906, and local or intermediate school  
22 districts upon the captured assessed value of real and personal  
23 property in the development area in an amount equal to the amount  
24 necessary, without regard to subparagraph (i), to repay eligible  
25 advances, eligible obligations, and other protected obligations.

26 (iii) Tax increment revenues do not include any of the  
27 following:

1 (A) Ad valorem property taxes attributable either to a portion  
2 of the captured assessed value shared with taxing jurisdictions  
3 within the jurisdictional area of the authority or to a portion of  
4 value of property that may be excluded from captured assessed value  
5 or specific local taxes attributable to such ad valorem property  
6 taxes.

7 (B) Ad valorem property taxes excluded by the tax increment  
8 financing plan of the authority from the determination of the  
9 amount of tax increment revenues to be transmitted to the authority  
10 or specific local taxes attributable to such ad valorem property  
11 taxes.

12 (C) Ad valorem property taxes exempted from capture under  
13 section 3(3) or specific local taxes attributable to such ad  
14 valorem property taxes.

15 (iv) The amount of tax increment revenues authorized to be  
16 included under subparagraph (ii) or (v), and required to be  
17 transmitted to the authority under section 14(1), from ad valorem  
18 property taxes and specific local taxes attributable to the  
19 application of the levy of the state education tax act, 1993 PA  
20 331, MCL 211.901 to 211.906, a local school district or an  
21 intermediate school district upon the captured assessed value of  
22 real and personal property in a development area shall be  
23 determined separately for the levy by the state, each school  
24 district, and each intermediate school district as the product of  
25 sub-subparagraphs (A) and (B):

26 (A) The percentage that the total ad valorem taxes and  
27 specific local taxes available for distribution by law to the

1 state, local school district, or intermediate school district,  
2 respectively, bears to the aggregate amount of ad valorem millage  
3 taxes and specific taxes available for distribution by law to the  
4 state, each local school district, and each intermediate school  
5 district.

6 (B) The maximum amount of ad valorem property taxes and  
7 specific local taxes considered tax increment revenues under  
8 subparagraph (ii) or (v).

9 (v) Tax increment revenues include ad valorem property taxes  
10 and specific local taxes, in an annual amount and for each year  
11 approved by the state treasurer, attributable to the levy by this  
12 state under the state education tax act, 1993 PA 331, MCL 211.901  
13 to 211.906, and by local or intermediate school districts, upon the  
14 captured assessed value of real and personal property in the  
15 development area of an authority established in a city with a  
16 population of 750,000 or more to pay for, or reimburse an advance  
17 for, not more than \$8,000,000.00 for the demolition of buildings or  
18 structures on public or privately owned property within a  
19 development area that commences in 2005, or to pay the annual  
20 principal of or interest on an obligation, the terms of which are  
21 approved by the state treasurer, issued by an authority, or by a  
22 city on behalf of an authority, to pay not more than \$8,000,000.00  
23 of the costs to demolish buildings or structures on public or  
24 privately owned property within a development area that commences  
25 in 2005.

26 (CC) **"TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT" MEANS INFRASTRUCTURE**  
27 **IMPROVEMENTS THAT ARE LOCATED WITHIN 1/2 MILE OF A TRANSIT STATION**

1 OR TRANSIT-ORIENTED FACILITY THAT PROMOTES TRANSIT RIDERSHIP OR  
2 PASSENGER RAIL USE, AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD AND APPROVED BY THE  
3 MUNICIPALITY IN WHICH IT IS LOCATED.

4 (DD) "TRANSIT-ORIENTED FACILITY" MEANS A FACILITY THAT HOUSES  
5 A TRANSIT STATION IN A MANNER THAT PROMOTES TRANSIT RIDERSHIP OR  
6 PASSENGER RAIL USE.