

# HOUSE BILL No. 5528

March 24, 2016, Introduced by Reps. Runestad, Kelly, Cole, Hooker, Callton, Glenn, Chatfield, Graves, Lucido, Kesto and Webber and referred to the Committee on Oversight and Ethics.

A bill to provide for certain information regarding refugee resettlement; to create a communication process for certain state departments and local units of government to collaborate in the process as set forth in federal immigration law; and to prescribe powers and duties for certain state offices and departments.

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

1           Sec. 1. As used in this act:

2           (a) "Absorption capacity" means the criteria set forth in  
3 section 1522(a)(2)(C) and (D) of the refugee act of 1980, Public  
4 Law 96-212.

5           (b) "Department" means the department of health and human  
6 services.

7           (c) "Office of refugee services" means the office of refugee  
8 services established within the department.

1 (d) "Refugee" means an individual placed in this state by a  
2 national resettlement agency through the United States Refugee  
3 Resettlement Program.

4 Sec. 2. (1) The department, in cooperation with the office of  
5 refugee services and the department of technology, management, and  
6 budget, shall analyze costs and create a model for defining the  
7 total state absorption capacity with regard to the department's  
8 capacity to deliver benefits to refugees and unaccompanied minors  
9 from the date they are placed in the state until the date they  
10 become self-sufficient in their community.

11 (2) If offered by a local unit of government, the department  
12 may accept a statement from the local unit of government that  
13 indicates that the local unit of government's absorption capacity  
14 is in compliance with federal law.

15 Sec. 3. (1) The department may request on behalf of the  
16 legislature and receive information from agencies that have been  
17 contracted to provide services to refugees. The information may  
18 include the types of services to be provided, the cost to the state  
19 to provide the services, including public education services, and  
20 the number of refugees to whom the services are to be provided.

21 (2) Before refugees are placed in a local unit of government,  
22 the department or the office of refugee services may provide the  
23 information obtained in subsection (1) to the local unit of  
24 government, in compliance with federal law as provided in section  
25 1522(a)(2) of the refugee act of 1980, Public Law 96-212.

26 (3) The department, in collaboration with the office of  
27 refugee services and the department of technology, management, and

1 budget, shall verify that, in a timely manner, federal  
2 reimbursement is being properly requested and obtained with regard  
3 to all services for which refugees qualify and are being provided  
4 in this state.

5 Sec. 4. The department and the office of refugee services  
6 shall disclose to the department of state police any incident or  
7 failure of placement that may be related to a human trafficking  
8 event or to a state or national security issue.

9 Sec. 5. The department, in collaboration with the office of  
10 refugee services, shall submit a report annually to the legislature  
11 that contains all of the following:

- 12 (a) Information on refugee arrivals.
- 13 (b) The programs being provided to refugees.
- 14 (c) Federal reimbursements.
- 15 (d) State costs.
- 16 (e) County and local costs.
- 17 (f) Health screening compliance rates.
- 18 (g) Job placement and job retention rates, as well as average  
19 hourly full-time wage.
- 20 (h) Information on unaccompanied minors brought into the state  
21 and their current placement and status.

22 Enacting section 1. This act takes effect 90 days after the  
23 date it is enacted into law.