

HOUSE BILL NO. 4639

May 23, 2023, Introduced by Reps. Edwards, Hope, Wilson, Tsernoglou, Paiz, Rogers, Morse, Miller, Byrnes, Young, Pohutsky, Rheingans, Wegela, Dievendorf, Hood, Grant, O'Neal, Breen, Price, Tyrone Carter, Brixie, Hoskins, Morgan, MacDonell, Brenda Carter, Brabec, Arbit, Glanville, McKinney, Scott, Conlin, Skaggs and Aiyash and referred to the Committee on Criminal Justice.

A bill to amend 1939 PA 280, entitled
"The social welfare act,"
by amending section 115m (MCL 400.115m), as amended by 2014 PA 308.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 115m. (1) The department shall prepare and distribute to
2 adoption facilitators and other interested persons information
3 describing the adoption process and the adoption assistance and
4 medical subsidy programs established under sections 115f to 115s.
5 The state department shall provide the information to each
6 prospective adoptive parent before placing a child with that

1 parent.

2 (2) The description of the adoption process required under
3 subsection (1) ~~shall~~**must** include at least all of the following:

4 (a) The steps that must be taken under the adoption code to
5 complete an adoption, and a description of all of the options
6 available during the process.

7 (b) A description of the services that are typically available
8 from each type of adoption facilitator.

9 (c) Recommended questions for a biological parent or
10 prospective adoptive parent to ask an adoption facilitator before
11 engaging that adoption facilitator's services.

12 (d) A list of the rights and responsibilities of biological
13 parents and prospective adoptive parents.

14 (e) A description of the information services available to
15 biological and prospective adoptive parents, including, but not
16 limited to, all of the following:

17 (i) The registry of adoptive homes established and maintained
18 by the department under section 8 of the foster care and adoption
19 services act, 1994 PA 203, MCL 722.958.

20 (ii) The directory of children that is produced under section 8
21 of the foster care and adoption services act, 1994 PA 203, MCL
22 722.958.

23 (iii) The public information forms maintained by the department
24 according to section 14d of 1973 PA 116, MCL 722.124d.

25 (f) A statement about the existence of the ~~children's~~
26 ~~ombudsman~~**child advocate** and its authority as an investigative
27 body.

28 (g) A statement about the importance and availability of
29 counseling for all parties to an adoption and that a prospective

1 adoptive parent must pay for counseling for a birth parent or
2 guardian unless the birth parent or guardian waives the counseling.

3 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
4 unless Senate Bill No. _____ or House Bill No. 4638 (request no.
5 01940'23) of the 102nd Legislature is enacted into law.