

STATEWIDE MEANINGFUL LANGUAGE ACCESS COORDINATION ACT

Act 242 of 2023

AN ACT to provide for the statewide coordination of meaningful language access to state services by individuals with limited English proficiency; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state governmental officers and entities; and to establish a process for submitting complaints and obtaining remedies for lack of meaningful language access and for denials of meaningful language access based on one's national origin.

History: 2023, Act 242, Eff. Feb. 28, 2024

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

37.11 Short title.

Sec. 1.

This act may be cited as the "statewide meaningful language access coordination act".

History: 2023, Act 242, Eff. Feb. 28, 2024

37.12 Definitions.

Sec. 2.

As used in this act:

- (a) "Covered entity", "limited English proficiency", and "meaningful language access" mean those terms as defined in the meaningful language access to state services act.
- (b) "Office of global Michigan" means that term as used in 2022 PA 166.

History: 2023, Act 242, Eff. Feb. 28, 2024

37.13 Office of global Michigan; powers and duties.

Sec. 3.

The office of global Michigan shall do all of the following:

- (a) Coordinate steps taken by covered entities throughout this state to provide meaningful language access to public services pursuant to the meaningful language access to state services act.
- (b) Designate at least 1 language access liaison to work with covered entities to train staff, develop resources, conduct outreach activities that inform the public of available language services, and facilitate compliance with the meaningful language access to state services act.
- (c) Create a complaint form and a process for members of the public to use to report and pursue a remedy for instances of noncompliance with the meaningful language access to state services act. The complaint form created under this subdivision is subject to the translation requirements described in section 2(c) of the meaningful language

access to state services act.

(d) In collaboration with the department of civil rights and consistent with section 602 of the Elliot-Larsen civil rights act, 1976 PA 453, MCL 37.2602, create a complaint process under which individuals who believe that they have been denied full and equal access to a covered entity because of their national origin may submit a complaint and seek a remedy against a covered entity.

History: 2023, Act 242, Eff. Feb. 28, 2024

37.14 Denial of full and equal access; complaint process; remedy.

Sec. 4.

Any individual who believes that they were denied full and equal access to a covered entity because of their national origin has the right to separately seek a remedy with the department of civil rights pursuant to the complaint process described in section 3(d).

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