AN ACT to create a state department of economic expansion and an economic expansion council, and to prescribe their powers and duties; and to repeal certain acts and parts of acts.


The People of the State of Michigan enact:

125.1201 Economic expansion department; organization, subject to approval of governor.

Sec. 1. There is created a department of state government to be known as the department of economic expansion, consisting of the executive director of economic expansion as head of the department, a deputy executive director of economic expansion if appointed, such departmental divisions as the executive director establishes, and such other employees as are hereinafter provided for. The organization of the department is subject to the approval of the governor.


Compiler's note: For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and management-related functions of the Department of Economic Expansion and the Economic Expansion Council, to the Chief Executive Officer of Michigan Jobs Commission, see E.R.O. No. 1993-3, compiled at MCL 408.46 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Transfer of powers: See MCL 16.332.

125.1202 Executive director; deputy executive director; appointment.

Sec. 2. The governor shall appoint, with the advise and consent of the senate, an executive director of economic expansion who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The executive director may appoint a deputy executive director of economic expansion.


Compiler's note: In the first sentence of this section, “advise and consent” evidently should read “advice and consent”.

125.1203 Economic development department; transfer of records, files, property.

Sec. 3. The records, files and property of the department of economic development are transferred to the department of economic expansion. Wherever reference is made in the laws of this state to the department of economic development or the commission of economic development, such reference shall be deemed to mean the department of economic expansion and wherever reference is made in the laws of this state to the chairman of the commission of economic development, such reference shall be deemed to mean the executive director of the department of economic expansion.


125.1204 Economic expansion program; activities.

Sec. 4. The executive director shall plan and direct the carrying out of an economic expansion program for the state, except as to planning functions transferred to the executive office of the governor by Act No. 380 of the Public Acts of 1965, as amended, being sections 16.101 to 16.608 of the Compiled Laws of 1948. The program shall aid the creation of new job opportunities, encourage the expansion, development and diversification of industry, commerce and agriculture and the bringing of new industry to this state, and create an atmosphere in which the businesses of the state may prosper and its citizens may enjoy the benefits of a growing economy. The program shall include, but not be restricted to, the following activities:

(a) Investigation and study of conditions affecting the economy of the state, technical studies and statistical research and surveys necessary or useful for the expansion of the economy, and collection and dissemination of such information as may be beneficial to public and private organizations.

(b) Encouragement of scientific research, and the development of new and more extensive use of forest, mineral and other resources, through the universities and colleges of the state, and other public and private agencies.

(c) Conducting research and recommendations of programs necessary to provide training for vocational skills needed to take full advantage of the state's human resources.

(d) Recommendations to the governor and the legislature, for the study and improvement of conditions, and for the elimination of restrictions, trade barriers and burdens imposed by law or otherwise, which may adversely affect or retard the legitimate development and expansion of industry, commerce or agriculture.

(e) Study and advice to the governor, the legislature, industry and interested organizations and associations as to means and methods of providing financing for economic expansion in the state.
(f) Promotion and encouragement of the expansion and development of markets in domestic and international trade for products of the state.

(g) Publicizing of the material, economic and cultural advantages of the state which make it a desirable place for business and residence.

(h) Advise and cooperate with, regional, county, municipal and other local planning agencies within the state, for the purpose of encouraging cultural, economic and physical self-improvement of the communities and coordination of state and local planning under direction of the governor.

(i) Confer and cooperate with the executive, legislative and planning authorities of the United States and neighboring states, and of the counties and municipalities of such neighboring states, for the purpose of bringing about coordination between the development of such neighboring states, counties and municipalities, and the development of this state under direction of the governor.

(j) To conduct research and make recommendations to the governor for the general purpose of guiding and accomplishing a coordinated and efficient development of the state in accordance with present and future needs and to best utilize the state's natural, material and human resources. Upon direction of the governor the department shall utilize and coordinate the research facilities of state departments and institutions in the interest of Michigan's economic and other development.


125.1205 Economic expansion department; powers.
Sec. 5. The department of economic expansion, in addition to its other powers and duties, may:
(a) Accept, with legislative approval, grants of funds made by the United States or any department or agency thereof or other public or private agency or individual in this state or other states.
(b) Enter into contracts with boards, commissions and agencies, both public and private, and with individuals to carry out the purposes of this act.
(c) Succeed to the rights and carry out the obligations of this state with respect to existing contracts executed on behalf of the state by the department of economic development and execute necessary amendments thereto with the power to carry out the obligations set forth in such amendments.
(d) Act as the state's official liaison agency with federal agencies concerned with economic development and public works programs.


125.1206 Economic expansion department; acceptance of grants; transfer of records, files, property, and employees of department of administration.
Sec. 6. Upon the request of the governing body of any city, village, county, township or regional planning district, the department of economic expansion may apply for and accept grants without further legislative approval from the federal government for planning assistance for the local units of government, which includes but is not limited to surveys, land use studies, urban renewal plans, technical services and other planning work. State costs shall be reimbursed to the state by the local units of government. The department may accept and expend funds from the federal government and other public or private sources, contract with reference thereto, and enter into other contracts and exercise all other powers necessary to carry out the purposes of this section. The records, files and property of the department of administration relating to this power are transferred to the department of economic expansion. Employees of the department of administration as designated by the state controller are transferred to the department of economic expansion on the effective date of this act retaining their civil service classifications without further examination or qualification. Such employees shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the executive director.


125.1207 Economic expansion council; members, appointment, term, chairman, officers, quorum, committees, report, compensation, expenses.
Sec. 7. There is created an agency of the state to be known as the economic expansion council consisting of 25 members including the executive director of the department of economic expansion as an ex-officio member. The governor shall appoint the other members of the council for terms of office coterminous with that of the governor and until their successors are appointed. The governor shall appoint the chairman of the council who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The council shall elect such other officers it deems necessary, determine their terms of office and shall adopt such other rules and regulations necessary to govern its procedure and business. The council shall meet at the call of the governor or the chairman. Ten members constitute a quorum. The chairman may appoint, with the approval of the governor, such committees,
including an executive committee, as may be necessary to carry out the duties of the council. The membership of the committees, except the executive committee, is not restricted to members of the council. The council shall advise the governor and the department of economic expansion in the areas in which the department is granted authority under section 4. The council shall be responsible to the governor and shall make an annual report to him and the legislature concerning the activities of the council. Members of the council shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties.


### 125.1208 Repeal.

Sec. 8. Act No. 302 of the Public Acts of 1947, as amended, being sections 125.1 to 125.8 of the Compiled Laws of 1948, and section 17 of Act No. 51 of the First Extra Session of 1948, as added by Act No. 110 of the Public Acts of 1960, being section 18.17 of the Compiled Laws of 1948, are repealed.