

# HOUSE BILL No. 5210

July 16, 2009, Introduced by Reps. Slavens, Constan, Nerat, Liss, Neumann, Polidori, Kandrevas, Slezak, Lisa Brown, Nathan, Barnett, Roberts and Clemente and referred to the Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement.

A bill to amend 1939 PA 280, entitled  
"The social welfare act,"  
by amending section 11b (MCL 400.11b), as amended by 2000 PA 61.

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

1           Sec. 11b. (1) Within 24 hours after receiving a report made or  
2 information obtained pursuant to section 11a, the county family  
3 independence agency shall commence an investigation to determine  
4 whether the person suspected of being or believed to be abused,  
5 neglected, or exploited is an adult in need of protective services.  
6 A reasonable belief on the part of the county department that the  
7 person is an adult in need of protective services is a sufficient  
8 basis for investigation. If an investigation pertains to an adult

1 residing in an adult foster care facility licensed by the Michigan  
2 family independence agency, the county department shall provide the  
3 adult foster care licensee with the substance of the abuse or  
4 neglect allegations as soon as practicable after the beginning of  
5 the investigation. The licensee shall have the opportunity to  
6 respond to the allegations, and the response shall be included in  
7 the record.

8 (2) Upon a request by the county department, local law  
9 enforcement officers shall cooperate with the county department in  
10 an investigation of suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation.  
11 However, the investigation required by this section shall not be in  
12 place of an investigation by the appropriate police agency  
13 regarding suspected criminal conduct arising from the suspected  
14 abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

15 (3) The investigation shall include a determination of the  
16 nature, extent, and cause of the abuse, neglect, or exploitation;  
17 examination of evidence; identification, if possible, of the person  
18 responsible for the abuse, neglect, or exploitation; the names and  
19 conditions of other adults in the place of residence; an evaluation  
20 of the persons responsible for the care of the adult, if  
21 appropriate; the environment of the residence; the relationship of  
22 the adult to the person responsible for the adult's care; an  
23 evaluation as to whether or not the adult would consent to  
24 receiving protective services; and other pertinent data.

25 (4) The investigation shall include an interview with the  
26 adult. The county department shall conduct the interview by means  
27 of a personal visit with the adult in the adult's dwelling or in

1 the office of the county department, by telephone conversation, or  
2 by other means that may be available to the county department. In  
3 attempting to conduct a personal visit with the adult in the  
4 adult's dwelling, if admission to the dwelling is denied, the  
5 county department may seek to obtain a search warrant as provided  
6 in 1966 PA 189, MCL 780.651 to 780.659.

7 (5) The investigation may include a medical, psychological,  
8 social, vocational, and educational evaluation and review.

9 (6) In the course of an investigation, the county department  
10 shall determine if the adult is or was abused, neglected, or  
11 exploited. The county department shall make available to the adult  
12 the appropriate and least restrictive protective services, directly  
13 or through the purchase of services from other agencies and  
14 professions, and shall take necessary action to safeguard and  
15 enhance the welfare of the adult, if possible. The county  
16 department also shall collaborate with law enforcement officers,  
17 courts of competent jurisdiction, and appropriate state and  
18 community agencies providing human services, which services are  
19 provided in relation to preventing, identifying, and treating adult  
20 abuse, neglect, or exploitation. If the abuse, neglect, or  
21 exploitation involves substance abuse, the county department shall  
22 collaborate with the local substance abuse coordinating agency as  
23 designated by the office of substance abuse services in the  
24 department of community health for a referral for substance abuse  
25 services. The county department may petition for a finding of  
26 incapacity and appointment of a guardian or temporary guardian as  
27 provided in section 5303 or 5312 of the estates and protected

1 individuals code, 1998 PA 386, MCL 700.5303 and 700.5312, and may  
2 petition for the appointment of a conservator as provided in  
3 section 5401 of the estates and protected individuals code, 1998 PA  
4 386, MCL 700.5401, for a vulnerable adult.

5 (7) Upon completion of an investigation, the county department  
6 shall prepare a written report of the investigation and its  
7 findings. A copy of this written report shall be forwarded to the  
8 state department upon the request of the state department.

9 (8) The county department may provide a copy of the written  
10 report to the prosecuting attorney for the county in which the  
11 adult suspected of being or believed to be abused, neglected, or  
12 exploited resides or is found.

13 (9) **IN EACH COUNTY, THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY AND THE COUNTY**  
14 **DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR INVOLVING LAW**  
15 **ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION. IN EACH COUNTY,**  
16 **THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY AND THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT AND**  
17 **IMPLEMENT STANDARD VULNERABLE ADULT ABUSE AND NEGLECT INVESTIGATION**  
18 **AND INTERVIEW PROTOCOLS.**