HOUSE BILL No. 5515

March 27, 2012, Introduced by Reps. Dillon, Byrum, Geiss, Barnett, Haugh, Bledsoe, Hobbs, Switalski, Lindberg, Lipton, Cavanagh, McCann, Nathan, Townsend, Rutledge, Stallworth, Smiley, Bauer, Slavens, Constan, LeBlanc, Darany, Irwin, Ananich and Brown and referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 442, entitled

"Freedom of information act,"

by amending section 2 (MCL 15.232), as amended by 1996 PA 553.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 2. As used in this act:

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- (a) "Field name" means the label or identification of an
 element of a computer data base DATABASE that contains a specific
 item of information, and includes but is not limited to a subject
 heading such as a column header, data dictionary, or record layout.
 - (b) "FOIA coordinator" means either of the following:
 - (i) An individual who is a public body.
 - (ii) An individual designated by a public body in accordance with section 6 to accept and process requests for public records under this act.
 - (c) "Person" means an individual, corporation, limited

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- 1 liability company, partnership, firm, organization, association,
- 2 governmental entity, or other legal entity. Person does not include
- 3 an individual serving a sentence of imprisonment in a state or
- 4 county correctional facility in this state or any other state, or
- 5 in a federal correctional facility.
- 6 (d) "Public body" means any of the following:
- 7 (i) A state officer, employee, agency, department, division,
- 8 bureau, board, commission, council, authority, or other body in the
- 9 executive OR LEGISLATIVE branch of the state government, but does
- 10 not include the governor or lieutenant governor, the executive
- 11 office of the governor or lieutenant governor, or employees
- 12 thereof.
- 13 (ii) An agency, board, commission, or council in the
- 14 legislative branch of the state government.
- 15 (ii) (iii) A county, city, township, village, intercounty,
- 16 intercity, or regional governing body, council, school district,
- 17 special district, or municipal corporation, or a board, department,
- 18 commission, council, or agency thereof.
- 19 (iii) (iv)—Any other body which—THAT is created by state or local
- 20 authority or which THAT is primarily funded by or through state or
- 21 local authority, -
- 22 (v) The EXCEPT THAT THE judiciary, including the office of the
- 23 county clerk and employees thereof when acting in the capacity of
- 24 clerk to the circuit court, is not included in the definition of
- 25 public body.
- (e) "Public record" means a writing prepared, owned, used, in
- 27 the possession of, or retained by a public body in the performance

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- 1 of an official function, from the time it is created. Public record
- 2 does not include computer software. This act separates public
- 3 records into the following 2 classes:
- 4 (i) Those that are exempt from disclosure under section 13.
- 5 (ii) All public records that are not exempt from disclosure
- 6 under section 13 and which THAT are subject to disclosure under
- 7 this act.
- 8 (f) "Software" means a set of statements or instructions that
- 9 when incorporated in a machine usable medium is capable of causing
- 10 a machine or device having information processing capabilities to
- 11 indicate, perform, or achieve a particular function, task, or
- 12 result. Software does not include computer-stored information or
- 13 data, or a field name if disclosure of that field name does not
- 14 violate a software license.
- 15 (g) "Unusual circumstances" means any 1 or a combination of
- 16 the following, but only to the extent necessary for the proper
- 17 processing of a request:
- 18 (i) The need to search for, collect, or appropriately examine
- 19 or review a voluminous amount of separate and distinct public
- 20 records pursuant to a single request.
- 21 (ii) The need to collect the requested public records from
- 22 numerous field offices, facilities, or other establishments which
- 23 THAT are located apart from the particular office receiving or
- 24 processing the request.
- 25 (h) "Writing" means handwriting, typewriting, printing,
- 26 photostating, photographing, photocopying, and every other means of
- 27 recording, and includes letters, words, pictures, sounds, or

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- 1 symbols, or combinations thereof, and papers, maps, magnetic or
- 2 paper tapes, photographic films or prints, microfilm, microfiche,
- 3 magnetic or punched cards, discs, drums, or other means of
- 4 recording or retaining meaningful content.
- 5 (i) "Written request" means a writing that asks for
- 6 information, and includes a writing transmitted by facsimile,
- 7 electronic mail, or other electronic means.