

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 983

A bill to amend 1994 PA 204, entitled
"The children's ombudsman act,"
by amending section 3 (MCL 722.923), as amended by 2004 PA 560.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 3. (1) As a means of effecting changes in policy,
2 procedure, and legislation, educating the public, investigating and
3 reviewing actions of the department, child placing agencies, or
4 child caring institutions, monitoring and ensuring compliance with
5 relevant statutes, rules, and policies pertaining to children's
6 protective services and the placement, supervision, treatment, and
7 improving delivery of care of children in foster care and adoptive
8 homes, the children's ombudsman is established as an autonomous
9 entity ~~in the department of management and budget.~~**within the**

1 **legislative council.**

2 (2) The ~~governor~~**legislative council** shall appoint an
3 individual as the ombudsman. ~~, with the advice and consent of the~~
4 ~~senate.~~The individual shall ~~must~~ be qualified by training and
5 experience to perform the duties and exercise the powers of the
6 children's ombudsman and the children's ombudsman office as
7 provided in this act.

8 ~~(3) The governor may remove the children's ombudsman from~~
9 ~~office for cause that includes, but is not limited to, incompetency~~
10 ~~to properly exercise duties, official misconduct, habitual or~~
11 ~~willful neglect of duty, or other misfeasance or malfeasance in~~
12 ~~connection with the operation of the office of the children's~~
13 ~~ombudsman. The governor shall report the reason for the removal to~~
14 ~~the legislature.~~

15 (3) ~~(4)~~The children's ombudsman serving in office on the
16 effective date of the amendatory act that ~~added~~**amended** this
17 subsection shall serve at the pleasure of the ~~governor~~**legislative**
18 **council.**