

Legislative Analysis



DURATION OF EMERGENCY HEALTH ORDERS

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<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4269 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. John N. Damoose
Committee: Government Operations
Complete to 3-4-21

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4269 would amend the Public Health Code to limit the duration of certain emergency public health orders to 30 days unless the legislature approves an extension.

Under the code, if the director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) determines that control of an epidemic is necessary to protect the public health, he or she can issue an emergency order to limit the size of gatherings and establish procedures that must be followed during the epidemic.

Under the bill, such an emergency order could not be valid for more than 30 days unless both houses of the legislature adopted a resolution to approve a request from the director of DHHS to extend it for a specific number of days.

MCL 333.2253 and proposed MCL 333.2253a

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4269 would have indeterminate fiscal implications for DHHS and for local public health departments. Health department costs related to pandemic events include monitoring, contact tracing, collaborating with other public and private entities for pandemic infrastructure and response, and many others. In the current pandemic many of these costs are supported by state and local funds, and some of these costs have been supported by federal appropriations in FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21.

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