

SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 4720

A bill to provide for the statewide coordination of meaningful language access to state services by individuals with limited English proficiency; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state governmental officers and entities; and to establish a process for submitting complaints and obtaining remedies for lack of meaningful language access and for denials of meaningful language access based on one's national origin.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act may be cited as the "statewide meaningful
2 language access coordination act".

3 Sec. 2. As used in this act:

4 (a) "Covered entity", "limited English proficiency", and
5 "meaningful language access" mean those terms as defined in the

1 meaningful language access to state services act.

2 (b) "Office of global Michigan" means that term as used in
3 2022 PA 166.

4 Sec. 3. The office of global Michigan shall do all of the
5 following:

6 (a) Coordinate steps taken by covered entities throughout this
7 state to provide meaningful language access to public services
8 pursuant to the meaningful language access to state services act.

9 (b) Designate at least 1 language access liaison to work with
10 covered entities to train staff, develop resources, conduct
11 outreach activities that inform the public of available language
12 services, and facilitate compliance with the meaningful language
13 access to state services act.

14 (c) Create a complaint form and a process for members of the
15 public to use to report and pursue a remedy for instances of
16 noncompliance with the meaningful language access to state services
17 act. The complaint form created under this subdivision is subject
18 to the translation requirements described in section 2(c) of the
19 meaningful language access to state services act.

20 (d) In collaboration with the department of civil rights and
21 consistent with section 602 of the Elliot-Larsen civil rights act,
22 1976 PA 453, MCL 37.2602, create a complaint process under which
23 individuals who believe that they have been denied full and equal
24 access to a covered entity because of their national origin may
25 submit a complaint and seek a remedy against a covered entity.

26 Sec. 4. Any individual who believes that they were denied full
27 and equal access to a covered entity because of their national
28 origin has the right to separately seek a remedy with the
29 department of civil rights pursuant to the complaint process

1 described in section 3(d).

2 Enacting section 1. This act takes effect 90 days after the
3 date it is enacted into law.

4 Enacting section 2. This act does not take effect unless
5 Senate Bill No. 382 of the 102nd Legislature is enacted into law.