CONSUMERS COUNCIL

Act 277 of 1966

AN ACT to create a consumers council; to define its powers and duties; and to make an appropriation therefor.

History: 1966, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

445.821 Legislative citizens committee on consumer affairs; members, appointment, terms.

Sec. 1.

There is hereby established a committee to be officially known as the legislative citizens committee on consumer affairs and to consist of 3 members who are not members of the legislature. The members of this committee shall be appointed by the legislative council for 2-year terms to coincide with the terms of office of state representatives.

History: 1966, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967

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445.822 Executive committee on consumer affairs; members.

Sec. 2.

There is hereby established a committee of public officials to be officially known as the executive committee on consumer affairs and to consist of 3 members who shall be the secretary of state, the attorney general and the head of the department of commerce.

History: 1966, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967

445.823 Governor's citizens committee on consumer affairs; members, appointment, terms.

Sec. 3.

There is hereby established a committee of 3 persons who are not public officers to be officially known as the governor's citizens committee on consumer affairs. The members of this committee shall be appointed by the governor for 2-year terms to coincide with the terms of office of state representatives.

History: 1966, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967

445.824 Special Michigan consumer's council; conducting business at public meeting; notice of meeting.

Sec. 4.

(1) The legislative citizens' committee on consumer affairs, the executive committee on consumer affairs, and the

governor's citizens committee on consumer affairs shall meet together regularly. The 3 separate committees meeting jointly shall be the special Michigan consumer's council.

(2) The business which the special Michigan consumer's council may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting of the council held in compliance with Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended, being sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Public notice of the time, date, and place of a meeting shall be given in the manner required by Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended.

History: 1966, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967 ;-- Am. 1980, Act 9, Imd. Eff. Feb. 14, 1980

445.825 Legislative and governor's citizens committees; expenses, payment.

Sec. 5.

Members of the legislative citizens committee on consumer affairs and members of the governor's citizens committee on consumers affairs shall be entitled to the necessary expenses incurred in connection with the business of the council not to exceed those allowed by the standard travel regulations as published by the department of administration.

History: 1966, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967

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445.826 Duties of council.

Sec. 6.

The council shall:

(a) Formulate and direct a program for the protection of individual consumers from harmful products and merchandise, false advertising and deceptive sales practices.

(b) Formulate and conduct a program of research and education to eliminate fraudulent commercial practices.

(c) Serve as a central coordinating agency and clearinghouse for activities and information concerning fraudulent commercial practices.

(d) Advise the governor as to all matters affecting the interests of the people of the state as consumers and recommend to both the governor and the legislature the enactment of legislation necessary to protect and promote the interests of the people as consumers.

(e) Advise the attorney general of any practice which requires investigations to determine if any law of the state is being violated.

(f) Establish and maintain, as a service to the public, a toll free telephone line to its office which may be utilized by any person in the state. This telephone line shall be used to receive complaints from consumers and to refer consumers to the appropriate federal, state, local, or private agency which would handle the complaints.

History: 1966, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967 ;-- Am. 1978, Act 286, Imd. Eff. July 7, 1978

445.827 Consumers council; powers.

Sec. 7.

The council may:

(a) Appear before governmental commissions, departments and agencies to represent and be heard on behalf of consumers' interests, except when the legislature has specifically established a regulatory body or commission for the express purpose of regulating rates, charges and conditions of service, or otherwise protecting consumers' interests through the exercise of regulatory power vested in such body or commission.

(b) Cooperate and contract with agencies, public and private, to obtain statistical surveys, printing, economic information and other necessary information within the range of its budget, or do whatever else is incidental to the proper exercise of its powers.

(c) Hire a director and whatever additional staff is necessary to carry out its powers and duties, to be paid out of the appropriation to the council.

History: 1966, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967

445.828 Consumers council; general control of legislative council.

Sec. 8.

The council shall come under the general control of the legislative council for purposes of budgeting, procurement and related management functions.

History: 1966, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967

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445.829 Consumers council; appropriation.

Sec. 9.

There is appropriated to the consumer council from the general fund of the state the sum of $10,000.00 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1967.

History: 1966, Act 277, Eff. Mar. 10, 1967