

SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 4927

A bill to amend 1939 PA 280, entitled
"The social welfare act,"
(MCL 400.1 to 400.119b) by adding section 5a.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 SEC. 5A. (1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 23G OF CHAPTER X OF
2 THE PROBATE CODE OF 1939, 1939 PA 288, MCL 710.23G, AND SECTION 14E
3 OF 1973 PA 116, MCL 722.124E, THE STATE OR A LOCAL UNIT OF
4 GOVERNMENT SHALL NOT DISCRIMINATE OR TAKE AN ADVERSE ACTION AGAINST
5 A CHILD PLACING AGENCY ON THE BASIS THAT THE CHILD PLACING AGENCY
6 HAS DECLINED TO PROVIDE FOSTER CARE OR ADOPTION SERVICES THAT
7 CONFLICT WITH, OR DECLINED TO PROVIDE FOSTER CARE OR ADOPTION
8 SERVICES UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES THAT CONFLICT WITH, THE CHILD PLACING
9 AGENCY'S SINCERELY HELD RELIGIOUS BELIEFS CONTAINED IN A WRITTEN

1 POLICY, STATEMENT OF FAITH, OR OTHER DOCUMENT ADHERED TO BY THE
2 CHILD PLACING AGENCY.

3 (2) FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION, THE TERM "FOSTER CARE OR
4 ADOPTION SERVICES" INCLUDES COMPLETING A HOME STUDY FOR A FOSTER
5 CARE PLACEMENT FOR AN INDIVIDUAL OR INDIVIDUALS WHO DESIRE TO BE
6 FOSTER PARENTS, COMPLETING A CHILD ADOPTIVE ASSESSMENT FOR AN
7 ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT FOR AN INDIVIDUAL OR INDIVIDUALS WHO DESIRE TO
8 ADOPT A CHILD, OR OTHERWISE PARTICIPATING IN A PLACEMENT OF A CHILD
9 FOR FOSTER CARE OR ADOPTION.

10 Enacting section 1. It is the intent of the legislature to
11 protect child placing agencies' free exercise of religion protected
12 by the United States constitution and the state constitution of
13 1963. This amendatory act is not intended to limit or deny any
14 person's right to adopt a child or participate in foster care.

15 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect
16 unless all of the following bills of the 97th Legislature are
17 enacted into law:

18 (a) House Bill No. 4928.

19 (b) House Bill No. 4991.