

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 276**

A bill to amend 1939 PA 280, entitled
"The social welfare act,"
by amending section 57f (MCL 400.57f), as amended by 2011 PA 132.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 57f. (1) The department shall enter into an agreement
2 with the Michigan economic development corporation or a successor
3 entity to facilitate the administration of the ~~JET-PATH~~ program.
4 The department shall make information on the program available to
5 the legislature.

6 (2) Except as provided in section 57b, at the time the
7 department determines that an individual is eligible to receive
8 family independence program assistance under this act, the
9 department shall determine whether that individual is eligible to

1 participate in the ~~JET-PATH~~ program or if the individual is exempt
2 from ~~JET-PATH~~ program participation under this section. The
3 particular activities in which the recipient is required or
4 authorized to participate, **INCLUDING COMMUNITY SERVICE**, the number
5 of hours of work required, and other details of ~~work-first~~ **THE PATH**
6 **PROGRAM** shall be developed by the department and the Michigan
7 economic development corporation or a successor entity and shall be
8 set forth in the recipient's family self-sufficiency plan. If a
9 recipient has cooperated with the ~~JET-PATH~~ program, the recipient
10 may enroll in a program approved by the local workforce development
11 board. Any and all training or education with the exception of high
12 school completion, GED preparation, and literacy training must be
13 occupationally relevant and in demand in the labor market as
14 determined by the local workforce development board and may be no
15 more than 2 years in duration. Participants must make satisfactory
16 progress while in training or education.

17 (3) The following individuals are exempt from participation in
18 the ~~JET-PATH~~ program:

19 (a) A child under the age of 16.

20 (b) A child age 16 to 18 who is attending elementary or
21 secondary school full-time.

22 (c) A recipient who has medical documentation of being
23 disabled or medical documentation of an inability to participate in
24 employment or the ~~JET-PATH~~ program for more than 90 days because of
25 a mental or physical condition.

26 (d) A recipient unable to participate as determined by the
27 medical review team.

1 (e) A recipient aged 65 or older.

2 (f) A recipient of supplemental security income.

3 (g) A recipient of retirement, survivor, or disability
4 insurance based on disability or blindness, or a recipient found
5 eligible for retirement, survivor, or disability insurance based on
6 disability or blindness who is in nonpay status.

7 (4) The department may grant a temporary exemption from
8 participation in the ~~JET-PATH~~ program to any of the following:

9 (a) An individual who is suffering from a documented short-
10 term mental or physical illness, limitation, or disability that
11 severely restricts his or her ability to participate in ~~JET-PATH~~
12 program activities. An individual with a documented mental or
13 physical illness, limitation, or disability that does not severely
14 restrict his or her ability to participate in the ~~JET-PATH~~ program
15 shall be required to participate in the ~~JET-PATH~~ program at a
16 medically permissible level. An exemption under this subdivision
17 shall not exceed a period of 90 days without a review by a
18 department caseworker.

19 (b) An individual for whom certain program requirements have
20 been waived under section 56i. An exemption under this subdivision
21 shall not exceed a period of 90 days without a review by a
22 department caseworker.

23 (c) A parent with a child under the age of 60 days if that
24 child is in the home or a mother for postpartum recovery up to 60
25 days after giving birth if that child is not in the home.

26 (d) A pregnant recipient who, based on medical documentation,
27 is severely restricted in her ability to participate in ~~JET-PATH~~

1 program activities for the duration of the pregnancy.

2 (e) The spouse of a recipient who is verified as disabled and
3 living in the home with the spouse if it is verified that the
4 spouse is needed in the home full-time due to the extent of medical
5 care required. An exemption under this subdivision shall not exceed
6 a period of 365 days without a review by a department caseworker.

7 (f) A parent of a child who is verified as disabled and living
8 in the home with the parent if it is verified that the parent is
9 needed in the home due to the extent of medical care required. If
10 the child attends school, the parent may be referred to the ~~JET~~
11 **PATH** program with limitations. An exemption under this subdivision
12 shall not exceed a period of 365 days without a review by a
13 department caseworker.

14 (5) An individual is not disabled for purposes of this section
15 if substance abuse is a contributing factor material to the
16 determination of disability.

17 (6) The department may promulgate rules in accordance with the
18 administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to
19 24.328, identifying exemptions under this section. The director of
20 the department may grant exemptions for extenuating circumstances
21 beyond the exemptions provided for in this section. The department
22 shall annually provide to the legislature, at the same time as the
23 governor's departmental budget proposal, a report of the number of
24 exemptions issued under this section and the individual reason for
25 those exemptions. This subsection does not apply after December 31,
26 2013.

27 (7) **AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "PATH PROGRAM" MEANS THE PATH:**

- 1 PARTNERSHIP. ACCOUNTABILITY. TRAINING. HOPE. WORK PARTNERSHIP
- 2 PROGRAM.