



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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REGULATION OF CLOTHES CLEANERS

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Mich. State Law Library

House Bill 4686

Sponsor: Rep. Charlie Harrison, Jr.

House Bill 4687

Sponsor: Rep. Debbie Stabenow

Committee: Economic Development &
Energy

Complete to 4-25-89

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILLS 4686 and 4687 AS INTRODUCED 4-24-89

House Bill 4687 would repeal Public Act 43 of 1943 (MCL 570.211 - 570.217), which currently regulates persons who clean, repair, or store certain articles of clothing. The substantive provisions of the act include the following:

-- When certain articles of clothing have been left to be cleaned, repaired, etc. at a cleaning business, a business, after holding the clothes for at least 90 days, may sell the clothes to cover the previously agreed-on charges for performing the services.

-- When articles of clothing, after being cleaned, repaired, etc., have been placed in storage by prior agreement and after nine months have not been paid for, a business may sell the articles to cover the previously agreed-on charges.

-- Before selling any articles a business is required to notify the owner of the intent to sell the clothes or other items in a manner specified in the act.

-- Businesses that sell clothes as specified are not liable to the former owners of the articles.

-- Businesses must have two prominently displayed signs which warn patrons that their items could be sold if not paid for within the time limits specified in the act.

The bill is tie-barred to House Bill 4686.

House Bill 4686 would create a new act to regulate businesses engaged in the cleaning, repair, alteration or storage of clothing. Under the bill, clothes left at a business regulated under the bill for either cleaning or repair, or for storage purposes, that were not claimed by their owners after one year could be sold, donated, or disposed of by the cleaning business. A person would lose his or her ownership rights to an article of clothing left at a business for more than one year. If ownership rights to an article of clothing had been lost, the original owner could regain his or her ownership rights to the clothing if the business had not sold, donated, or otherwise disposed of it, and if the person paid the amount owing for cleaning, repair, or storage services.

House Bills 4686 & 4687 (4-25-89)