



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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DISPLACED HOMEMAKERS ACT SUNSET

House Bill 5283 as introduced
First Analysis (4-2-90)

Sponsor: Rep. Michael J. Bennane
Committee: Social Services & Youth

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THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

The Displaced Homemakers Act was enacted in 1978 to address the needs of homemakers who had been out of the workplace for several years and planned to re-enter the workforce. Currently, there are eleven programs within the state operating under the act, and these programs offer a wide range of services, including counseling on employment, resume writing, job interviewing, and financial counseling. Many feel that these programs are quite effective and provide valuable services to the citizens of the state. The act is due to expire October 1, 1991; it has been extended twice, in 1983 and 1984. However, the current expiration date was found illegal in Attorney General Opinion No. 6438 of 1987. Thus, in order to provide more stability to the act and to ensure that programs continue, legislation has been introduced to eliminate the act's expiration date.

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

The Displaced Homemakers Act establishes employment support services for homemakers who have not been gainfully employed outside the home for an extended period of time and who have depended on the income of a family member, or on government assistance as the parent of a dependent child, and are no longer supported by the income or assistance. The act will expire October 1, 1991. The bill would repeal the expiration date.

MCL 421.111

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

According to the Department of Labor, if the bill is not passed, there could be a cut in revenue to the services and programs funded under the act. However, passage of the bill would have no fiscal implications; programs and services already in place would continue. (3-29-90)

ARGUMENTS:

For:

The Displaced Homemakers Act provides employment services for women who have been out of the workplace for an extended period of time. It is a successful program that has been in existence for ten years and has provided service to hundreds of women. The bill will ensure the continuity of a program that works and provides valuable services to the citizens of the state.

POSITIONS:

The Department of Labor supports the bill. (3-29-90)