

Act No. 151
Public Acts of 1990
Approved by the Governor
June 26, 1990
Filed with the Secretary of State
June 27, 1990

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
85TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1990**

Introduced by Rep. Hickner

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 5737

AN ACT to amend the title and sections 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, and 18 of Act No. 385 of the Public Acts of 1984, entitled "An act to provide for the establishment of technology park districts in local governmental units; to provide certain facilities located in technology park districts an exemption from certain taxes; to levy and collect a specific tax upon the owners of certain facilities; to provide for the disposition of the tax; to provide for the obtaining and transferring of an exemption certificate and to prescribe the contents of those certificates; to prescribe the powers and duties of the state tax commission and certain officers of local governmental units; and to provide remedies and penalties," section 5 as amended by Act No. 382 of the Public Acts of 1988 and section 18 as amended by Act No. 289 of the Public Acts of 1989, being sections 207.703, 207.705, 207.706, 207.708, 207.709, 207.710, 207.712, 207.714, 207.716, and 207.718 of the Michigan Compiled Laws; and to add section 7a.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Section 1. The title and sections 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, and 18 of Act No. 385 of the Public Acts of 1984, section 5 as amended by Act No. 382 of the Public Acts of 1988 and section 18 as amended by Act No. 289 of the Public Acts of 1989, being sections 207.703, 207.705, 207.706, 207.708, 207.709, 207.710, 207.712, 207.714, 207.716, and 207.718 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, are amended and section 7a is added to read as follows:

TITLE

An act to provide for the establishment of technology park districts in local governmental units; to provide certain facilities located in technology park districts an exemption from certain taxes; to levy and collect a specific tax upon the owners of certain facilities; to provide for the disposition of the tax; to provide for the obtaining and transferring of an exemption certificate and to prescribe the contents of those certificates; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state agencies and officers and certain officers of local governmental units; and to provide remedies and penalties.

Sec. 3. (1) "Department" means the department of treasury.

(2) "Facility" means property to be located in a technology park district.

(3) "Local governmental unit" means a city, village, or township.

(4) "Property" means land improvements, buildings, structures, and other improvements classified by law for general ad valorem tax purposes as real property, including real property assessable as personal property under section 14(6) of the general property tax act, Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, being section 211.14 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, whether completed or in the process of construction, and machinery, equipment, furniture, and fixtures, or any part or accessory thereof, classified by law for general ad valorem tax purposes as personal property, the primary purpose and use of which real property and personal property are for 1 or more of the following:

(a) Research and development.

(b) A high technology service activity that has as its principal function the providing of services including computer, information transfer, communication, distribution, processing, administrative, laboratory, experimental, developmental, technical, or testing services.

(c) A high technology industrial activity that has as its principal function activities including the manufacture of goods or materials, the processing of goods or materials by physical or chemical change, computer related activities, communications, robotics, biological or pharmaceutical industrial activity, or technology oriented or emerging industrial or business activity not involving heavy manufacturing.

(d) A business activity that has as its primary function developing, improving, or creating new or existing products.

(5) Property, as defined in subsection (4), does not include the following:

(a) Land.

(b) Inventory.

(c) Facilities the primary purpose and use of which is the sale of goods or services at retail, housing, or lodging.

Sec. 5. (1) A local governmental unit, by resolution of its legislative body, may establish 1 technology park district or, if subdivision (a) is not applicable, may establish more than 1 technology park district. A district shall consist of 1 or more parcels or tracts of land and, at the time the resolution is adopted, shall meet the following requirements:

(a) The district shall contain not less than 100 acres of undeveloped land. This subdivision does not apply if the administration building of the university requesting establishment of the district is located in a local governmental unit with a population of 800,000 or more persons.

(b) The district boundaries shall be continuous.

(c) All of the land in the district shall be within a 10-mile radius of the administration building on the main campus of a 4-year public university, 4-year independent university, or 4-year institute of technology, or within the corporate boundaries of the city, village, or township in which the administration building is located, or in a city or township adjacent to a city in which the administration building is located if the district is adjacent to land owned by the 4-year public university.

(2) The resolution establishing a district shall set forth a finding and determination that the district satisfies all the requirements of subsection (1).

(3) A local governmental unit shall establish a district only upon the written request filed with the clerk of the local governmental unit by the owners of record of 75% of the land included within the proposed district and the board of control of the 4-year eligible university or institute. If the university lies within 2 adjoining local governmental units, the university may file a request with both of the clerks of the local governmental units.

(4) The boundaries of an established district may be altered to include or exclude land upon the request of the owners of record of the affected real property and with the written consent of the owners of record of 75% of the land within the district as established and the board of control of the university. The district as altered shall satisfy the requirements provided in subsection (1).

(5) After receiving a proper written request and before adopting a resolution establishing or altering a district, the legislative body shall set a date for a public hearing on the request and shall publish a notice of the hearing. The legislative body shall also give written notice of the hearing to all of the owners of record of real property within the proposed district and to the legislative body of each taxing unit which levies ad valorem property taxes on the real property within the proposed district. The notice shall be given by certified mail not less than 10 nor more than 30 days before the date of the hearing.

(6) A district established by a township shall affect only land within the unincorporated territory of the township and shall not affect land within a village located in that township.

(7) Land included as part of a district may also be part of a district or development area established under any of the following:

(a) The commercial redevelopment act, Act No. 255 of the Public Acts of 1978, being sections 207.651 to 207.668 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(b) Act No. 198 of the Public Acts of 1974, being sections 207.551 to 207.571 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(c) Act No. 197 of the Public Acts of 1975, being sections 125.1651 to 125.1681 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(d) The tax increment finance authority act, Act No. 450 of the Public Acts of 1980, being sections 125.1801 to 125.1830 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Sec. 6. (1) Following the establishment of a district, the owner of record of a facility or, if an existing lease provides for the direct payment of ad valorem property taxes by the lessee, the lessee of a facility shall file an application for a technology park facilities exemption certificate with the clerk of the local governmental unit that established the district. The application shall be filed in the manner and form prescribed by the department. The application shall contain or be accompanied by a general description of the facility and a general description of the proposed use of the facility, the general nature and extent of construction to be undertaken, a descriptive list of fixed building equipment that will be a part of the facility, a descriptive list of machinery, equipment, furniture, fixtures, and other personal property that will be a part of the facility, a time schedule for commencing and completing the facility, a statement of the economic advantages expected from the exemption, including the number of jobs retained or created because of the exemption and expected construction employment, and information relating to the requirements in section 10.

(2) Upon receipt of an application for a certificate, the clerk of the local governmental unit shall notify in writing the assessor of the assessing unit in which the facility is located or to be located and the legislative body of each taxing unit that levies ad valorem property taxes in the district in which the facility is located or is to be located that such an application has been received. Before acting upon the application, the legislative body of the local governmental unit shall set a date for a public hearing on the application and shall publish public notice of the hearing. The legislative body shall also give written notice of the hearing to the applicant, the assessor, and a representative of the affected taxing jurisdictions by certified mail not less than 10 nor more than 30 days before the date of the hearing.

Sec. 7a. (1) After June 30, 1990, the establishment of a district under section 5 and the approval or disapproval of an exemption certificate under section 7 is subject to the approval or disapproval of the department of treasury. If the department of treasury does not disapprove the establishment of a district or approval of an exemption certificate within 30 days after the adoption of the resolution by the local governmental unit establishing the district or approving the certificate, the district or exemption certificate shall be considered approved by the department. If the resolution approving an exemption certificate is adopted within 30 days before the end of a tax year and the department of treasury does not disapprove the exemption certificate, the exemption certificate is effective on the effective date that the legislative body of the local governmental unit specifies in the certificate.

(2) A party aggrieved by the action of the department of treasury may appeal that action in the manner and form and within the time provided by the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Sec. 8. (1) After approval of the application for a certificate by the legislative body of the local governmental unit and the department, the clerk of the local governmental unit shall issue to the applicant a certificate in a form determined by the department that shall contain all of the following:

- (a) A legal description of the real property on which the facility is located or is to be located.
- (b) A descriptive list of the machinery, equipment, furniture, fixtures, and other personal property, if any, to be located in the facility.
- (c) A statement that the certificate remains in force with respect to the property described in the certificate for the period stated in the certificate, unless revoked as provided in this act.

(2) The certificate shall take effect beginning on the December 31 next following the date of issuance of the certificate.

(3) The clerk of the local governmental unit shall file a copy of the certificate with the department, and the department shall maintain a record of all certificates filed.

Sec. 9. (1) For the period during which the certificate is in effect, a facility for which a certificate is in effect, but not the land on which the facility is located nor the inventory in the facility, is exempt from ad valorem real and personal property taxes imposed under the general property tax act, Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, being sections 211.1 to 211.157 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. The lessee, occupant, user, or person in possession of the facility is exempt for the same period from any ad valorem taxes imposed under Act No. 189 of the Public Acts of 1953, being sections 211.181 to 211.182 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Unless revoked as provided in section 14, a certificate shall remain in force and effect for a period determined by the legislative body of the local governmental unit commencing with its effective date and ending on the December 31 next following not more than 12 years after the completion date of the facility. The certificate may be issued for a period of at least 1 year, but not to exceed 12 years. If the number of years determined is less than 12, the certificate may be subject to review by the legislative body of the local governmental unit, and the certificate may be extended. The total amount of time determined for the certificate including any extensions shall not exceed 12 years after the completion of the facility. The certificate shall commence with its effective date and end on the December 31 next following the last day of the number of years determined. The date of issuance of a

certificate of occupancy, if required by an appropriate authority, shall be the date of completion of the facility if the certificate is issued to an owner, or the date that the lessee takes possession if the certificate is issued to a lessee.

(2) If the number of years determined by the legislative body of the local governmental unit for the period a certificate remains in force is less than 12 years, the review of the certificate for the purpose of determining an extension shall be based upon factors, criteria, and objectives that are placed in writing, approved at the time the certificate is approved by the legislative body of the local governmental unit, and sent to the applicant and department.

Sec. 10. (1) If the state equalized valuation of the property proposed to be exempt pursuant to an application under consideration, considered together with the aggregate state equalized valuation of property exempt under certificates previously granted and currently in force under this act or under Act No. 198 of the Public Acts of 1974, being sections 207.551 to 207.571 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, or the commercial redevelopment act, Act No. 255 of the Public Acts of 1978, being sections 207.651 to 207.668 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, exceeds 5% of the state equalized valuation of the local governmental unit, the legislative body of the local governmental unit shall make a separate finding and shall state in its resolution approving the application that exceeding that amount shall not have the effect of substantially impeding the operation of the local governmental unit or impairing the financial soundness of any affected taxing unit.

(2) The legislative body of the local governmental unit shall not approve an application unless all of the following requirements are met:

(a) If an application relates to real property, including real property assessable as personal property under section 14(6) of the general property tax act, Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, being section 211.14 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the construction of any part of a facility has not commenced before the submission of the application and, if an application relates to personal property, the acquisition of any of the personal property by the applicant has not occurred before submission of the application. This subsection does not prevent an applicant from entering into a contract or purchase order if the contract or purchase order is cancelable by the applicant if the application is not approved.

(b) The application relates to a facility as defined in this act which shall be located within a qualified district established by a local governmental unit eligible under this act to establish that district.

(c) Completion of the facility is calculated to and will, at the time of the issuance of the certificate, have the reasonable likelihood to increase economic activity, create employment, retain employment, or prevent the loss of employment in the local governmental unit in which the facility is located.

(d) Completion of the facility will not cause the transfer of employment of more than 20 full-time persons from 1 or more local governmental units or, if completion of the facility will cause the transfer of employment of more than 20 full-time persons from 1 or more local governmental units, the applicant has provided notification to the department and to each local governmental unit from which such employment is to be transferred and the notified local governmental unit has not objected by resolution within 30 days after receipt of notification of the transfer of employment. If a notified local governmental unit objects within 30 days after receipt of the notification, the application shall not be approved until the objection is waived by the objecting local governmental unit. If the local governmental unit objects, a copy of the resolution of objection showing reasons for the objection shall be filed within 20 days after adoption with the department.

(e) Completion of the facility will not cause transfer of employment from 1 or more local governmental units of this state with a population of 800,000 or more persons to the local governmental unit in which the facility is to be located or, if completion of the facility will cause such a transfer of employment, the legislative body of each local governmental unit from which employment is to be transferred consents by resolution to the issue of the certificate. If a local governmental unit from which employment is to be transferred does not give its consent, a copy of the resolution of denial showing reasons for the denial shall be filed with the department within 20 days after adoption.

Sec. 12. (1) There is levied upon every owner of record and every user or occupant, if known, of a facility to which a certificate is issued, a specific tax to be known as a technology park facilities tax.

(2) The amount of the technology park facilities tax in each year shall be determined by multiplying $\frac{1}{2}$ of the total mills levied as ad valorem taxes for that year by all taxing units within which the facility is situated by the state equalized valuation of the facility after deducting the state equalized value of the land and inventory.

(3) The technology park facilities tax shall be collected, disbursed, and assessed in accordance with this act.

(4) The technology park facilities tax shall be an annual tax payable at the same time, in the same manner, and to the same officer or officers as taxes imposed under the general property tax act, Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893, being sections 211.1 to 211.157 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, are payable. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the officer or officers shall disburse technology park facilities tax payments

received each year to the cities, townships, villages, school districts, counties, community and junior colleges, and authorities, at the times and in the proportions required by law for the disbursement of taxes collected under Act No. 206 of the Public Acts of 1893. All or a portion of the amount to be disbursed to local and intermediate school districts receiving state aid under sections 21, 56, 62, and 81 of Act No. 94 of the Public Acts of 1979, being sections 388.1621, 388.1656, 388.1662, and 388.1681 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, as determined on the basis of the tax rates being utilized to compute the amount of state aid, shall be paid to the state treasury and credited to the state school aid fund established by section 11 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963. The officer or officers shall send a copy of the amount of disbursement made to each unit under this section to the department on a form provided by the department.

Sec. 14. (1) The legislative body of the local governmental unit, by resolution, may revoke a certificate if it finds any of the following:

(a) Completion of the facility does not occur within 2 years after the effective date of the certificate or a greater time as authorized by the legislative body of the local governmental unit for good cause.

(b) The holder of the certificate, not due to circumstances beyond his or her control, fails to proceed in good faith with the operation or use of the facility in a manner consistent with the purposes of this act and in accordance with the application.

(c) The holder of the certificate does not pay the technology park facilities tax by December 31 next following the year in which the tax was due and payable.

(2) If a certificate is issued or transferred or a district created in noncompliance with this act, the certificate in noncompliance or any certificate issued for property in a district that does not comply with this act shall not be considered to have been effective for purposes of this act, including section 9. A local governmental unit that transfers a certificate in noncompliance with this act is subsequently required to receive the approval of the department before transferring a certificate under this act.

Sec. 16. Each local governmental unit granting a certificate shall report to the department not later than October 15 of each year regarding the status of each certificate, including the current value of the property to which the certificate pertains, the value on which the technology park facilities tax is based, and a current estimate of the number of jobs retained or created within the local governmental unit by the holder of the certificate and the users or occupants of the facilities.

Sec. 18. (1) A new exemption shall not be granted under this act after December 31, 1993, but an exemption then in effect shall continue until expiration of the certificate.

(2) The in-depth analysis of the costs and benefits of this act in the communities where it has been utilized required under section 17 shall be submitted to the required committees of the senate and house of representatives not later than February 1, 1990.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

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Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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Secretary of the Senate.

Approved.....

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Governor.

