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CHILD PORN: FINES, POSSESSION

House Bill 4177

Sponsor: Rep. Paul Baade

Committee: Human Services & Children

Complete to 1-10-94

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4177 AS INTRODUCED 2-9-93

The bill would amend the portion of the Michigan Penal Code that deals with "child sexually abusive material" (that is, child pornography) to do the following:

--make the knowing possession of child sexually abusive material a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in jail, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both, providing the person knew or should have known the age of the child involved. This provision would not apply to photoprocessors that complied with the law's requirement to report child pornography, nor would it apply to entities exempted from the obscenity law (these entities are also exempted from the prohibition against distributing child pornography; they include universities, libraries, and store employees).

--increase fines for producing or distributing child pornography. The maximum fine for producing child pornography (which is a 20-year felony) would be increased from \$20,000 to \$100,000. The maximum fine for distributing or promoting child pornography (a seven-year felony) would be increased from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

The bill provides for an effective date of April 1, 1993.

MCL 750.145c

House Bill 4177 (1-10-94)