



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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ESTABLISH MICH. PEACE FUND

House Bill 4851
Sponsor: Rep. James Agee

House Bill 4856
Sponsor: Rep. Karen Willard

Committee: Military & Veterans' Affairs

House Bill 4862
Sponsor: Rep. Howard Wetters

Committee: Taxation

Complete to 7-12-93

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILLS 4851, 4856 AND 4862 AS INTRODUCED:

The bills would create a new act to provide for the establishment of the Michigan Peace Fund, and would amend other acts to provide for the fund to be administered by the Michigan Veterans' Trust Fund Board of Trustees and to allow persons to direct a portion of their income tax refunds via a "check-off" on their Michigan income tax returns into the peace fund. House Bill 4856 is tie-barred to House Bills 4851 and 4862, and House Bill 4862 is tie-barred to House Bills 4851 and 4856.

House Bill 4856 would create the Michigan Peace Fund Act to create within the Department of Treasury a special fund that would be administered by the veterans' trust fund board. The fund would be capitalized by revenues collected through the income tax check-off proposed in House Bill 4862, and could also receive any gifts or contributions to the fund and money otherwise provided by law. The state treasurer would direct the fund's investment and would have to credit the fund's interest and earnings into it. Money remaining in the fund at fiscal-year end would remain in it and could not be transferred into the general fund.

The veterans' trust fund board would have to expend money in the fund to assist local units of government and civic organizations in establishing projects that were both 1) approved by the board, and 2) a memorial or commemoration of the people, places, or events of World War II, including a monument or a memorial/commemoration of "an historical or interpretive event."

House Bill 4851 would amend the veterans' trust fund act (MCL 35.604) to specify that, among other duties, the veterans' trust fund board would be charged with administering the Michigan Peace Fund that would be created under House Bill 4856.

House Bill 4862 would amend the Income Tax Act (MCL 206.440a) to allow a taxpayer who was entitled to an income tax refund of at least \$2 to make a designation (on

House Bills 4851, 4856 and 4862 (7-12-93)

his or her income tax return) of this amount or more that would have to be credited to the fund that would be created under House Bill 4856. A designation could be made starting with the 1993 tax year and for any tax year thereafter. The designation would have to be "clearly and unambiguously printed" on the first page of all state individual income tax return forms. The bill provides that, notwithstanding other allocations and disbursements required under the act, an amount equal to the cumulative designation made under the bill less the amount appropriated to the treasury department to implement the bill would have to be deposited into the peace fund and could be appropriated only for its purposes.