



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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OFFICE OF POW-MIA AFFAIRS

House Bill 5495

Sponsor: Rep. Alan Cropsey

**Committee: Senior Citizens and Veterans
Affairs**

Complete to 1-3-96

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5495 AS INTRODUCED 12-14-95

The bill would create an office of POW-MIA Affairs within the Legislative Council. "POW-MIA" would be defined as "a person designated by the federal government as a prisoner of war or a person missing in action while serving in the armed forces of the United States." The Legislative Council would be required to appoint an administrative officer whose duties to a resident, former resident, and family members of a resident of the state would include investigating claims and reviewing evidence, remains, or information regarding the person's status as a POW-MIA, and annually reporting all relevant information to the legislature. The administrative officer would also be permitted to administer oaths and subpoena witnesses in matters before the office. All writings, except that deemed by the administrative officer to be confidential or to identify sources of confidential information, that were prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the administrative officer in the performance of an official function would be subject to the Freedom of Information Act (MCL 15.231).

MCL 4.1101 et al.

House Bill 5495 (1-3-96)

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.