

Act No. 205
Public Acts of 1995
Approved by the Governor
November 29, 1995
Filed with the Secretary of State
November 29, 1995

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
88TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1995**

Introduced by Reps. Llewellyn and Bush

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 5012

AN ACT to amend section 2157 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, entitled as amended "An act to revise and consolidate the statutes relating to the organization and jurisdiction of the courts of this state; the powers and duties of such courts, and of the judges and other officers thereof; the forms and attributes of civil claims and actions; the time within which civil actions and proceedings may be brought in said courts; pleading, evidence, practice and procedure in civil and criminal actions and proceedings in said courts; to provide remedies and penalties for the violation of certain provisions of this act; and to repeal all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with, or contravening any of the provisions of this act," as amended by Act No. 102 of the Public Acts of 1989, being section 600.2157 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Section 1. Section 2157 of Act No. 236 of the Public Acts of 1961, as amended by Act No. 102 of the Public Acts of 1989, being section 600.2157 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2157. Except as otherwise provided by law, a person duly authorized to practice medicine or surgery shall not disclose any information that the person has acquired in attending a patient in a professional character, if the information was necessary to enable the person to prescribe for the patient as a physician, or to do any act for the patient as a surgeon. If the patient brings an action against any defendant to recover for any personal injuries, or for any malpractice, and the patient produces a physician as a witness in the patient's own behalf who has treated the patient for the injury or for any disease or condition for which the malpractice is alleged, the patient shall be considered to have waived the privilege provided in this section as to another physician who has treated the patient for the injuries, disease, or condition. If a patient has died, the heirs at law of the patient, whether proponents or contestants of the patient's will, shall be considered to be personal representatives of the deceased patient for the purpose of waiving the privilege under this section in a contest upon the question of admitting the patient's will to probate. If a patient has died, the beneficiary of a life insurance policy insuring the life of the patient, or the patient's heirs at law, may waive the privilege under this section for the purpose of providing the necessary documentation to a life insurer in examining a claim for benefits.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Secretary of the Senate.

Approved -----

Governor.