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CREATE D.A.R.E. ADVISORY COUNCIL

House Bill 4094

Sponsor: Rep. Candace Curtis

Committee: Judiciary

Complete to 1-30-97

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4094 AS INTRODUCED 1-28-97

The bill would create the "D.A.R.E. advisory council act," which would establish a D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) council in the Department of State Police to perform a number of duties related to education and oversight of drug abuse resistance education programs.

Council membership, operation. The council would consist of up to 17 members serving for two-years terms, and could succeed themselves if reappointed or reelected. Council membership would consist of the attorney general, the director of the state police, and the governor (or their designated representatives) plus representatives of the D.A.R.E. Officers' Association of Michigan, the Prosecuting Attorney Association of Michigan, the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Michigan Sheriffs' Association (all appointed by their respective organizations). In addition the governor would appoint four members who represented educational concerns and one member who represented substance abuse concerns. Up to five additional members could be appointed by the 12 members designated under the bill.

At its first regular meeting, the council would elect one of its members as chairperson to serve for one year. Elections for chair would be held annually, and a chair could succeed him- or herself. The chair would appoint committee chairs, with the council's approval. Committee chairs, too, could succeed themselves if reappointed.

The council would meet quarterly -- in January, April, July, and October -- and at other times the chair considered necessary. A majority of the council members would be a quorum for conducting council business. Council members or their representative would serve without compensation, but they would be entitled to actual expenses incurred during attendance at council meetings and in traveling to and from meetings.

Council duties and powers. The D.A.R.E. council would exercise its prescribed statutory powers, duties, and functions independently of the director of the Department of State Police, though its budgeting, procurement, and related management functions would be performed under the direction and supervision of the director. The council would do all of the following:

** Advise the Department of State Police in establishing a drug abuse resistance education training program for peace officers (defined as members of the police force or other organizations certified under the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Training Council Act);

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- ** Promote the drug abuse resistance education program throughout the state;
- ** Monitor the drug abuse resistance education officer training program in conjunction with the Department of State Police;
- ** Provide coordination and assistance to local communities who wished to implement drug abuse resistance education programs in the local school systems;
- ** Encourage parental and community involvement in drug abuse resistance education programs;
- ** Develop a private and public partnership to provide for continuation and funding for the drug abuse resistance education program; and
- ** Receive money from public and private sources for use in the drug abuse resistance education program.

Drug abuse resistance education program, training program. The bill says that "[t]he drug abuse resistance education program [would] assist law enforcement agencies or school districts by providing grants to enable peace officers to undergo" a drug abuse resistance education training program that would have to be developed by the Department of State Police and approved by the director. (Note: The bill neither defines nor creates a "drug abuse resistance education program.") The director of the Department of State Police would be required to administer the drug abuse resistance education program and promote it throughout the state.

The bill says that grants (presumably from the drug abuse resistance education program) could "be used to cover the cost of the training, as well as reimbursement for actual, reasonable travel and living expenses incurred in connection with the training." The bill would authorize the director of the Department of State Police to receive money from public and private sources for use in carrying out the drug abuse resistance education program, and would authorize law enforcement agencies and school districts to apply to the director for a grant under this section of the bill.

If the director received grant requests from more than one applicant for programs to be conducted in a single school district, he or she would have to require the applicants to submit a plan for coordinating their training and programs. The director could require grant recipients to account ("at reasonable time intervals") regarding the use of the grants and the training and programs provided.

Analyst: S. Ekstrom

■ 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.