

Act No. 257
Public Acts of 1999
Approved by the Governor
December 28, 1999
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**STATE OF MICHIGAN
90TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1999**

Introduced by Senator McCotter

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 832

AN ACT to amend 1945 PA 246, entitled "An act to authorize township boards to adopt ordinances and regulations to secure the public health, safety and general welfare; to provide for the establishment of a township police department; to provide for policing of townships by certain law enforcement officers and agencies; to provide for the publication of ordinances; to prescribe powers and duties of township boards and certain local and state officers and agencies; to provide sanctions; and to repeal all acts and parts of acts in conflict with the act," by amending sections 1, 4, and 5 (MCL 41.181, 41.184, and 41.185), section 1 as amended by 1994 PA 315, section 4 as amended by 1994 PA 14, and section 5 as added by 1989 PA 78.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 1. (1) The township board of a township, at a regular or special meeting by a majority of the members elect of the township board, may adopt ordinances regulating the public health, safety, and general welfare of persons and property, including, but not limited to ordinances concerning fire protection, licensing or use of bicycles, traffic, parking of vehicles, sidewalk maintenance and repairs, the licensing of business establishments, the licensing and regulating of public amusements, and the regulation or prohibition of public nudity, and may provide sanctions for the violation of the ordinances. The township shall enforce the ordinances and may employ and establish a police department with full power to enforce township ordinances and state laws. If state laws are to be enforced, a township shall have a law enforcement unit or may by resolution appropriate funds and call upon the sheriff of the county in which the township is located, the department of state police, or another law enforcement agency to provide special police protection for the township. The sheriff, department of state police, or other local law enforcement agency shall, if called upon, provide special police protection for the township and enforce local township ordinances to the extent that township funds are appropriated for the enforcement. Special township deputies appointed by the sheriff shall be under the jurisdiction of and solely responsible to the sheriff. Ordinances regulating traffic and parking of vehicles and bicycles shall not contravene the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923.

(2) Ordinances enacted may apply to streets, roads, highways, or portions of the township determined by the township board or may be limited to specified platted lands within the township, and with respect to these lands shall be valid and enforceable whether the roads and streets have been dedicated to public use or not. Township boards of townships enacting ordinances under this section may accept contributions from duly constituted representatives of the platted lands benefited by the ordinances to defray administrative and enforcement costs incident to the enactment of ordinances.

(3) A township may adopt a provision of any state statute for which the maximum period of imprisonment is 93 days or the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, by reference in an adopting ordinance, which statute shall be clearly identified in the adopting ordinance. A township shall not enforce any provision adopted by reference for which the maximum period of imprisonment is greater than 93 days.

(4) As used in this section, "public nudity" means knowingly or intentionally displaying in a public place, or for payment or promise of payment by any person including, but not limited to, payment or promise of payment of an admission fee, any individual's genitals or anus with less than a fully opaque covering, or a female individual's breast with less than a fully opaque covering of the nipple and areola. Public nudity does not include any of the following:

(a) A woman's breastfeeding of a baby whether or not the nipple or areola is exposed during or incidental to the feeding.

(b) Material as defined in section 2 of 1984 PA 343, MCL 752.362.

(c) Sexually explicit visual material as defined in section 3 of 1978 PA 33, MCL 722.673.

Sec. 4. (1) A township ordinance shall contain a provision stating when the ordinance takes effect.

(2) Except as provided in section 22 of the charter township act, 1947 PA 359, MCL 42.22, and section 11 of the township zoning act, 1943 PA 184, MCL 125.281, a township ordinance shall take effect as follows:

(a) If an ordinance imposes a sanction for the violation of the ordinance, the ordinance shall take effect 30 days after the first publication of the ordinance.

(b) If an ordinance does not impose a sanction for the violation of the ordinance, the ordinance shall take effect the day following the date of the publication of the ordinance or any date following publication specified in the ordinance.

(3) Publication of the ordinance shall be made within 30 days after the passage of the ordinance by inserting either a true copy or a summary of the ordinance once in a newspaper circulating within the township. A summary of an ordinance may be drafted by the same person who drafted the ordinance or by the township board or township zoning board and shall be written in clear and nontechnical language. Each section of an ordinance or a summary of an ordinance shall be preceded by a catch line. If a summary of an ordinance is published, the township shall designate in the publication the location in the township where a true copy of the ordinance can be inspected or obtained.

(4) If an ordinance adopts by reference a provision of any state statute for which the maximum period of imprisonment is 93 days or the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, a statement of the purpose of the statute shall be published with the adopting ordinance or with the summary of the adopting ordinance under subsection (3). Copies of the statute adopted by the township by reference shall be kept in the office of the township clerk, available for inspection by and distribution to the public. The township shall include in the publication the designation of a location in the township where a copy of the statute can be inspected or obtained. A township shall not enforce any provision adopted by reference for which the maximum period of imprisonment is greater than 93 days.

Sec. 5. (1) Within 1 week after the publication of an ordinance as provided in section 4, the township clerk shall record the ordinance in a book of ordinances kept by him or her for that purpose; record the date of the passage of the ordinance, the names of the members of the township board voting, and how each member voted; and file an attested copy of the ordinance with the county clerk. If the ordinance adopts by reference a provision of any state statute for which the maximum period of imprisonment is 93 days or the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923, the township clerk shall also file a copy of the statute with the county clerk. The township clerk shall certify under the ordinance in a blank space provided the date or dates of publication of the ordinance, the name of the newspaper in which publication was made, and the date of filing with the county clerk.

(2) The county clerk shall maintain separate files for any statute filed under subsection (1) for each township in the county. The county clerk shall make the files readily available to the public.

(3) The provisions of this section with regard to filing with the county clerk do not apply to a township that maintains a township office open to the public during regular hours on each business day.

(4) The county clerk may charge a reasonable fee for the reproduction or furnishing of a copy of an ordinance or statute filed under subsection (1).

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless all of the following bills of the 90th Legislature are enacted into law:

(a) Senate Bill No. 831.

(b) Senate Bill No. 833.

(c) Senate Bill No. 834.

(d) Senate Bill No. 855.

(e) Senate Bill No. 856.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Carol Morey Viventi

Secretary of the Senate.

Sam E. Randall

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Approved _____

Governor.