

Act No. 222
Public Acts of 2000
Approved by the Governor
June 26, 2000
Filed with the Secretary of State
June 27, 2000
EFFECTIVE DATE: September 25, 2000

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
90TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2000**

Introduced by Senators Gougeon, Hammerstrom, Rogers and McCotter

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 378

AN ACT to amend 1931 PA 328, entitled "An act to revise, consolidate, codify and add to the statutes relating to crimes; to define crimes and prescribe the penalties therefor; to provide for restitution under certain circumstances; to provide for the competency of evidence at the trial of persons accused of crime; to provide immunity from prosecution for certain witnesses appearing at such trials; and to repeal certain acts and parts of acts inconsistent with or contravening any of the provisions of this act," (MCL 750.1 to 750.568) by adding section 174a.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 174a. (1) A person in a relationship of trust with a vulnerable adult shall not through fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or unjust enrichment obtain or use or attempt to obtain or use the vulnerable adult's money or property to directly or indirectly benefit that person.

(2) If the money or property used or obtained, or attempted to be used or obtained, has a value of less than \$200.00, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than \$500.00 or 3 times the value of the money or property used or obtained or attempted to be used or obtained, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine.

(3) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 1 year or a fine of not more than \$2,000.00 or 3 times the value of the money or property used or obtained or attempted to be used or obtained, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(a) The money or property used or obtained, or attempted to be used or obtained, has a value of \$200.00 or more but less than \$1,000.00.

(b) The person violates subsection (2) and has 1 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit an offense under this section.

(4) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years or a fine of not more than \$10,000.00 or 3 times the value of the money or property used or obtained or attempted to be used or obtained, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(a) The money or property used or obtained, or attempted to be used or obtained, has a value of \$1,000.00 or more but less than \$20,000.00.

(b) The person violates subsection (3)(a) and has 1 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit an offense under this section. For purposes of this subdivision, however, a prior conviction does not include a conviction for a violation or attempted violation of subsection (2) or (3)(b).

(5) If any of the following apply, the person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 10 years or a fine of not more than \$15,000.00 or 3 times the value of the money or property used or obtained or attempted to be used or obtained, whichever is greater, or both imprisonment and a fine:

(a) The money or property used or obtained, or attempted to be used or obtained, has a value of \$20,000.00 or more.

(b) The person violates subsection (4)(a) and has 2 or more prior convictions for committing or attempting to commit an offense under this section. For purposes of this subdivision, however, a prior conviction does not include a conviction for a violation or attempted violation of subsection (2) or (3)(b).

(6) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the values of money or property used or obtained or attempted to be used or obtained in separate incidents pursuant to a scheme or course of conduct within any 12-month period may be aggregated to determine the total value of money or personal property used or obtained or attempted to be used or obtained. If the scheme or course of conduct is directed against only 1 person, no time limit applies to aggregation under this subsection.

(7) If the prosecuting attorney intends to seek an enhanced sentence based upon the defendant having 1 or more prior convictions, the prosecuting attorney shall include on the complaint and information a statement listing the prior conviction or convictions. The existence of the defendant's prior conviction or convictions shall be determined by the court, without a jury, at sentencing or at a separate hearing for that purpose before sentencing. The existence of a prior conviction may be established by any evidence relevant for that purpose, including, but not limited to, 1 or more of the following:

- (a) A copy of the judgment of conviction.
- (b) A transcript of a prior trial, plea-taking, or sentencing.
- (c) Information contained in a presentence report.
- (d) The defendant's statement.

(8) If the sentence for a conviction under this section is enhanced by 1 or more prior convictions, those prior convictions shall not be used to further enhance the sentence for the conviction under section 10, 11, or 12 of chapter IX of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 769.10, 769.11, and 769.12.

(9) A financial institution or a broker or a director, officer, employee, or agent of a financial institution or broker is not in violation of this section while performing duties in the normal course of business of a financial institution or broker or a director, officer, employee, or agent of a financial institution or broker.

(10) This section does not prohibit a person from being charged with, convicted of, or punished for any other violation of law the person commits while violating this section.

(11) As used in this section:

(a) "Broker" means that term as defined in section 8102 of the uniform commercial code, 1974 PA 1962, MCL 440.8102.

(b) "Financial institution" means a bank, credit union, saving bank, or a savings and loan chartered under state or federal law or an affiliate of a bank, credit union, saving bank, or savings and loan chartered under state or federal law.

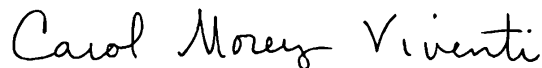
(c) "Person in a relationship of trust" means a person who is a caregiver, relative by blood, marriage, or adoption, household member, court-appointed fiduciary, or other person who is entrusted with or has assumed responsibility for the management of the vulnerable adult's money or property.

(d) "Vulnerable adult" means an individual age 18 or over who, because of age, developmental disability, mental illness, or disability, whether or not determined by a court to be an incapacitated individual in need of protection, lacks the cognitive skills required to manage his or her property.

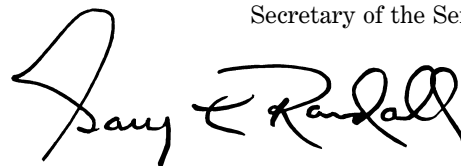
(12) If the office of services to the aging becomes aware of a violation of this section, the office of services to the aging shall promptly report the violation to the family independence agency.

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days after the date it is enacted.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Secretary of the Senate.



Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Approved

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Governor.