

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 1450**

A bill to amend 1998 PA 386, entitled  
"Estates and protected individuals code,"  
by amending section 3705 (MCL 700.3705).

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 3705. (1) Not later than 28 days after a personal  
2 representative's appointment or other time specified by court  
3 rule, the personal representative, except a special personal  
4 representative, shall give notice of the appointment to the  
5 decedent's heirs and devisees, except those who have executed a  
6 written waiver of notice, including, if there has been no formal  
7 testacy proceeding and if the personal representative is  
8 appointed on the assumption that the decedent died intestate, the  
9 devisees in a will mentioned in the application for appointment  
10 of a personal representative and to the trustee of a trust  
11 described in section 7501(1) as to which the decedent was

1 settlor. The personal representative shall give the notice by  
2 personal service or by ordinary first-class mail to each person  
3 required to receive notice under this subsection whose address is  
4 reasonably available to the personal representative. However,  
5 the personal representative is not required to notify a person  
6 who was adjudicated in a prior formal testacy proceeding to have  
7 no interest in the estate. The notice required under this  
8 ~~section~~ **subsection** must be in a form approved by the supreme  
9 court and must include all of the following information:

10 (a) That the court will not supervise the personal  
11 representative. This statement shall not be included if the  
12 appointment is made in a supervised proceeding under part 5 of  
13 this article.

14 (b) That, unless a person files a written objection to the  
15 appointment of the person named as personal representative in the  
16 notice or files a demand that bond or higher bond be posted, the  
17 person named in the notice is the personal representative without  
18 bond or with bond in the amount shown in the notice. This  
19 statement shall not be included if the personal representative is  
20 appointed in a formal appointment proceeding.

21 (c) The name and address of the person appointed as the  
22 estate's personal representative.

23 (d) That, during the course of administering the estate, the  
24 personal representative must provide all interested persons with  
25 all of the following:

26 (i) A copy of the petition for the personal representative's  
27 appointment and a copy of the will, if any, with the notice.

1           (ii) A copy of the inventory.

2           (iii) A copy of the settlement petition or of the closing  
3 statement.

4           (iv) Unless waived, a copy of the account, including, but not  
5 limited to, fiduciary fees and attorney fees charged to the  
6 estate.

7           (e) That an interested person may petition the court for a  
8 court hearing on any matter at any time during the estate's  
9 administration, including, but not limited to, distribution of  
10 assets and expenses of administration.

11          (f) That federal and Michigan estate taxes, if any, must be  
12 paid within 9 months after the date of the decedent's death or  
13 another time period specified by law, to avoid penalties.

14          (g) That, if the estate is not settled within 1 year after  
15 the personal representative's appointment, within 28 days after  
16 the anniversary of the appointment, the personal representative  
17 must file with the court and send to each interested person a  
18 notice that the estate remains under administration and must  
19 specify the reason for the continuation of settlement  
20 proceedings. If such a notice is not received, an interested  
21 person may petition the court for a hearing on the necessity for  
22 continued administration or for closure of the estate.

23          (h) The identity and location of the court where papers  
24 relating to the estate are on file.

25          (2) The personal representative's failure to give the  
26 information required by subsection (1) is a breach of the  
27 personal representative's duty to the persons concerned, but does

1 not affect the validity of the personal representative's  
2 appointment, powers, or other duties. A personal representative  
3 may inform other persons of the appointment by delivery or  
4 ordinary first-class mail.

5 (3) A personal representative shall also give notice that  
6 includes the information described in subsection (1) to the  
7 attorney general, public administration division, under any of  
8 the following circumstances:

9 (a) It appears from the petition that the decedent died  
10 intestate without leaving a known heir.

11 (b) In the administration of an intestate estate, it appears  
12 that the decedent did not leave a known heir.

13 (c) In the administration of a testate estate, it appears  
14 that devisees of the purported will would not be entitled to  
15 share in the estate but for the terms of the will and that the  
16 decedent died without leaving a known heir.

17 (4) If notice is required to be given to the attorney general  
18 under subsection (3), the attorney general, representing the  
19 state, has all the rights of an heir to be heard and to contest  
20 the validity of a claim, the appointment of a personal  
21 representative, an action of the personal representative, an  
22 order, an appointment, or an instrument purporting to be a  
23 decedent's contract or will, and has all the rights granted or  
24 accruing to an heir, representative, or creditor by a law  
25 relating to the settlement of a testate or intestate estate in  
26 court, or by way of rehearing or appeal.

27 (5) Within 28 days after the personal representative's

Senate Bill No. 1450 (S-1) as amended December 8, 2004

1 appointment or another time specified by court rule, the personal  
2 representative, except a special personal representative, shall  
3 notify the decedent's surviving spouse, if any, of the spouse's  
4 right to election under part 2 of article II and of the time  
5 within which the election must be exercised.

6       **(6) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, at the**  
7 **same time the notice required by subsection (1) is given, the**  
8 **personal representative shall give notice to the friend of the**  
9 **court for the county in which the estate is being administered,**  
10 **which notice identifies the decedent's surviving spouse and the**  
11 **individuals who are, for a testate estate, the devisees or, for**  
12 **an intestate estate, the heirs. The personal representative is**  
13 **not required to notify the friend of the court of a devise to a**  
14 **trustee of an existing trust or to a trustee under the will.**  
15 **[A] personal representative incurs no**  
16 **obligation or liability to the friend of the court or to another**  
17 **person for an error or omission made in good faith compliance**  
18 **with this subsection.**

19       Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect  
20 October 1, 2005.

21       Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take  
22 effect unless Senate Bill No. 1447 of the 92nd Legislature is  
23 enacted into law.