HOUSE BILL No. 5160

September 13, 2005, Introduced by Reps. Sheltrown, Mayes and Spade and referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

A bill to amend 1975 PA 153, entitled

"An act to require certain purchasers of fruits and vegetables to deduct and remit marketing fees if authorized by a grower-member of a cooperative marketing association; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state agencies; and to prescribe means of enforcement and penalties,"

by amending section 2 (MCL 290.692).

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 2. (1) For the purpose of enforcing this act, the
- 2 department of agriculture may receive sworn complaints with respect
- 3 to violations or threatened violations thereof- OF THIS ACT. The
- 4 director of the department of agriculture, or his OR HER authorized
- 5 representatives, shall make all necessary investigations,
- 6 examinations, or inspections of violations or threatened violations
- 7 specified in the sworn complaint filed with the department.
 - (2) —An— THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SHALL COMPLETE AN

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- 1 investigation shall be completed within 30 days after the filing
- 2 of the complaint.
- 3 (3) If, upon investigation, the director of the department of
- 4 agriculture considers there is reasonable cause to believe that a
- 5 violation of this act has occurred, the director or his OR HER
- 6 authorized representative shall, within 75 days after the filing of
- 7 the complaint, -hold PROVIDE NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR a hearing
- 8 in accordance with Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, as
- 9 amended, being sections 24.201 to 24.315 of the Michigan Compiled
- 10 Laws UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT OF 1969, 1969 PA 306,
- 11 MCL 24.201 TO 24.328, to determine whether a purchaser has failed
- 12 to comply with this act.
- 13 (4) A hearing officer designated by the director of the
- 14 department of agriculture STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
- 15 AND RULES shall preside at the hearing —, and may administer oaths
- 16 AND require the attendance of witnesses and the production
- 17 of such books, papers, contracts, agreements, and documents as -may
- 18 be deemed ARE CONSIDERED material to a just determination of the
- 19 issues in dispute, and for that purpose may issue subpoenas. If a
- 20 person refuses to obey a subpoena —, or refuses to be sworn or to
- 21 testify —, or if a witness, party, or attorney is guilty of
- 22 contempt while in attendance at a hearing, the hearing officer may,
- 23 or the attorney general if requested shall, invoke the aid of the
- 24 circuit court within the jurisdiction in which the hearing is being
- 25 held which shall TO issue an appropriate order. Failure to obey
- 26 the order may be punished by the court as contempt.
- 27 (5) The department shall promulgate rules pursuant to Act No.

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1 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, as amended, to implement this act.