

Legislative Analysis



GREEN CHEMISTRY

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House Bills 4817

Sponsor: Rep. Ellen Cogen Lipton

House Bill 4818

Sponsor: Rep. Deb Kennedy

House Bill 4819

Sponsor: Rep. Dan Scripps

Committee: New Economy and Quality of Life

Complete to 5-8-09

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILLS 4817-4819 AS INTRODUCED 4-21-09

The bills would amend statutes dealing with state economic development programs focusing on high technology and on new and developing energy sectors in order to make enterprises engaged in the development of "green chemistry" eligible for grants, tax credits, and other benefits that are available to participants in the programs.

The term "green chemistry" would refer to *the design of chemical products or processes that reduce or eliminate the manufacture, use, or generation of hazardous substances, while producing high-quality products, and includes the development of safer bio-based chemical and materials.* The definition says that green chemistry is guided by the 12 principles of green chemistry used by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

House Bills 4817 and 4819 both amend the Michigan Strategic Fund Act. House Bill 4817 would place the definition of "green chemistry" in the act; would include the development of green chemistry in the definition of "competitive edge technology"; and would include a person engaged the development of green chemistry under the definition of "research and development enterprise."

House Bill 4819 would amend a section of the MSF Act creating the Centers of Energy Excellence Program, which aims to promote the development, acceleration, and sustainability of new and developing sectors in the energy field. The bill would include the development of green chemistry within the definition of "energy field" for the purposes of this program. The program makes state grants available to companies as part of the Michigan 21st Century Jobs Fund Initiative.

House Bill 4818 would amend the Michigan Economic Growth Authority Act to include "green chemistry" under the definition of high-technology activity for the purpose of receiving MEGA tax credits against the Michigan Business Tax.

FISCAL IMPACT:

A fiscal analysis is in process.

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