SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 4349

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code,"

by amending section 7524 (MCL 333.7524), as amended by 2006 PA 558.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 7524. (1) When property is forfeited under this article,
- 2 the local unit of government that seized the property may do any of
- 3 the following, or if the property is seized by or in the custody of
- 4 the state, the state may do any of the following, subject to
- 5 section 7523(1)(d):
- 6 (a) Retain it for official use.
- 7 (b) Sell that which is not required to be destroyed by law and
- 8 which is not harmful to the public. The proceeds and any money,
- 9 negotiable instruments, securities, or any other thing of value as

- 1 described in section 7521(1)(f) that are forfeited pursuant to
- 2 UNDER this article shall be deposited with the treasurer of the
- 3 entity having budgetary authority over the seizing agency and
- 4 applied as follows:
- 5 (i) For the payment of proper expenses of the proceedings for
- 6 forfeiture and sale, including expenses incurred during the seizure
- 7 process, maintenance of custody, advertising, and court costs,
- 8 except as otherwise provided in subsection (4).
- 9 (ii) The balance remaining after the payment of expenses shall
- 10 be distributed by the court having jurisdiction over the forfeiture
- 11 proceedings to the treasurer of the entity having budgetary
- 12 authority over the seizing agency. If more than 1 agency was
- 13 substantially involved in effecting the forfeiture, the court
- 14 having jurisdiction over the forfeiture proceeding shall equitably
- 15 distribute the money among the treasurers of the entities having
- 16 budgetary authority over the seizing agencies. A seizing agency may
- 17 direct that the funds or a portion of the funds it would otherwise
- 18 have received under this subsection be paid to nonprofit
- 19 organizations whose primary activity is to assist law enforcement
- 20 agencies with drug-related criminal investigations and obtaining
- 21 information for solving crimes. The money received by a seizing
- 22 agency under this subparagraph and all interest and other earnings
- 23 on money received by the seizing agency under this subparagraph
- 24 shall be used to enhance ONLY FOR law enforcement efforts
- 25 pertaining to this article PURPOSES, as appropriated by the entity
- 26 having budgetary authority over the seizing agency. A distribution
- 27 made under this subparagraph shall serve as a supplement to, and

- 1 not a replacement for, the funds OTHERWISE budgeted on January 1,
- 2 1991, for law enforcement efforts pertaining to this article
- 3 PURPOSES.
- 4 (c) Require the administrator to take custody of the property
- 5 and remove it for disposition in accordance with law.
- 6 (d) Forward it to the bureau for disposition.
- 7 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), this state or local units
- 8 of government may donate lights for plant growth or scales
- 9 forfeited under this article to elementary or secondary schools or
- 10 institutions of higher education that request in writing to receive
- 11 those lights or scales pursuant to this subsection, for educational
- 12 purposes. This state or local units of government shall donate
- 13 lights and scales pursuant to UNDER this subsection to elementary
- 14 or secondary schools or institutions of higher education in the
- 15 order in which the written requests are received. This state or
- 16 local units of government may limit the number of lights and scales
- 17 available to each requestor.
- 18 (3) In the course of selling real property pursuant to UNDER
- 19 subsection (1)(b), the court that has entered an order of
- 20 forfeiture may, on motion of the agency to whom the property has
- 21 been forfeited, appoint a receiver to dispose of the real property
- 22 forfeited. The receiver shall be entitled to reasonable
- 23 compensation. The receiver shall have authority to do all of the
- 24 following:
- 25 (a) List the forfeited real property for sale.
- 26 (b) Make whatever arrangements are necessary for the
- 27 maintenance and preservation of the forfeited real property.

- 1 (c) Accept offers to purchase the forfeited real property.
- 2 (d) Execute instruments transferring title to the forfeited3 real property.
- 4 (4) If a court enters an order of forfeiture, the court may
- 5 order a person who claimed an interest in the forfeited property
- 6 pursuant to UNDER section 7523(1)(c) to pay the expenses of the
- 7 proceedings of forfeiture to the entity having budgetary authority
- 8 over the seizing agency.