

Legislative Analysis



HEALTH FACILITIES: LIFEGUARD REVISIONS

Mary Ann Cleary, Director
Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 5247

Sponsor: Rep. Aric Nesbitt

Committee: Health Policy

Complete to 5-5-14

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5247 AS INTRODUCED 1-23-14

The bill would amend the Public Health Code (MCL 333.12522) so that a health and wellness center owned or operated by a community hospital authority would not have to have a lifeguard on duty for its pool under certain conditions.

Currently, Department of Environmental Quality rules require that certain pools have a lifeguard on duty when the pool is open to the public. The bill would specify that until December 31, 2018, the lifeguard rules would not apply to a pool that meets all of the following requirements:

- Is located in a health and wellness center owned or operated by a community hospital authority as authorized under Public Act 47 of 1945 (as described below).
- The total pool water surface within the swimming pool enclosure is 2,400 square feet or less.
- The pool does not have a diving board.

(Under Public Act 47 of 1945, two or more cities, villages, or townships, or a combination of those local units, with voter approval, may join to form a hospital authority and issue bonds and levy taxes in order to establish and operate one or more community hospitals and related facilities. The types of facilities considered "community hospitals and related facilities" are specified in the act. Recently, there has been a trend for hospitals to open medically-based health and wellness centers and/or medically-based fitness centers. Such centers offer a range of medically-based services, such as outpatient physical therapy and exercise and/or rehabilitation programs. For the rules pertaining to lifeguards for public pools, see the Michigan Administration Code, R 325.2198 et.al.)

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 5247 would have no significant fiscal impact on the Department of Environmental Quality.

Legislative Analyst: Susan Stutzky

Fiscal Analyst: Viola Bay Wild

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.