

# HOUSE BILL No. 5719

July 30, 2014, Introduced by Reps. McBroom, Crawford, Johnson and Daley and referred to the Committee on Tourism.

A bill to provide for the official designation of the Michigan state fair; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state agencies and officials; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
2 "Michigan state fair act".

3       Sec. 2. As used in this act:

4       (a) "Commission" means the commission of agriculture and rural  
5 development.

6       (b) "Department" means the department of agriculture and rural  
7 development.

8       (c) "Michigan State Fair" means the official Michigan State  
9 Fair as designated by the commission under section 3.

10       (d) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation,

1 association, governmental entity, or other legal entity.

2       Sec. 3. (1) Beginning in 2015, the commission, upon  
3 application, may designate a fair to be known and promoted as the  
4 official "Michigan State Fair".

5       (2) A person that wishes to apply for a fair organized by that  
6 person to be designated as the Michigan State Fair may submit an  
7 application to the commission containing information required by  
8 the commission.

9       (3) The commission shall only make a designation as the  
10 Michigan State Fair under this act if the commission determines all  
11 of the following:

12       (a) That the fair will be open to participants from around the  
13 world and provide exhibits related to agriculture, commerce, and  
14 industry.

15       (b) That the fair will include a junior show that is open to  
16 all youth from this state.

17       (c) That the fair will showcase agriculture, commerce, and  
18 industry throughout this state.

19       (d) That the fair will promote educational exhibits related to  
20 agriculture, commerce, and industry in this state.

21       (e) That the fair will promote and highlight youth from rural  
22 and farm communities by providing them opportunities to demonstrate  
23 farming skills and will encourage youth to consider careers in  
24 farming and agriculture.

25       (f) That the applicant has operated a statewide fair for at  
26 least 2 years prior to submitting an application under subsection  
27 (2).

1           (4) In addition to the items listed in subsection (3), the  
2 Michigan State Fair may include exhibitions that showcase  
3 opportunities for expanding agriculture in this state, such as  
4 urban agriculture.

5           (5) Following the designation of the Michigan State Fair, the  
6 person organizing the Michigan State Fair may use the name Michigan  
7 State Fair in its promotions of the fair.

8           (6) The designation under this act of the Michigan State Fair  
9 is not transferable to another person or venue.

10          (7) A person that is authorized under this act to hold the  
11 Michigan State Fair shall annually make a presentation to the  
12 commission at a regularly scheduled meeting of the commission on  
13 the operations of the Michigan State Fair and the fair's efforts to  
14 promote agriculture in this state.

15          (8) A person that is authorized under this act to hold the  
16 Michigan State Fair shall notify the commission if it no longer  
17 intends to hold the Michigan State Fair.

18          Sec. 4. If the commission determines that a person authorized  
19 to hold the Michigan State Fair is not in compliance with this act  
20 and the person is not able to bring the fair into compliance within  
21 a 2-year time period, the commission may revoke the designation as  
22 the Michigan State Fair and may accept new applications to  
23 designate another fair as the Michigan State Fair.

24          Sec. 5. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), unless a  
25 fair is designated as the Michigan State Fair under this act, a  
26 person shall not designate or promote a fair, exhibition,  
27 convention, or other event as a "Michigan State Fair", a "state

1 fair" for this state, or any other similar description.

2 (2) This section does not prohibit a person who, on the  
3 effective date of this act, is legally authorized to utilize a name  
4 described in subsection (1) from continuing to use that name.

5 Sec. 6. The department shall assist the commission in carrying  
6 out its responsibilities under this act.

7 Sec. 7. This act does not apply to or affect the operation of  
8 the Upper Peninsula state fair as authorized under 1927 PA 89, MCL  
9 285.141 to 285.146.

10 Enacting section 1. The Michigan exposition and fairgrounds  
11 authority act, 1978 PA 361, MCL 285.161 to 285.175b, is repealed.