

Legislative Analysis



TOWNSHIP CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS

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<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4563 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Eric Leutheuser
Committee: Local Government
Complete to 6-2-15

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4563 would allow township officials to enter into contracts that enable the provision of services to the victims of domestic assault. The bill would amend Revised Statute 16 of 1846 (MCL 41.110c), which concerns the powers and duties of townships, and would take effect 90 days after enactment. A more detailed description of the bill follows.

Section 110c of the act specifically authorizes a township board to appropriate money or spend funds for all of the following purposes:

- to advertise the agricultural, industrial, commercial, educational, or recreational advantages of the state, county, or township;
- to collect and maintain an exhibition (either domestic or foreign) of the products and industries of the township, to encourage immigration and increase trade;
- to advertise Michigan (all or in part) to tourists and 'resorters'; and
- to maintain and circulate a publication that disseminates information concerning township improvements, activities, and functions.

House Bill 4563 would retain these four provisions, and authorize a fifth purpose for the expenditure of funds. Specifically, under the bill, a township could enter into a contract for services to victims of domestic violence with any private, nonprofit corporation or organization that provided domestic violence services, including, but not limited to, one or more of the following:

- safe emergency shelter
- a 24-hour crisis hotline
- supportive counseling
- case management
- legal advocacy.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill is permissive; any increased spending by a township resulting from this bill would be at the discretion of a township board.

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