

Legislative Analysis



EXPERT WITNESS TESTIMONY IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASE

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 5808 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Peter J. Lucido
Committee: Criminal Justice
Complete to 9-16-16

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

SUMMARY:

The bill will allow expert witness testimony regarding behavioral patterns of a victim of human trafficking to be admissible as evidence in a criminal case.

Specifically, House Bill 5808 would amend the Michigan Penal Code, Chapter LXVIIA (Human Trafficking), to allow expert testimony as to the behavioral patterns of human trafficking victims and the manner in which a human trafficking victim's behavior may deviate from societal expectations to be admissible in court in a prosecution. This would apply only if the expert testimony is otherwise admissible under the Michigan Rules of Evidence and state laws.

The bill will take effect 90 days after enactment.

MCL 750.462g

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state or on local units of government.

Legislative Analyst: Susan Stutzky
Fiscal Analyst: Robin Risko

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