

# SENATE BILL No. 692

January 13, 2016, Introduced by Senators ZORN, O'BRIEN, KNOLLENBERG, WARREN, GREGORY, JOHNSON, HERTEL, BIEDA, HOOD, KNEZEK, HUNE, SMITH, SCHUITMAKER, PAVLOV, BOOHER and EMMONS and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

A bill to amend 1974 PA 258, entitled  
"Mental health code,"  
by amending section 939 (MCL 330.1939), as amended by 1990 PA 263.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Sec. 939. (1) The state mental health advisory council on  
2       deafness is created in the department as a successor to the mental  
3       health advisory council on the deaf, **DEAFBLIND**, and **HARD OF**  
4       hearing. ~~impaired.~~ The council shall consist of 12 members  
5       appointed by the governor. At least 4 members shall be deaf persons  
6       as defined in section 2 of ~~Act No. 204 of the Public Acts of 1982,~~  
7       ~~being section 393.502 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.~~ **THE DEAF**  
8       **PERSONS' INTERPRETERS ACT, 1982 PA 204, MCL 393.502.** The remaining  
9       members shall be persons knowledgeable in the area of deafness,  
10      mental health, or both. The members shall be appointed for 2-year

1 terms beginning on April 1, except that in the first year, 6  
2 members shall be appointed for a 1-year term, and 6 members shall  
3 be appointed for a 2-year term. A vacancy on the council shall be  
4 filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the same manner as  
5 the original appointment.

6 (2) The state mental health advisory council on deafness shall  
7 advise and assist the director of the department on mental health  
8 services, policies, and programs for the deaf, **DEAFBLIND**, and **HARD**  
9 **OF** hearing. ~~impaired.~~ The council ~~shall be~~ **IS** responsible for all  
10 of the following:

11 (a) Identifying and assessing current needs of deaf,  
12 **DEAFBLIND**, and **HARD OF** hearing ~~impaired~~ persons with mental health  
13 problems.

14 (b) Monitoring mental health program delivery to deaf,  
15 **DEAFBLIND**, and **HARD OF** hearing ~~impaired~~ persons.

16 (c) Recommending programs, policy development, and training  
17 that shall ensure quality service delivery of specialized mental  
18 health services to meet the needs of deaf, **DEAFBLIND**, and **HARD OF**  
19 hearing ~~impaired~~ persons.

20 (3) The state mental health advisory council on deafness shall  
21 report its findings and recommendations at least annually to the  
22 department, citizens mental health advisory council, the governor,  
23 and the house and senate appropriations committees.

24 (4) The members of the state mental health advisory council on  
25 deafness shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed  
26 for actual and necessary expenses by the department.

27 (5) The first meeting each year of the state mental health

1 advisory council on deafness shall be called by a majority of the  
2 members at which time a chairperson shall be elected. The council  
3 shall meet at least 4 times a year and at the call of the  
4 chairperson.

5 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days  
6 after the date it is enacted into law.