

# Legislative Analysis

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## **FOIA EXEMPTION FOR ANONYMOUS PARTY IN CERTAIN CIVIL ACTIONS**

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

**House Bill 5797 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Kristy Pagan**  
**Committee: Law and Justice**  
**Complete to 4-24-18**

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

### **SUMMARY:**

House Bill 5797 would amend the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to exempt disclosure of information that would reveal the identity of an anonymous party in certain civil actions.

Michigan's FOIA statute, Public Act 442 of 1976, establishes procedures and requirements for the disclosure of public records by all public bodies in the state. There are two classes of public records: those subject to disclosure and those exempt from disclosure. Generally, all records are subject to disclosure unless specifically exempted.

The bill would create an exemption from disclosure for any information that would reveal the identity of a party who proceeds anonymously in a civil action in which that party alleges that he or she was the victim of sexual misconduct.

MCL 15.243

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

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

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