

# Legislative Analysis



## RISK LEVELS FOR CONTRACTING CORONAVIRUS

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

**House Bill 4318 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Bronna Kahle**  
**Committee: Health Policy**  
**Complete to 2-23-21**

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

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 4318 would amend the Public Health Code to require the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to establish specified risk levels for counties and regions in the state, based on coronavirus test positivity rates in each area.

Under the bill, DHHS would have to establish, or work with a third party to implement, a website containing information on coronavirus in Michigan. The website would have to assign a risk level of low, A, B, C, D, or E to each county and each *region* in the state, with a risk level of low indicating that a person in that county or region is at the lowest risk of contracting coronavirus and a risk level of E indicating the highest risk. The risk levels would be assigned as follows:

Test positivity rate in the county or region	Risk level
Less than 3%	Low
3-7%	A
7-10%	B
10-15%	C
15-20%	D
Greater than 20%	E

These test positivity rates would have to be calculated daily for each county and region by dividing the number of positive test results for that area on that day by the total number of tests performed for that area on that day.

*Region* would mean the Michigan Economic Recovery Council reporting regions identified in the “MI Safe Start: A Plan to Re-Engage Michigan’s Economy,” a publication dated May 7, 2020.<sup>1</sup>

Additionally, 2020 PA 231 required DHHS to provide, among other things, a statewide visitation policy for nursing homes.<sup>2</sup> The bill would require DHHS to use only the risk levels described above when making any updates to the visitation policy in counties and regions in Michigan.

MCL 333.5145

<sup>1</sup> [MI SAFE START PLAN 689875 7.pdf \(michigan.gov\)](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/MI_SAFE_START_PLAN_689875_7.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2019-2020/billanalysis/House/pdf/2019-HLA-1094-AB1D4141.pdf>

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

House Bill 4318 would have cost implications for DHHS to establish a website of coronavirus risk mapping by county and region, to be updated daily based on the most recent day's coronavirus tests and percentage of positive tests. DHHS currently has an established coronavirus information website that is supporting this data as MI Safe Start Map.<sup>3</sup> It is not currently known what the cost for this daily data tracking and public website is or the source of funding. Some of these costs may be supported by ongoing or coronavirus epidemiology and surveillance appropriations of DHHS and possibly by federal funds received by the state for costs related to coronavirus response.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.mistartmap.info/>