

# HOUSE BILL NO. 5781

June 05, 2024, Introduced by Reps. MacDonell, Young, Paiz, Rheingans, Hill, Coffia, Brixie and Hood and referred to the Committee on Families, Children and Seniors.

A bill to amend 2015 PA 160, entitled  
"Michigan achieving a better life experience (ABLE) program act,"  
by amending section 2 (MCL 206.982).

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

- 1       Sec. 2. As used in this act:
- 2       (a) "ABLE" means achieving a better life experience.
- 3       (b) "ABLE savings account" or "account" means an account
- 4       established under this act.
- 5       (c) "Account owner" means an individual who is a resident of
- 6       this state, or a resident of a contracting state, and who enters

1 into a Michigan ABLE savings program agreement and establishes an  
2 ABLE savings account. The account owner shall be the designated  
3 beneficiary of the account unless the designated beneficiary is a  
4 minor or lacks capacity to enter into an agreement, in which case a  
5 designated representative may open an account on behalf of the  
6 minor or incapacitated individual and serve as the account owner.

7 (d) "Contracting state" means a state without a qualified ABLE  
8 program that has entered into a contract with this state to provide  
9 its residents access to the Michigan ABLE program.

10 (e) "Department" means the department of treasury.

11 (f) "Designated beneficiary" means an eligible individual  
12 designated as the individual whose qualified disability expenses  
13 are expected to be paid from the account. The designated  
14 beneficiary must be an eligible individual at the time the account  
15 is established. The designated beneficiary shall be the account  
16 owner unless ~~he or she~~ **that eligible individual** is a minor or lacks  
17 capacity to enter into an agreement. The account owner may change  
18 the designated beneficiary as provided in this act.

19 (g) "Designated representative" means an individual who is  
20 authorized to act on behalf of the designated beneficiary if the  
21 designated beneficiary is a minor or has a guardian, conservator,  
22 or other fiduciary who has been appointed for purposes of managing  
23 that designated beneficiary's financial affairs.

24 (h) "Disability certification" means that term as defined in  
25 section 529A of the internal revenue code.

26 (i) "Eligible individual" means that term as defined in  
27 section 529A of the internal revenue code.

28 (j) "Internal revenue code" means the United States internal  
29 revenue code of 1986 in effect on January 1, ~~2015~~ **2024** or at the

1 option of the taxpayer, in effect for the current year.

2 (k) "Management contract" means the contract executed between  
3 the treasurer and a program manager.

4 (l) "Member of the family" means a family member as defined in  
5 section 529A of the internal revenue code.

6 (m) "Michigan ABLE savings program agreement" means the  
7 agreement between the program and an account owner that establishes  
8 an ABLE savings account.

9 (n) "Program" means the Michigan ABLE savings program  
10 established pursuant to this act.

11 (o) "Program manager" means 1 or more entities selected by the  
12 treasurer to act as a manager of the program.

13 (p) "Qualified disability expenses" means that term as defined  
14 in section 529A of the internal revenue code.

15 (q) "Qualified withdrawal" means a distribution that is not  
16 subject to a penalty or an excise tax under section 529A of the  
17 internal revenue code or taxation under the income tax act of 1967,  
18 1967 PA 281, MCL 206.1 to ~~206.713~~, **206.847**, and that meets any of  
19 the following:

20 (i) A withdrawal from an account to pay the qualified  
21 disability expenses of the designated beneficiary incurred after  
22 the account is established.

23 (ii) A withdrawal made as the result of the death or disability  
24 of the designated beneficiary of an account.

25 (iii) A transfer of funds due to the termination of the  
26 management contract as provided in section 5.

27 (iv) A transfer of funds as provided in section 8.

28 (r) "Savings plan" or "plan" means a plan that provides  
29 different investment strategies and allows account distributions

- 1 for qualified disability expenses.
- 2 (s) "Treasurer" means the state treasurer.