SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 431

A bill to amend 2006 PA 110, entitled "Michigan zoning enabling act,"

by amending the title and section 205 (MCL 125.3205), section 205 as amended by 2018 PA 366.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

TITLE

An act to codify the laws regarding local units of government regulating the development and use of land; to provide for the adoption of zoning ordinances; to provide for the establishment in counties, townships, cities, and villages of zoning districts; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state and local agencies and officials; to provide for the assessment and collection of fees; to authorize the issuance of bonds and notes; to prescribe





1 penalties and provide remedies; and to repeal acts and parts of 2 acts.

3 Sec. 205. (1) A zoning ordinance is subject to all of the4 following:

5 (a) The electric transmission line certification act, 1995 PA
6 30, MCL 460.561 to 460.575.

7 (b) The regional transit authority act, 2012 PA 387, MCL
8 124.541 to 124.558.

9 (c) The small wireless communications facilities deployment
10 act, 2018 PA 365, MCL 460.1301 to 460.1339.

(2) A county or township shall not regulate or control the drilling, completion, or operation of oil or gas wells or other wells drilled for oil or gas exploration purposes and shall does not have jurisdiction with reference to the issuance of permits for the location, drilling, completion, operation, or abandonment of such wells.

17 (3) An ordinance A local unit of government shall not, by 18 ordinance or otherwise, prevent, prohibit, or deny a permit, 19 approval, or other authorization for the extraction, by mining, of 20 valuable natural resources from any property unless very by a 21 person with property, possessory, or contractual rights to do so if 22 all the following requirements are met:

(a) The natural resources are valuable. For the purposes of
this section, natural resources are valuable if a person, by
extracting the natural resources, can receive revenue and
reasonably expect to operate at a profit.

27 (b) Very serious consequences would not result from the
28 extraction of those the natural resources. Natural resources shall
29 be considered valuable for the purposes of this section if a



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person, by extracting the natural resources, can receive revenue and reasonably expect to operate at a profit.

(4) A person challenging a zoning decision under subsection 3 (3) has the initial burden of showing that there are valuable 4 5 natural resources located on the relevant property, that there is a 6 need for the natural resources by the person or in the market 7 served by the person, and that no very serious consequences would 8 result from the extraction, by mining, of the natural resources. 9 (5) In determining under this section whether very serious 10 consequences would result from the extraction, by mining, of natural resources, the standards set forth in Silva v Ada Township, 11 416 Mich 153 (1982), shall be applied and all of the following 12 13 factors may be considered, if applicable: This state has a paramount 14 public interest in the conservation and development of this state's 15 valuable natural resources. Whether very serious consequences would result from the extraction, by mining, of natural resources shall 16 17 be considered in light of this paramount state interest. Subject to subsections (4) and (5), for purposes of this section, a 18 19 consequence is very serious if it substantially exceeds the 20 ordinary impacts of customary mining operations and poses an actual 21 and unnecessary risk to public health, safety, or welfare that 22 cannot be avoided or ameliorated through the imposition of 23 reasonable controls or conditions on the mining operations.

(c) If the local unit of government requires reclamation under
this section, the person seeking to extract natural resources
provides financial assurance that meets the requirements of
subsection (6) to ensure the reclamation of the property.

(4) It shall be found that very serious consequences would notresult from the extraction of natural resources by mining if the



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1 person seeking to extract the natural resources submits to a local 2 unit of government a plan for the proposed extraction that includes 3 all of the following:

4 (a) A general description of the materials, methods, and 5 techniques that will be utilized for the mining operations.

6 (b) A site plan showing the location of buildings, equipment,
7 stockpiles, roads, berms, or other features necessary to the mining
8 operations and demonstrating all of the following:

9 (*i*) A setback of the mining area from the nearest public 10 roadway or adjoining property line of not less than 50 feet.

(*ii*) All of the following setbacks of equipment used for
screening and crushing:

13 (A) Not less than 200 feet from the nearest public roadway.

14 (B) Not less than 300 feet from the nearest adjoining property15 line.

16 (C) Not less than 400 feet from the nearest residential
17 dwelling occupied on adjacent property as of the date of submittal
18 of the plan for extraction.

(c) A description of the proposed haul routes to be used to
transport natural resources from the mining area to a primary road,
other than for local deliveries.

(d) Signs to be maintained on the boundaries of the mining
area, facing outward, spaced every 100 feet or closer, and stating
"NO TRESPASSING-MINING AREA".

(e) Stockpiles, other than screening berms, not exceeding the
higher of 70 feet above ground surface at the location of the
stockpile or 35 feet higher than the elevation of the adjoining
property at the nearest property line.

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(f) Berming or other screening of the active mining area from



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1 an occupied residence on an adjoining property to the extent 2 reasonably practicable. The screening may be accomplished using 3 overburden to the extent available to construct berms of up to 6 4 feet in height along adjoining property lines or by other means 5 requested by the applicant. The local unit of government may 6 require berms visible to the public to be landscaped with grass or 7 trees to the extent reasonably practicable.

8 (g) A description of processing activities that may include, 9 but are not limited to, washing, screening, crushing, and blending 10 of stone, sand, gravel, and other materials, including recycled 11 materials and other materials obtained from off site.

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(h) A general description of the natural resources deposit.

13 (i) The sequence of mining, including proposed phasing, if14 applicable.

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(j) Surface overburden removal plans.

16 (k) A description of the depth from grade level from which the17 natural resources will be removed.

18 The local unit of government shall post the information under 19 subdivisions (a) and (b) on its website or make it publicly 20 available by other means.

21 (5) As an alternative to proceeding under subsection (4), the 22 person seeking to extract natural resources by mining may proceed 23 under this subsection. It shall be found that very serious 24 consequences would not result from the extraction of natural 25 resources by mining if the person seeking to extract natural 26 resources demonstrates that very serious consequences would not 27 result from the extraction of the natural resources by mining, 28 considering the following factors, as applicable:

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(a) The relationship of extraction and associated activities



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1 with existing land uses.

2 (b) The impact on existing land uses in the vicinity of the3 property.

4 (c) The impact on property values in the vicinity of the
5 property and along the proposed hauling route serving the property,
6 based on credible evidence.

7 (d) The impact on pedestrian and traffic safety in the
8 vicinity of the property and along the proposed hauling route
9 serving the property.

10 (e) The impact on other identifiable health, safety, and11 welfare interests in the local unit of government.

12 (f) The overall public interest in the extraction of the 13 specific natural resources on the property.

14 (6) Financial assurance required under subsection (3)(c) shall 15 be in a form approved by the local unit of government. The financial assurance shall consist of a performance bond, surety, 16 escrow, cash, certificate of deposit, irrevocable letter of credit, 17 18 or other equivalent security, or any combination thereof. Alternately, the local unit of government may accept a statement of 19 20 financial responsibility demonstrating that the applicant has 21 sufficient financial resources to satisfy the reclamation 22 requirements. The amount of financial assurance required shall not 23 exceed \$3,000.00 per acre disturbed but not yet reclaimed, 24 excluding roadways, plant sites, stockpile areas, and open water 25 areas that will remain open water after completion of reclamation. 26 The amount of financial assurance shall be adjusted annually as 27 necessary because of changes in the number of acres as described in 28 this subsection. Subject to the \$3,000.00 per acre limit, the local 29 unit of government may also require financial assurance to be



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adjusted to reflect substantial change to the existing reclamation plan. The financial assurance shall be maintained until reclamation of the property is completed. Failure of an operator to maintain financial assurance under this subsection constitutes grounds for the local unit of government to order immediate suspension of activities.

7 (7) An application to extract natural resources by mining 8 shall be considered to be administratively complete effective 60 9 days after it is received by the local unit of government unless 10 the local unit of government notifies the applicant, in writing, 11 before the expiration of the 60-day period that the application is 12 not administratively complete. The notification shall specify the 13 additional information necessary to make the application 14 administratively complete. If the local unit of government notifies 15 the applicant as provided in this subsection, the 60-day period is tolled until the applicant submits to the local unit of government 16 the additional information. However, if the applicant fails to 17 18 submit the additional information within 60 days after being 19 notified under this subsection, the application is void, and the 20 applicant may submit a new application. An application under 21 subsection (4) is administratively complete if it includes the 22 information required under subsections (3) (c), (4), and (11).

(8) An application to extract natural resources by mining that contains the information required under this act is considered approved if the applicant proceeds under subsection (4) and the local unit of government does not make a final decision regarding the application within 210 days after receipt of an administratively complete application. However, the applicant may agree in writing to extend the 210-day period.



1 (9) If a person challenges in court a zoning decision or 2 ordinance that prevents, prohibits, or denies an applicant a permit 3 or other authorization to extract natural resources by mining, the 4 judicial proceedings and the review of the zoning decision or 5 ordinance shall be de novo.

6 (10) (6) Subsections (3) to (5) (6) do not limit a local unit 7 of government's reasonable regulation of hours of operation, 8 blasting hours, noise levels, dust control measures, and traffic, 9 not preempted by part 632 of the natural resources and 10 environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.63201 to 11 324.63223. However, such regulation shall be reasonable in accommodating customary mining operations -and shall not be more 12 13 restrictive than the following:

(a) For dust control, dust shall not exceed the standards
required pursuant to any applicable general or individual air
permit issued pursuant to part 55 of the natural resources and
environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.5501 to
324.5542, or federal law.

(b) For noise levels, the 8-hour time-weighted average sound pressure level in decibels measured at the common property line nearest to the active mining area on a sound level meter using the A-weighting network shall not exceed the greater of the following:

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(i) 20 DB(A) above background levels.

24 (*ii*) The following levels for adjacent property:

25 (A) For residentially zoned property: 75 A-weighted decibels.

26 (B) For commercially zoned property: 85 A-weighted decibels.

27 (C) For industrial and all other zoning classifications: 90 A-28 weighted decibels.

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(c) For ground vibration, all stationary machinery and



equipment shall be mounted and operated to prevent transmission of ground vibration exceeding a displacement of 0.10 inches measured anywhere outside of the property line. Blasting activity shall not create any of the following at any residential building:

5 (*i*) Ground vibration in excess of that set forth in United 6 States Bureau of Mines Reports, RI 8507, Figure B-1 "Safe levels of 7 blasting vibrations for houses using a combination of velocity and 8 displacement".

9 (*ii*) Air blast in excess of 133 decibels at any residential 10 dwelling.

11 (d) For truck loading hours, customer truck loading shall be 12 permitted from at least 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., local time, Monday 13 through Friday and from at least 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., local time, on 14 Saturday, or as otherwise specifically required by state or county 15 contract. These limitations only apply to the loading of trucks or 16 trailers for over-the-road transportation and do not apply to the 17 loading or unloading of railroad cars or ships, which shall be 18 permitted at any time.

(11) The local unit of government exercising zoning authority may require as a condition of a permit that the permittee submit plans for reclamation of the mining area that provide for all of the following:

(a) Grading, revegetating, and stabilization that will
minimize, to the extent practicable, soil erosion, sedimentation,
noise, off-site migration of dust, and public safety concerns,
subject to the limitations in subsection (10).

(b) Reclaiming slopes of the banks of the excavation to not
exceed 1 foot vertical to 3 feet horizontal measured from the
nearest setback line into any area disturbed by mining operations.



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1 (c) Where open water with a maximum depth in excess of 5 feet 2 will result from mining operations, reclaiming slopes into the 3 water to not exceed 1 foot vertical to 5 feet horizontal maintained 4 and extended into the water to a depth of 5 feet.

5 (d) A statement that the applicant will comply with subsection6 (12).

7 (12) Once initiated, the final reclamation measures shall be 8 performed as stated in the reclamation plan unless the exploration 9 or the mining unit is reactivated. Reclamation shall be initiated 10 within the shorter of the following periods:

11 (a) The period required by applicable federal law.

(b) One year after cessation of mining operations, or a longer
period if approved by the local unit of government based on any of
the following factors:

15 (i) The presence of additional quantities of the natural16 resource that was being mined or other commodities in commerce.

17 (*ii*) Historical fluctuations in the value of the natural
18 resource being mined or other commodities present that can be mined
19 under the same permit.

20 (*iii*) The design life of any process components existing at the21 mining unit.

(13) Both of the following apply to a permit or other
authorization issued by a local unit of government to extract
natural resources by mining:

(a) It is valid until mining operations, includingreclamation, are completed.

(b) It does not amend the underlying zoning or the masterplan.

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(14) The local unit of government may, after providing the



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mining operator an opportunity for a hearing, suspend a permit,
 approval, or other authorization for the extraction, by mining, of
 natural resources if either of the following apply:

4 (a) The mining operator does not comply with a plan submitted
5 under subsection (4). The local unit of government shall lift the
6 suspension when the mining operator complies with the plan.

7 (b) The mining operator proceeded under subsection (5) and 8 very serious consequences have resulted from the extraction of 9 natural resources by mining as determined based on the factors 10 listed in subsection (5). The local unit of government shall lift 11 the suspension when very serious consequences will no longer result 12 as determined based on the factors listed in subsection (5).

13 (15) The 2020 amendatory act that added this subsection14 applies to the following:

(a) All requests for the extraction of natural resources by
mining submitted on or after the effective date of that amendatory
act. Subsection (3) (c) also applies to all requests for the
extraction of natural resources by mining pending on the effective
date of that amendatory act.

(b) All requests for the extraction of natural resources by mining pending on the effective date of that amendatory act or with respect to which all administrative and judicial actions have not been exhausted.

(16) This section does not apply to ferrous mineral operators
regulated under part 631 of the natural resources and environmental
protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.63101 to 324.63110.

(17) This act does not alter or limit the preemptive effect of
part 632 of the natural resources and environmental protection act,
1994 PA 451, MCL 324.63201 to 324.63223, as it relates to the



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regulation of nonferrous metallic mining by a local unit of
 government. A local unit of government shall not exercise zoning
 authority under this act over activity governed by part 632 of the
 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,
 MCL 324.63201 to 324.63223.

6 (18) (7) This act does not limit state regulatory authority
7 under other statutes or rules.



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