

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 38**

A bill to amend 1967 PA 281, entitled  
"Income tax act of 1967,"  
by amending section 261 (MCL 206.261), as amended by 2008 PA 207.

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

1       Sec. 261. (1) For the 1989 tax year and each tax year after  
2       1989 and subject to the applicable limitations in this section, a  
3       taxpayer may credit against the tax imposed by this act 50% of the  
4       amount the taxpayer contributes during the tax year to an endowment  
5       fund of a community foundation or for the 1992 tax year and each  
6       tax year after 1992 and subject to the applicable limitations in  
7       this section, a taxpayer may credit against the tax imposed by this  
8       act 50% of the sum of the cash amount and, for the 2008 tax year  
9       and each tax year after 2008, if the food items are contributed in  
10      conjunction with a program in which a vendor makes a matching  
11      contribution of similar items, the value of those food items the

1 taxpayer contributes during the tax year to a shelter for homeless  
2 persons, food kitchen, food bank, or other entity located in this  
3 state, the primary purpose of which is to provide overnight  
4 accommodation, food, or meals to persons who are indigent if a  
5 contribution to that entity is tax deductible for the donor under  
6 the internal revenue code. **IN ADDITION TO THE OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS**  
7 **FOR WHICH A CREDIT MAY BE CLAIMED UNDER THIS SECTION, FOR THE 2010**  
8 **TAX YEAR AND EACH TAX YEAR AFTER 2010 AND SUBJECT TO THE APPLICABLE**  
9 **LIMITATIONS IN THIS SECTION, A TAXPAYER MAY CREDIT AGAINST THE TAX**  
10 **IMPOSED BY THIS ACT 50% OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT THE TAXPAYER**  
11 **CONTRIBUTES DURING THE TAX YEAR TO AN ENDOWMENT FUND OF AN**  
12 **EDUCATION FOUNDATION OR TO A SPECIFIC PROJECT ORGANIZED BY AN**  
13 **EDUCATION FOUNDATION.**

14 (2) For a taxpayer other than a resident estate or trust, the  
15 credit allowed by this section for a contribution to a community  
16 foundation shall not exceed \$100.00, or \$200.00 for a husband and  
17 wife filing a joint return for tax years before the 2000 tax year  
18 and \$100.00 or \$200.00 for a husband and wife filing a joint return  
19 for tax years after the 1999 tax year. For the 1992 tax year and  
20 each tax year after 1992, a taxpayer may claim an additional credit  
21 under this section not to exceed \$100.00, or \$200.00 for a husband  
22 and wife filing a joint return, for total cash contributions made  
23 and, for the 2008 tax year and each tax year after 2008, including  
24 the value of food items contributed as described in subsection (1)  
25 in the tax year to shelters for homeless persons, food kitchens,  
26 food banks, and, except for community foundations, other entities  
27 allowed under subsection (1). **FOR A TAXPAYER OTHER THAN A RESIDENT**

1 ESTATE OR TRUST, FOR THE 2010 TAX YEAR AND EACH TAX YEAR AFTER  
2 2010, A TAXPAYER MAY CLAIM AN ADDITIONAL CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION  
3 NOT TO EXCEED \$50.00, OR \$100.00 FOR A HUSBAND AND WIFE FILING A  
4 JOINT RETURN, FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO AN ENDOWMENT FUND OF AN  
5 EDUCATION FOUNDATION OR TO A SPECIFIC PROJECT ORGANIZED BY AN  
6 EDUCATION FOUNDATION. For a resident estate or trust, the credit  
7 allowed by this section for a contribution to a community  
8 foundation shall not exceed 10% of the taxpayer's tax liability for  
9 the tax year before claiming any credits allowed by this act or  
10 \$5,000.00, whichever is less. For the 1992 tax year and each tax  
11 year after 1992, a resident estate or trust may claim an additional  
12 credit under this section not to exceed 10% of the taxpayer's tax  
13 liability for the tax year before claiming any credits allowed by  
14 this act or \$5,000.00, whichever is less, for total cash  
15 contributions made and, for the 2008 tax year and each tax year  
16 after 2008, including the value of food items contributed as  
17 described in subsection (1) in the tax year to shelters for  
18 homeless persons, food kitchens, food banks, and, except for  
19 community foundations, other entities allowed under subsection (1).  
20 FOR THE 2010 TAX YEAR AND EACH TAX YEAR AFTER 2010, A RESIDENT  
21 ESTATE OR TRUST MAY CLAIM AN ADDITIONAL CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION  
22 NOT TO EXCEED 5% OF THE TAXPAYER'S TAX LIABILITY FOR THE TAX YEAR  
23 BEFORE CLAIMING ANY CREDITS ALLOWED BY THIS ACT OR \$2,500.00,  
24 WHICHEVER IS LESS, FOR TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO AN ENDOWMENT  
25 FUND OF AN EDUCATION FOUNDATION OR TO A SPECIFIC PROJECT ORGANIZED  
26 BY AN EDUCATION FOUNDATION. For a resident estate or trust, the  
27 amount used to calculate the credits under this section shall not

1 have been deducted in arriving at federal taxable income.

2 (3) For the 2008 tax year and each tax year after 2008 and  
 3 subject to the applicable limitations in this section, when  
 4 calculating the amount of the credit allowed under this section a  
 5 taxpayer may include as a cash contribution an amount equal to the  
 6 value of food items contributed as described in subsection (1) in  
 7 the tax year to a shelter for homeless persons, food kitchen, food  
 8 bank, or other entity located in this state as described in  
 9 subsection (1).

10 (4) The credits allowed under this section are nonrefundable  
 11 so that a taxpayer shall not claim under this section a total  
 12 credit amount that reduces the taxpayer's tax liability to less  
 13 than zero.

14 (5) As used in this section: ~~,"community~~

15 (A) **"COMMUNITY** foundation" means an organization that applies  
 16 for certification on or before May 15 of the tax year for which the  
 17 taxpayer is claiming the credit and that the department certifies  
 18 for that tax year as meeting all of the following requirements:

19 (i) ~~(a)~~ Qualifies for exemption from federal income taxation  
 20 under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code.

21 (ii) ~~(b)~~ Supports a broad range of charitable activities within  
 22 the specific geographic area of this state that it serves, such as  
 23 a municipality or county.

24 (iii) ~~(c)~~ Maintains an ongoing program to attract new endowment  
 25 funds by seeking gifts and bequests from a wide range of potential  
 26 donors in the community or area served.

27 (iv) ~~(d)~~ Is publicly supported as defined by the regulations of

1 the United States department of treasury, 26 CFR 1.170A-9(e)(10).  
2 To maintain certification, the community foundation shall submit  
3 documentation to the department annually that demonstrates  
4 compliance with this subdivision.

5 (v) ~~(e)~~—Is not a supporting organization as an organization is  
6 described in section 509(a)(3) of the internal revenue code and the  
7 regulations of the United States department of treasury, 26 CFR  
8 1.509(a)-4 and 1.509(a)-5.

9 (vi) ~~(f)~~—Meets the requirements for treatment as a single  
10 entity contained in the regulations of the United States department  
11 of treasury, 26 CFR 1.170A-9(e)(11).

12 (vii) ~~(g)~~—Except as provided in subsection (7), is incorporated  
13 or established as a trust at least 6 months before the beginning of  
14 the tax year for which the credit under this section is claimed and  
15 that has an endowment value of at least \$100,000.00 before the  
16 expiration of 18 months after the community foundation is  
17 incorporated or established.

18 (viii) ~~(h)~~—Has an independent governing body representing the  
19 general public's interest and that is not appointed by a single  
20 outside entity.

21 (ix) ~~(i)~~—Provides evidence to the department that the community  
22 foundation has, before the expiration of 6 months after the  
23 community foundation is incorporated or established, and maintains  
24 continually during the tax year for which the credit under this  
25 section is claimed, at least 1 part-time or full-time employee.

26 (x) ~~(j)~~—For community foundations that have an endowment value  
27 of \$1,000,000.00 or more only, the community foundation is subject

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1 to an annual independent financial audit and provides copies of  
 2 that audit to the department not more than 3 months after the  
 3 completion of the audit. For community foundations that have an  
 4 endowment value of less than \$1,000,000.00, the community  
 5 foundation is subject to an annual review and an audit every third  
 6 year.

7 (xi) ~~(k)~~—In addition to all other criteria listed in this  
 8 subsection for a community foundation that is incorporated or  
 9 established after June 22, 2000, operates in a county of this state  
 10 that was not served by a community foundation when the community  
 11 foundation was incorporated or established or operates as a  
 12 geographic component of an existing certified community foundation.

13 (B) "EDUCATION FOUNDATION" MEANS AN ORGANIZATION THAT APPLIES  
 14 FOR CERTIFICATION ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1 OF THE TAX YEAR FOR WHICH  
 15 THE TAXPAYER IS CLAIMING THE CREDIT, THAT ANNUALLY SUBMITS  
 16 DOCUMENTATION TO THE DEPARTMENT THAT DEMONSTRATES CONTINUED  
 17 COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SUBDIVISION, AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT CERTIFIES  
 18 FOR THAT TAX YEAR AS MEETING ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

19 (i) QUALIFIES FOR EXEMPTION FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION UNDER  
 20 SECTION 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.

21 (ii) MAINTAINS AN ONGOING PROGRAM TO ATTRACT NEW ENDOWMENT  
 22 FUNDS BY SEEKING GIFTS AND BEQUESTS FROM A WIDE RANGE OF POTENTIAL  
 23 DONORS IN THE COMMUNITY OR AREA SERVED.

24 (iii) ALL FUNDS, GIFTS, AND BEQUESTS ARE EXCLUSIVELY DEDICATED  
 25 TO <<PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN THE SCHOOLS OF  
 THIS STATE INCLUDING SCHOOL DISTRICTS, PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIES, AND  
 SCHOOLS DESCRIBED UNDER 1921 PA 302, MCL 388.551 TO 388.558, FOR  
 NONESSENTIAL SUPPLIES AND ASSISTANCE.>>

26 (iv) IS PUBLICLY SUPPORTED AS DEFINED BY THE REGULATIONS OF THE  
 27 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY, 26 CFR 1.170A-9(E)(10).

1           (v) MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR TREATMENT AS A SINGLE ENTITY  
2     CONTAINED IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
3     TREASURY, 26 CFR 1.170A-9(E)(11).

4           (vi) IS INCORPORATED OR ESTABLISHED AS A TRUST AT LEAST 6  
5     MONTHS BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE TAX YEAR FOR WHICH THE CREDIT IS  
6     CLAIMED.

7           (vii) HAS AN INDEPENDENT GOVERNING BODY REPRESENTING THE  
8     GENERAL PUBLIC'S INTEREST AND THAT IS NOT APPOINTED BY A SINGLE  
9     OUTSIDE ENTITY.

10          (viii) IS SUBJECT TO A PROGRAM REVIEW EACH YEAR AND AN  
11     INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AUDIT EVERY 3 YEARS AND PROVIDES COPIES OF  
12     THE REVIEWS AND AUDITS TO THE DEPARTMENT NOT MORE THAN 3 MONTHS  
13     AFTER THE REVIEW OR AUDIT IS COMPLETED.

14          (6) An entity other than a community foundation may request  
15     that the department determine if a contribution to that entity  
16     qualifies for the credit under this section. The department shall  
17     make a determination and respond to a request no later than 30 days  
18     after the department receives the request.

19          (7) A taxpayer may claim a credit under this section for  
20     contributions to a community foundation made before the expiration  
21     of the 18-month period after a community foundation was  
22     incorporated or established during which the community foundation  
23     must build an endowment value of \$100,000.00 as provided in  
24     subsection ~~(5)(g)~~ **(5)(A)(vii)**. If the community foundation does not  
25     reach the required \$100,000.00 endowment value during that 18-month  
26     period, contributions to the community foundation made after the  
27     date on which the 18-month period expires shall not be used to

1 calculate a credit under this section. At any time after the  
2 expiration of the 18-month period under subsection ~~(5)(g)~~ **(5) (A) (vii)**  
3 that the community foundation has an endowment value of  
4 \$100,000.00, the community foundation may apply to the department  
5 for certification under this section.

6 (8) On or before July 1 of each year, the department shall  
7 report to the house committee on tax policy and the senate finance  
8 committee the total amount of tax credits claimed under this  
9 section and under section 38c of the former single business tax  
10 act, 1975 PA 228, or section 425 of the Michigan business tax act,  
11 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1425, for the immediately preceding tax year.