

HOUSE BILL NO. 5145

October 28, 2025, Introduced by Reps. Woolford, Kelly, Hoadley, Robinson, Thompson, DeBoyer, Schriver, Pavlov, Bierlein, Aragona, Martin, Borton, Steele, Fairbairn, Maddock, Outman, Neyer, Prestin, Bohnak, BeGole, Beson, St. Germaine, Markkanen, Cavitt, Paquette and Linting and referred to Committee on Government Operations.

A bill to amend 1939 PA 280, entitled
"The social welfare act,"
(MCL 400.1 to 400.119b) by adding section 10h.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 10h. (1) Beginning on the effective date of the
2 amendatory act that added this section, the department shall not
3 allow self-attestation for proof of identity, income, and Michigan
4 residency during the initial application and subsequent annual
5 determination for eligibility under the public assistance program.

1 The department shall require an applicant for public assistance to
2 provide verifiable documentation of identity, income, and Michigan
3 residency. Verifiable documentation required under this section
4 includes, but is not limited to, any of the following documents:

5 (a) For proof of identity, any of the following:

6 (i) A driver license issued under the Michigan vehicle code,
7 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923.

8 (ii) An enhanced driver license or enhanced official state
9 personal identification card issued under the enhanced driver
10 license and enhanced official state personal identification card
11 act, 2008 PA 23, MCL 28.301 to 28.308.

12 (iii) An official state personal identification card issued
13 under 1972 PA 222, MCL 28.291 to 28.300.

14 (iv) A birth certificate, a Social Security card, a voter
15 registration card, or any other government-issued document that
16 establishes identity, if an applicant is unable to reasonably
17 obtain a document described in subparagraphs (i) to (iii).

18 (b) For proof of income, any of the following:

19 (i) A pay stub, W-2 form, or copy or transcript of federal
20 income tax return.

21 (ii) An award letter or benefits statement from the Social
22 Security Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, or other
23 government agency providing benefits to the applicant.

24 (iii) If a document described under subparagraph (i) or (ii) is
25 unavailable, a written verification from an employer, financial
26 institution, or other third-party entity with direct knowledge of
27 the applicant's income.

28 (c) For proof of Michigan residency, any of the following:

29 (i) A current lease agreement, mortgage statement, or utility

1 bill that shows the applicant's name and Michigan address.

2 (ii) A state or federal government benefit letter, a vehicle
3 registration, or an insurance statement that lists the applicant's
4 Michigan address.

5 (iii) A document issued by a Michigan educational institution or
6 medical facility that verifies the applicant's Michigan residency.

7 (2) If the department determines that eligibility for public
8 assistance cannot be verified using the documentation provided by
9 the applicant, the department shall use collateral contacts, data
10 matches with other state or federal agencies, or other readily
11 available documentary evidence to verify eligibility before denying
12 assistance.

13 (3) The department shall update the department's MI Bridges
14 online application portal to require the uploading of a verifiable
15 documentation before determining eligibility for public assistance.