



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

Olds Plaza Building, 10th Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: 517/373-6466

**DEDUCT RENTAL DAMAGES
FROM WELFARE GRANTS**

House Bill 4400

Sponsor: Rep. Jack Horton

Committee: Human Services

Complete to 3-14-95

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4400 AS INTRODUCED 2-14-95

Under the Social Welfare Act (Public Act 289 of 1939), all welfare assistance given under the act cannot be assigned, sold, garnished, or otherwise transferred. The bill would amend this provision to require the Department of Social Services (DSS) to deduct a certain portion of a grant to pay for damages to rental units.

More specifically, the DSS would be required to deduct ten percent of each monthly welfare grant to a welfare recipient living in a rental unit, and transfer that amount to the landlord, whenever a judgment was entered against the welfare recipient for damages he or she caused to the landlord's rental unit. The bill would apply to recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children or state family assistance who lived in rental units under verbal or written leases and who had authorized the DSS to make direct rent payments to the landlord. The DSS would be required to ("promptly") seek any federal waiver necessary to implement the bill. In the absence of a federal waiver, the DSS would be required to apply the bill only to recipients of state family assistance.

MCL 400.63

House Bill 4400 (3-14-95)