<u>Helpful Hints for Your Legislative Search</u>

The planning and zoning laws in Michigan are in the form of public acts. Sometimes you will also hear them referred to as statutes. To obtain the current versions of the planning and zoning acts as well as other related public acts, we recommend that you visit the *Michigan Legislature* website at http://www.legislature.mi.gov. If this will be your first time visiting the website, the **REFERENCE INFORMATION** and the **5 EASY STEPS** below will help speed up your search. *You may want to print this page before you begin.*

REFERENCE INFORMATION

Acronyms
P.A. = Public Act
MCL = Michigan Compiled Laws

Planning & Zoning Acts
Michigan Planning Enabling Act (P.A. 33 of 2008, as amended)
Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (P.A. 110 of 2006, as amended)

Other Related Acts
Joint Municipal Planning Act (P.A. 226 of 2003, as amended)
Land Division Act (P.A. 288 of 1967, as amended) - formerly called Subdivision Control Act
Open Meetings Act (P.A. 267 of 1976, as amended)
Freedom of Information Act (P.A. 442 of 1976, as amended)

More tidbits...
Each section of a public act is designated by an **MCL number** (i.e., 125.3801) and a **section number** (i.e., 5). These are simply two different ways of numerically identifying each section. You'll notice that at the end of every section, there is a line of text that starts with "**History**". This line will tell you how that specific section originated, either 1) as part of the original version of the public act when it was first enacted, or 2) as a subsequent amendment (or part of an amendment) to the original act. Occasionally, you'll also see a "**Compiler's Note**", which provides additional information, such as a particular section has been repealed.

5 EASY STEPS
- Click on the link above to access the Michigan Legislature website.
- Under the heading "**Laws**" in the far left column on your screen, click on "**Public Act MCL Search**".
- Enter the Public Act number and year (see above). Click **Search**.
- On the next page, right under the title in the white area, there are four (4) links in blue type side-by-side. Click on the "**Printer Friendly**" link.
- On the next page, click on the "**PDF**" icon. The document will be displayed on your screen.