



HOUSE BILL No. 4046

January 11, 1995, Introduced by Reps. Hammerstrom, Rhead, Ryan, Walberg, Fitzgerald, McNutt and Hill and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend section 1278 of Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1976, entitled as amended "The school code of 1976," as amended by Act No. 335 of the Public Acts of 1993, being section 380.1278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Section 1. Section 1278 of Act No. 451 of the Public Acts
2 of 1976, as amended by Act No. 335 of the Public Acts of 1993,
3 being section 380.1278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, is amended
4 to read as follows:

5 Sec. 1278. (1) Subject to subsection (12), in addition to
6 the requirements for accreditation under section 1280 specified
7 in that section, if the board of a school district wants all of
8 the schools of the school district to be accredited under
9 section 1280, the board shall make available to all pupils

1 attending public school in the district a core academic
2 curriculum in compliance with subsection (3) in each of the cur-
3 ricular areas specified in the state board recommended model core
4 academic curriculum developed under subsection (2). The state
5 board model core academic curriculum shall encompass academic and
6 cognitive instruction only. For purposes of this subsection, the
7 state board model core academic curriculum shall not include
8 attitudes, beliefs, or value systems that are not essential in
9 the legal, economic, and social structure of our society and to
10 the personal and social responsibility of citizens of our
11 society.

12 (2) A recommended model core academic curriculum shall be
13 developed by the state board and distributed to each school dis-
14 trict in the state. The recommended core academic curriculum
15 shall set forth desired learning objectives in math, science,
16 reading, history, geography, economics, American government, and
17 writing for all children at each stage of schooling and be based
18 upon the "Michigan K-12 program standards of quality" to ensure
19 that high academic standards, academic skills, and academic
20 subject matters are built into the instructional goals of all
21 districts for all children. The state board also shall ensure
22 that the Michigan educational assessment program and the high
23 school proficiency exam, or any other statewide benchmark test is
24 testing only for proficiency in basic academic skills and aca-
25 demic subject matter and are not used to measure pupils' values
26 or attitudes.

1 (3) Subject to subsection (12), the board of each school
2 district, considering the academic curricular outcomes defined
3 and recommended pursuant to subsection (2), shall do both of the
4 following:

5 (a) Establish a core academic curriculum for its pupils at
6 the elementary, middle, and secondary school levels. The core
7 academic curriculum shall define academic outcomes to be achieved
8 by all pupils and be based upon the school district's educational
9 mission, long-range student goals, and student performance
10 objectives. The core academic curriculum may vary from the model
11 core academic curriculum recommended by the state board pursuant
12 to subsection (2).

13 (b) After consulting with teachers and school building
14 administrators, determine the aligned instructional program for
15 delivering the core academic curriculum and identify the courses
16 and programs in which the core academic curriculum will be
17 taught.

18 (4) Consistent with its core academic curriculum for early
19 elementary school, the board of a school district shall consider
20 adopting early elementary school program initiatives establishing
21 nongraded, continuous progress programs for grades 1 through 4,
22 utilizing individualized planning, maintaining comprehensive
23 portfolios and narrative reports of learning progress for all
24 pupils, and emphasizing collegiality and collaboration among
25 teachers, parents, and students, all over multiple year periods.

26 (5) The board may supplement the core academic curriculum by
27 providing instruction through additional classes and programs.

1 (6) For all pupils, the subjects or courses, and the
2 delivery of those including special assistance, that constitute
3 the curriculum the pupils engage in shall assure the pupils have
4 a realistic opportunity to learn all subjects and courses
5 required by the district's core academic curriculum in order to
6 give all pupils a good and fair opportunity to attain a
7 state-endorsed diploma. A subject or course required by the core
8 academic curriculum pursuant to subsection (3) shall be provided
9 to all pupils in the school district by a school district, a con-
10 sortium of school districts, or a consortium of 1 or more school
11 districts and 1 or more intermediate school districts.

12 (7) To the extent practicable, the state board may adopt or
13 develop academic outcome-based high standards for knowledge and
14 life skills, and core academic curriculum, for special education
15 pupils for whom it may not be realistic or desirable to expect
16 achievement of novice level or initial mastery of the state board
17 recommended model core academic curriculum outcomes or of a high
18 school diploma.

19 (8) The state board shall make available to all nonpublic
20 schools in this state, as a resource for their consideration, the
21 model core academic curriculum developed for public schools pur-
22 suant to subsection (2) for the purpose of assisting the govern-
23 ing body of a nonpublic school in developing its own core aca-
24 demic curriculum.

25 (9) Excluding special education pupils, pupils having a
26 learning disability, and pupils with extenuating circumstances as
27 determined by school officials, a pupil who does not score

1 satisfactorily on the 4th or 7th grade Michigan educational
2 assessment program reading test shall be provided special assist-
3 ance reasonably expected to enable the pupil to bring his or her
4 reading skills to grade level within 12 months.

5 (10) Any course that would have been considered a nonessen-
6 tial elective course under Snyder v Charlotte Schools, 421 Mich
7 517 (1984) on ~~the effective date of the amendatory act that~~
8 ~~added this section~~ APRIL 13, 1990 shall continue to be offered
9 to resident pupils of nonpublic schools on a shared time basis.

10 (11) Not later than September 1, 1994, the state board shall
11 develop and submit for public hearing under the administrative
12 procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969,
13 being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws,
14 proposed rules establishing a required core academic curriculum
15 for all school districts. The proposed rules may exempt pupils
16 described in subsection (7) and require that the standards
17 described in subsection (7) be implemented. Not later than
18 January 1, 1996, the state board shall submit the proposed rules
19 to the joint committee on administrative rules. IN ADDITION TO
20 ACADEMIC SUBJECTS, THE RULES SHALL INCLUDE IN THE CORE CURRICULUM
21 FOR AT LEAST ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL PUPILS INSTRUCTION ON
22 THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES
23 DESIGNED TO PROVIDE EXPERIENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE AND TO PRO-
24 MOTE COMMUNITY SERVICE.

25 (12) Beginning in the 1997-98 school year, the board of a
26 school district shall provide to each pupil the core academic

1 curriculum required under the state board rules described in
2 subsection (11).