

HOUSE BILL No. 5456

March 6, 2012, Introduced by Reps. Johnson, Bumstead, Lyons, Gilbert, O'Brien, Foster, Lori, Franz, Daley, Hooker, Potvin, Rogers, Damrow, Muxlow, Shaughnessy, Crawford, Price, Goike, McBroom, Glardon, Wayne Schmidt and Brown and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
"The revised school code,"
by amending sections 1278a and 1278b (MCL 380.1278a and 380.1278b),
section 1278a as amended by 2009 PA 205 and section 1278b as
amended by 2010 PA 80.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1278a. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section
2 or section 1278b, beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2006,
3 the board of a school district or board of directors of a public
4 school academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil
5 unless the pupil meets all of the following:

6 (a) Has successfully completed all of the following credit

1 requirements of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from
2 high school:

3 (i) ~~At~~**SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (7), AT** least 4 credits in
4 mathematics that are aligned with subject area content expectations
5 developed by the department and approved by the state board under
6 section 1278b, including completion of at least algebra I,
7 geometry, and algebra II, or an integrated sequence of this course
8 content that consists of 3 credits, and an additional mathematics
9 credit, such as trigonometry, statistics, precalculus, calculus,
10 applied math, accounting, business math, a retake of algebra II, a
11 course in financial literacy as described in section 1165. A pupil
12 may complete algebra II over 2 years with 2 credits awarded or over
13 1.5 years with 1.5 credits awarded for the purposes of this section
14 and section 1278b. A pupil also may partially or fully fulfill the
15 algebra II requirement by completing a department-approved formal
16 career and technical education program or curriculum that has
17 appropriate embedded mathematics content, such as a program or
18 curriculum in electronics, machining, construction, welding,
19 engineering, or renewable energy. ~~Not later than 30 days after the~~
20 ~~effective date of the amendatory act that added the immediately~~
21 ~~preceding sentence, the~~**THE** department shall post on its website
22 and submit to the senate and house standing committees on education
23 guidelines for implementation of the immediately preceding
24 sentence. ~~Each~~**SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (7), EACH** pupil must
25 successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during his or
26 her final year of high school enrollment. This subparagraph does
27 not require completion of mathematics courses in any particular

1 sequence.

2 (ii) At least 3 credits in social science that are aligned with
3 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
4 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including
5 completion of at least 1 credit in United States history and
6 geography, 1 credit in world history and geography, 1/2 credit in
7 economics, and the civics course described in section 1166(2).

8 (iii) At least 1 credit in subject matter that includes both
9 health and physical education aligned with guidelines developed by
10 the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b.

11 (iv) ~~At~~ **SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (7), AT** least 1 credit in visual
12 arts, performing arts, or applied arts, as defined by the
13 department, that is aligned with guidelines developed by the
14 department and approved by the state board under section 1278b.

15 (v) The credit requirements specified in section 1278b(1).

16 (b) ~~Meets~~ **SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (7), MEETS** the online course
17 or learning experience requirement of this ~~subsection.~~ **SUBDIVISION.**
18 A school district or public school academy shall provide the basic
19 level of technology and internet access required by the state board
20 to complete the online course or learning experience. For a pupil
21 to meet this requirement, the pupil shall meet either of the
22 following, as determined by the school district or public school
23 academy:

24 (i) Has successfully completed at least 1 course or learning
25 experience that is presented online, as defined by the department.

26 (ii) The pupil's school district or public school academy has
27 integrated an online experience throughout the high school

1 curriculum by ensuring that each teacher of each course that
2 provides the required credits of the Michigan merit curriculum has
3 integrated an online experience into the course.

4 (2) ~~In~~**SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (7), IN** addition to the
5 requirements under subsection (1), beginning with pupils entering
6 grade 3 in 2006, the board of a school district or board of
7 directors of a public school academy shall not award a high school
8 diploma to a pupil unless the pupil has successfully completed
9 during grades 9 to 12 at least 2 credits, as determined by the
10 department, in a language other than English, or the pupil has
11 successfully completed at any time during grades K to 12 course
12 work or other learning experiences that are substantially
13 equivalent to 2 credits in a language other than English, based on
14 guidelines developed by the department. For the purposes of this
15 subsection, all of the following apply:

16 (a) American sign language is considered to be a language
17 other than English.

18 (b) The pupil may meet all or part of this requirement with
19 online course work.

20 (3) The requirements under this section and section 1278b for
21 a high school diploma are in addition to any local requirements
22 imposed by the board of a school district or board of directors of
23 a public school academy. The board of a school district or board of
24 directors of a public school academy, as a local requirement for a
25 high school diploma, may require a pupil to complete the Michigan
26 merit examination under section 1279g or may require a pupil to
27 participate in the MIAccess assessments if appropriate for the

1 pupil.

2 (4) For the purposes of this section and section 1278b, all of
3 the following apply:

4 (a) A pupil is considered to have completed a credit if the
5 pupil successfully completes the subject area content expectations
6 or guidelines developed by the department that apply to the credit.

7 (b) A school district or public school academy shall base its
8 determination of whether a pupil has successfully completed the
9 subject area content expectations or guidelines developed by the
10 department that apply to a credit at least in part on the pupil's
11 performance on the assessments developed or selected by the
12 department under section 1278b or on 1 or more assessments
13 developed or selected by the school district or public school
14 academy that measure a pupil's understanding of the subject area
15 content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit.

16 (c) A school district or public school academy shall also
17 grant a pupil a credit if the pupil earns a qualifying score, as
18 determined by the department, on the assessments developed or
19 selected for the subject area by the department under section 1278b
20 or the pupil earns a qualifying score, as determined by the school
21 district or public school academy, on 1 or more assessments
22 developed or selected by the school district or public school
23 academy that measure a pupil's understanding of the subject area
24 content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit.

25 (5) If a high school is designated by the superintendent of
26 public instruction as a specialty school and the high school meets
27 the requirements of subsection (6), then the pupils of the high

1 school are not required to successfully complete the 4 credits in
2 English language arts required under section 1278b(1)(a) or the 3
3 credits in social science required under subsection (1)(a)(ii) and
4 the school district or public school academy is not required to
5 ensure that each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for
6 meeting those English language arts or social science credit
7 requirements. The superintendent of public instruction may
8 designate up to 15 high schools that meet the requirements of this
9 subsection as specialty schools. Subject to this maximum number,
10 the superintendent of public instruction shall designate a high
11 school as a specialty school if the superintendent of public
12 instruction finds that the high school meets all of the following
13 criteria:

14 (a) The high school incorporates a significant reading and
15 writing component throughout its curriculum.

16 (b) The high school uses a specialized, innovative, and
17 rigorous curriculum in such areas as performing arts, foreign
18 language, extensive use of internships, or other learning
19 innovations that conform to pioneering innovations among other
20 leading national or international high schools.

21 (6) A high school that is designated by the superintendent of
22 public instruction as a specialty school under subsection (5) is
23 only exempt from requirements as described under subsection (5) as
24 long as the superintendent of public instruction finds that the
25 high school continues to meet all of the following requirements:

26 (a) The high school clearly states to prospective pupils and
27 their parents that it does not meet the requirements of the

1 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278b but is
2 a designated specialty school that is exempt from some of those
3 requirements and that a pupil who enrolls in the high school and
4 subsequently transfers to a high school that is not a specialty
5 school meeting the requirements of this subsection will be required
6 to comply with the requirements of the Michigan merit standard
7 under this section and section 1278b.

8 (b) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
9 the mean scores on both the mathematics and science portions of the
10 ACT examination for the pupils of the high school exceed by at
11 least 10% the mean scores on the mathematics and science portions
12 of the ACT examination for the pupils of the school district in
13 which the greatest number of the pupils of the high school reside.

14 (c) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
15 the high school had a graduation rate of at least 85%, as
16 determined by the department.

17 (d) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
18 at least 75% of the pupils who graduated from the high school the
19 preceding year are enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

20 (e) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the
21 mathematics credit requirements of subsection (1)(a)(i), with no
22 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5), and each
23 pupil is offered the curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

24 (f) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the
25 science credit requirements of section 1278b(1)(b) and are also
26 required to successfully complete at least 1 additional science
27 credit, for a total of at least 4 science credits, with no

modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5), and each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

(7) FOR A PUPIL WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES AT LEAST 1 FULL SCHOOL YEAR WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL IN A PLANNED PROGRAM OF VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION OR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION THAT IS APPROVED BY THE PUPIL'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN, OR BY THE PUPIL IF THE PUPIL IS AT LEAST AGE 18 OR IS AN EMANCIPATED MINOR, AND BY THE PUPIL'S SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY, BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

(A) THE PUPIL IS NOT REQUIRED TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

(i) THE REQUIREMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (1) (A) (i) THAT THE PUPIL MUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE ALGEBRA II OR THE REQUIREMENT UNDER THAT PROVISION THAT THE PUPIL MUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AT LEAST 1 MATHEMATICS COURSE DURING HIS OR HER FINAL YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT.

(ii) THE REQUIREMENT UNDER SECTION 1278B(1) (B) THAT THE PUPIL MUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A THIRD CREDIT OF SCIENCE.

(iii) THE REQUIREMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (1) (A) (iv) THAT THE PUPIL MUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AT LEAST 1 CREDIT IN VISUAL ARTS, PERFORMING ARTS, OR APPLIED ARTS.

(iv) THE ONLINE COURSE OR LEARNING EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT OF SUBSECTION (1) (B) .

(B) THE PUPIL IS REQUIRED TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE ONLY 1 OF THE FOLLOWING:

(i) THE REQUIREMENT UNDER SECTION 1278B(1) (A) THAT THE PUPIL MUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A FOURTH CREDIT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1 **ARTS.**

2 (ii) **THE REQUIREMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (2) THAT THE PUPIL MUST**
3 **SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A SECOND CREDIT IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN**
4 **ENGLISH.**

5 Sec. 1278b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section
6 or section 1278a, beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2006,
7 as part of the requirements under section 1278a the board of a
8 school district or board of directors of a public school academy
9 shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil
10 has successfully completed all of the following credit requirements
11 of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from high school:

12 (a) ~~At~~**SUBJECT TO SECTION 1278A(7), AT** least 4 credits in
13 English language arts that are aligned with subject area content
14 expectations developed by the department and approved by the state
15 board under this section.

16 (b) ~~At~~**SUBJECT TO SECTION 1278A(7), AT** least 3 credits in
17 science that are aligned with subject area content expectations
18 developed by the department and approved by the state board under
19 this section, including completion of at least biology and either
20 chemistry or physics. The legislature strongly encourages pupils to
21 complete a fourth credit in science, such as forensics, astronomy,
22 Earth science, agricultural science, environmental science,
23 geology, physics or chemistry, physiology, or microbiology.

24 (c) The credit requirements specified in section 1278a(1) (a) (i)
25 to (iv).

26 (2) If a pupil successfully completes 1 or more of the high
27 school credits required under subsection (1) or under section

1 1278a(1) before entering high school, the pupil shall be given high
2 school credit for that credit.

3 (3) For the purposes of this section and section 1278a, the
4 department shall do all of the following:

5 (a) Develop subject area content expectations that apply to
6 the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are
7 required under subsection (1)(a) and (b) and section 1278a(1)(a)(i)
8 and (ii) and develop guidelines for the remaining credit
9 requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are required under
10 this section and section 1278a(1)(a), for the online course or
11 learning experience required under section 1278a(1)(b), and for the
12 requirements for a language other than English under section
13 1278a(2). All of the following apply to these subject area content
14 expectations and guidelines:

15 (i) All subject area content expectations shall be consistent
16 with the state board recommended model core academic curriculum
17 content standards under section 1278. Subject area content
18 expectations or guidelines shall not include attitudes, beliefs, or
19 value systems that are not essential in the legal, economic, and
20 social structure of our society and to the personal and social
21 responsibility of citizens of our society. The subject area content
22 expectations shall require pupils to demonstrate critical thinking
23 skills.

24 (ii) The subject area content expectations and the guidelines
25 must be approved by the state board under subsection (4).

26 (iii) The subject area content expectations shall state in clear
27 and measurable terms what pupils are expected to know upon

1 completion of each credit.

2 (iv) The department shall complete the development of the
3 subject area content expectations that apply to algebra I and the
4 guidelines for the online course or learning experience under
5 section 1278a(1)(b) not later than August 1, 2006.

6 (v) The department shall complete development of the subject
7 area content expectations or guidelines that apply to each of the
8 other credits required in the Michigan merit standard under
9 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) not later than 1 year before
10 the beginning of the school year in which a pupil entering high
11 school in 2007 would normally be expected to complete the credit.

12 (vi) If the department has not completed development of the
13 subject area content expectations that apply to a particular credit
14 required in the Michigan merit standard under subsection (1) or
15 section 1278a(1)(a) by the date required under this subdivision, a
16 school district or public school academy may align the content of
17 the credit with locally adopted standards.

18 (vii) Until all of the subject area content expectations and
19 guidelines have been developed by the department and approved by
20 the state board, the department shall submit a report at least
21 every 6 months to the senate and house standing committees
22 responsible for education legislation on the status of the
23 development of the subject area content expectations and
24 guidelines. The report shall detail any failure by the department
25 to meet a deadline established under subparagraph (iv) or (v) and
26 the reasons for that failure.

27 (b) Develop and implement a process for developing the subject

1 area content expectations and guidelines required under this
2 section. This process shall provide for all of the following:

3 (i) Soliciting input from all of the following groups:

4 (A) Recognized experts in the relevant subject areas.

5 (B) Representatives from 4-year colleges or universities,
6 community colleges, and other postsecondary institutions.

7 (C) Teachers, administrators, and school personnel who have
8 specialized knowledge of the subject area.

9 (D) Representatives from the business community.

10 (E) Representatives from vocational and career and technical
11 education providers.

12 (F) Government officials, including officials from the
13 legislature.

14 (G) Parents of public school pupils.

15 (ii) A review of the subject area content expectations or
16 guidelines by national experts.

17 (iii) An opportunity for the public to review and provide input
18 on the proposed subject area content expectations or guidelines
19 before they are submitted to the state board for approval. The time
20 period allowed for this review and input shall be at least 15
21 business days.

22 (c) Determine the basic level of technology and internet
23 access required for pupils to complete the online course or
24 learning experience requirement of section 1278a(1)(b), and submit
25 that determination to the state board for approval.

26 (d) Develop and make available material to assist school
27 districts and public school academies in implementing the

1 requirements of this section and section 1278a. This shall include
2 developing guidelines for alternative instructional delivery
3 methods as described in subsection (7).

4 (4) The state board shall approve subject area content
5 expectations and guidelines developed by the department under
6 subsection (3) before those subject area content expectations and
7 guidelines may take effect. The state board also shall approve the
8 basic level of technology and internet access required for pupils
9 to complete the online course or learning experience requirement of
10 section 1278a(1)(b).

11 (5) The parent or legal guardian of a pupil who has completed
12 grade 9, a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who
13 currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area
14 proposed to be modified by the personal curriculum, or who is
15 determined by the principal to have qualifications otherwise
16 relevant to developing a personal curriculum, or a school counselor
17 or school employee qualified to act in a counseling role under
18 section 1233 or 1233a may request a personal curriculum under this
19 subsection for the pupil that modifies certain of the Michigan
20 merit standard requirements under subsection (1) or section
21 1278a(1)(a). A teacher, school counselor, or school employee
22 qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a
23 may contact a pupil's parent or legal guardian to discuss the
24 possibility and potential benefits of a personal curriculum under
25 this subsection for the pupil. If all of the requirements under
26 this subsection for a personal curriculum are met, then the board
27 of a school district or board of directors of a public school

1 academy may award a high school diploma to a pupil who successfully
2 completes his or her personal curriculum even if it does not meet
3 the requirements of the Michigan merit standard required under
4 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a). All of the following apply
5 to a personal curriculum:

6 (a) The personal curriculum shall be developed by a group that
7 includes at least the pupil, at least 1 of the pupil's parents or
8 the pupil's legal guardian, a teacher described in this
9 subdivision, and the pupil's high school counselor or another
10 designee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233
11 or 1233a selected by the high school principal. In addition, for a
12 pupil who receives special education services, a school
13 psychologist should also be included in this group. The teacher
14 included in the group developing the personal curriculum shall be a
15 teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who currently teaches
16 in or whose expertise is in a subject area being modified by the
17 personal curriculum, or who is determined by the principal to have
18 qualifications otherwise relevant to the group.

19 (b) The personal curriculum shall incorporate as much of the
20 subject area content expectations of the Michigan merit standard
21 required under subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) as is
22 practicable for the pupil; shall establish measurable goals that
23 the pupil must achieve while enrolled in high school and shall
24 provide a method to evaluate whether the pupil achieved these
25 goals; and shall be aligned with the pupil's educational
26 development plan developed under subsection (11).

27 (c) Before it takes effect, the personal curriculum must be

1 agreed to by the pupil's parent or legal guardian and by the
2 superintendent of the school district or chief executive of the
3 public school academy or his or her designee.

4 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall be in
5 communication with each of the pupil's teachers at least once each
6 calendar quarter to monitor the pupil's progress toward the goals
7 contained in the pupil's personal curriculum.

8 (e) Revisions may be made in the personal curriculum if the
9 revisions are developed and agreed to in the same manner as the
10 original personal curriculum.

11 (f) The English language arts credit requirements of
12 subsection (1)(a) and the science credit requirements of subsection
13 (1)(b) are not subject to modification as part of a personal
14 curriculum under this subsection.

15 (g) The mathematics credit requirements of section
16 1278a(1)(a)(i) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum if
17 the pupil successfully completes at least 3-1/2 total credits of
18 the mathematics credits required under that section before
19 completing high school, including algebra I and geometry, and
20 successfully completes at least 1 mathematics course during his or
21 her final year of high school. The algebra II credit required under
22 that section may be modified as part of a personal curriculum under
23 this subsection if the pupil meets 1 or more of the following:

24 (i) Successfully completes the same content as 1 semester of
25 algebra II, as determined by the department.

26 (ii) Elects to complete the same content as algebra II over 2
27 years, with a credit awarded for each of those 2 years, and

1 successfully completes that content.

2 (iii) Enrolls in a formal career and technical education program
3 or curriculum and in that program or curriculum successfully
4 completes the same content as 1 semester of algebra II, as
5 determined by the department.

6 (iv) Successfully completes 1 semester of statistics or
7 functions and data analysis.

8 (h) The social science credit requirements of section
9 1278a(1)(a)(ii) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum
10 only if all of the following are met:

11 (i) The pupil has successfully completed 2 credits of the
12 social science credits required under section 1278a(1), including
13 the civics course described in section 1166(2).

14 (ii) The modification requires the pupil to complete 1
15 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or science
16 or 1 additional credit in a language other than English. This
17 additional credit must be in addition to the number of those
18 credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and section
19 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

20 (i) The health and physical education credit requirement under
21 section 1278a(1)(a)(iii) may be modified as part of a personal
22 curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil to complete
23 1 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or
24 science or 1 additional credit in a language other than English.
25 This additional credit must be in addition to the number of those
26 credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and section
27 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

1 (j) The visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts credit
2 requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(iv) may be modified as part of
3 a personal curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil
4 to complete 1 additional credit in English language arts,
5 mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other
6 than English. This additional credit must be in addition to the
7 number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and
8 section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

9 (k) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as
10 part of the pupil's personal curriculum a modification of the
11 Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be
12 allowed under this section and demonstrates that the modification
13 is necessary because the pupil is a child with a disability, the
14 school district or public school academy may allow that additional
15 modification to the extent necessary because of the pupil's
16 disability if the group under subdivision (a) determines that the
17 modification is consistent with both the pupil's educational
18 development plan under subsection (11) and the pupil's
19 individualized education program. If the superintendent of public
20 instruction has reason to believe that a school district or a
21 public school academy is allowing modifications inconsistent with
22 the requirements of this subdivision, the superintendent of public
23 instruction shall monitor the school district or public school
24 academy to ensure that the school district's or public school
25 academy's policies, procedures, and practices are in compliance
26 with the requirements for additional modifications under this
27 subdivision. As used in this subdivision, "child with a disability"

1 means that term as defined in 20 USC 1401.

2 (l) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school
3 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's
4 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's
5 personal curriculum, a modification of the Michigan merit standard
6 requirements that would not otherwise be allowed under this
7 section. The school district or public school academy may allow
8 this additional modification for a transfer pupil if all of the
9 following are met:

10 (i) The transfer pupil has successfully completed at least the
11 equivalent of 2 years of high school credit out of state or at a
12 nonpublic school. The school district or public school academy may
13 use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits,
14 if any, the pupil has earned out of state or at a nonpublic school
15 that may be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the
16 Michigan merit standard and this subdivision.

17 (ii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum incorporates as
18 much of the subject area content expectations of the Michigan merit
19 standard as is practicable for the pupil.

20 (iii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum requires the
21 pupil to successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during
22 his or her final year of high school enrollment. In addition, if
23 the transfer pupil is enrolled in the school district or public
24 school academy for at least 1 full school year, both of the
25 following apply:

26 (A) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum shall require
27 that this mathematics course is at least algebra I.

1 (B) If the transfer pupil demonstrates that he or she has
2 mastered the content of algebra I, the transfer pupil's personal
3 curriculum shall require that this mathematics course is a course
4 normally taken after completing algebra I.

5 (iv) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum includes the
6 civics course described in section 1166(2).

7 (m) If a pupil is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor,
8 the pupil may act on his or her own behalf under this subsection.

9 (n) This subsection does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a
10 high school that is designated as a specialty school under section
11 1278a(5) and that is exempt under that section from the English
12 language arts requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the social
13 science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

14 (6) If a pupil receives special education services, the
15 pupil's individualized education program, in accordance with the
16 individuals with disabilities education act, title VI of Public Law
17 91-230, shall identify the appropriate course or courses of study
18 and identify the supports, accommodations, and modifications
19 necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular
20 requirements of this section and section 1278a, or in a personal
21 curriculum as provided under subsection (5), and meet the
22 requirements for a high school diploma.

23 (7) The board of a school district or board of directors of a
24 public school academy that operates a high school shall ensure that
25 each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for the pupil to
26 meet the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a.
27 The board or board of directors may provide this curriculum by

1 providing the credits specified in this section and section 1278a,
2 by using alternative instructional delivery methods such as
3 alternative course work, humanities course sequences, career and
4 technical education, industrial technology courses, or vocational
5 education, or by a combination of these. School districts and
6 public school academies that operate career and technical education
7 programs are encouraged to integrate the credit requirements of
8 this section and section 1278a into those programs.

9 (8) If the board of a school district or board of directors of
10 a public school academy wants its high school to be accredited
11 under section 1280, the board or board of directors shall ensure
12 that all elements of the curriculum required under this section and
13 section 1278a are made available to all affected pupils. If a
14 school district or public school academy does not offer all of the
15 required credits, the board of the school district or board of
16 directors of the public school academy shall ensure that the pupil
17 has access to the required credits by another means, such as
18 enrollment in a postsecondary course under the postsecondary
19 enrollment options act, 1996 PA 160, MCL 388.511 to 388.524;
20 enrollment in an online course; a cooperative arrangement with a
21 neighboring school district or with a public school academy; or
22 granting approval under section 6(6) of the state school aid act of
23 1979, MCL 388.1606, for the pupil to be counted in membership in
24 another school district.

25 (9) If a pupil is not successfully completing a credit
26 required for graduation under this section and section 1278a, or is
27 identified as being at risk of withdrawing from high school, then

1 the pupil's school district or public school academy shall notify
2 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least
3 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the pupil, of the availability
4 of tutoring or other supplemental educational support and
5 counseling services that may be available to the pupil under
6 existing state or federal programs, such as those programs or
7 services available under section 31a of the state school aid act of
8 1979, MCL 388.1631a, or under the no child left behind act of 2001,
9 Public Law 107-110.

10 (10) To the extent required by the no child left behind act of
11 2001, Public Law 107-110, the board of a school district or public
12 school academy shall ensure that all components of the curricular
13 requirements under this section and section 1278a are taught by
14 highly qualified teachers. If a school district or public school
15 academy demonstrates to the department that the school district or
16 public school academy is unable to meet the requirements of this
17 section because the school district or public school academy is
18 unable to hire enough highly qualified teachers, the department
19 shall work with the school district or public school academy to
20 develop a plan to allow the school district or public school
21 academy to hire enough highly qualified teachers to meet the
22 requirements of this section.

23 (11) The board of a school district or board of directors of a
24 public school academy shall provide the opportunity for each pupil
25 to develop an educational development plan during grade 7, and
26 shall ensure that each pupil reviews his or her educational
27 development plan during grade 8 and revises it as appropriate

1 before he or she begins high school. An educational development
2 plan shall be developed, reviewed, and revised by the pupil under
3 the supervision of the pupil's school counselor or another designee
4 qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a
5 selected by the school principal and shall be based on high school
6 readiness scores and a career pathways program or similar career
7 exploration program. An educational development plan shall be
8 designed to assist pupils to identify career development goals as
9 they relate to academic requirements.

10 (12) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a
11 school district or public school academy is unable to implement all
12 of the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a
13 for pupils entering grade 9 in 2007 or is unable to implement
14 another requirement of this section or section 1278a, the school
15 district or public school academy may apply to the department for
16 permission to phase in 1 or more of the requirements of this
17 section or section 1278a. To apply, the school district or public
18 school academy shall submit a proposed phase-in plan to the
19 department. The department shall approve a phase-in plan if the
20 department determines that the plan will result in the school
21 district or public school academy making satisfactory progress
22 toward full implementation of the requirements of this section and
23 section 1278a. If the department disapproves a proposed phase-in
24 plan, the department shall work with the school district or public
25 school academy to develop a satisfactory plan that may be approved.
26 However, if legislation is enacted that adds section 1290 to allow
27 school districts and public school academies to apply for a

1 contract that waives certain state or federal requirements, then
2 this subsection does not apply but a school district or public
3 school academy may take action as described in subsection (13).
4 This subsection does not apply to a high school that is designated
5 as a specialty school under section 1278a(5) and that is exempt
6 under that section from the English language arts requirement under
7 subsection (1)(a) and the social science credit requirement under
8 section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

9 (13) If a school district or public school academy does not
10 offer all of the required credits or provide options to have access
11 to the required credits as provided under subsection (8) and if
12 legislation is enacted that adds section 1290 to allow school
13 districts and public school academies to apply for a contract that
14 waives certain state or federal requirements, then the school
15 district or public school academy is encouraged to apply for a
16 contract under section 1290. The purpose of a contract described in
17 this subsection is to improve pupil performance.

18 (14) This section and section 1278a do not prohibit a pupil
19 from satisfying or exceeding the credit requirements of the
20 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278a
21 through advanced studies such as accelerated course placement,
22 advanced placement, dual enrollment in a postsecondary institution,
23 or participation in the international baccalaureate program or an
24 early college/middle college program.

25 (15) Not later than April 1 of each year, the department shall
26 submit an annual report to the legislature that evaluates the
27 overall success of the curriculum required under this section and

1 section 1278a, the rigor and relevance of the course work required
2 by the curriculum, the ability of public schools to implement the
3 curriculum and the required course work, and the impact of the
4 curriculum on pupil success, and that details any activities the
5 department has undertaken to implement this section and section
6 1278a or to assist public schools in implementing the requirements
7 of this section and section 1278a.