Legislative Analysis



SPECIALTY SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Phone: (517) 373-8080 http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa

House Bill 5384 as introduced Sponsor: Rep. Steven Johnson

Analysis available at http://www.legislature.mi.gov

Committee: Military, Veterans and Homeland Security

Complete to 2-8-22

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5384 would amend the Revised School Code to allow a specialty school to count graduated pupils who serve in the United States Armed Forces, along with those who are enrolled in a postsecondary institution, toward a threshold measure that allows a specialty school to be exempt from certain curriculum requirements.

Currently under the code, a high school that is designated as a specialty school by the superintendent of public instruction must be found by the superintendent to meet specified requirements in order to be exempt from certain curriculum requirements. Among the requirements that must be met is that, for the most recent year for which the information is available, at least 75% of the pupils who graduated from the high school the preceding year are enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

The bill would amend this requirement to provide that at least 75% of the pupils who graduated the previous year must be enrolled in a postsecondary institution *or* serving in the *Armed forces of the United States*.

Armed forces of the United States would mean the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Space Force, or Coast Guard or other military force designated by Congress as part of the Armed Forces of the United States, including the reserve components.

The bill also would replace references to the ACT examination with "applicable state assessment." This reflects the use of the SAT to assess math¹ and the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) to measure student performance relative to the Michigan Academic Standards in science. The move to the M-STEP was planned for spring 2020 but was not implemented due to the cancellation of testing.² The M-STEP science test was operational in spring 2021.

MCL 380.1278a

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¹ https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709 35150---,00.html.

² https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Guide_to_State_Assessments_622260_7.pdf.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state or on local school districts, intermediate school districts (ISDs), or public school academies (PSAs).

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