

Legislative Analysis



ALLOW CERTAIN EARLY MIDDLE COLLEGE STUDENTS TO PLAY COLLEGIATE SPORTS

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

House Bill 6039 as reported from committee
Sponsor: Rep. Pauline Wendzel

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

House Bill 6040 as reported from committee
Sponsor: Rep. Christine Morse

Committee: Education
Complete to 6-9-22

SUMMARY:

House Bills 6039 and 6040 would respectively amend the Career and Technical Preparation Act and the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act to allow certain students who are in the fifth year of high school and enrolled in an **early middle college program** to participate in intercollegiate athletics at the postsecondary institution where they are enrolled.

Early middle college program would mean a five-year high school program.

Currently, eligible students enrolled in a **career and technical preparation program** or a postsecondary institution under the respective acts are prohibited from participating in intercollegiate athletics while enrolled in the applicable program or institution.

Career and technical preparation program means a program that teaches a trade, occupation, or vocation and is operated by an **eligible postsecondary educational institution** located in Michigan.

Eligible postsecondary educational institution means a state university, community college, or independent nonprofit degree-granting college or university that is located in Michigan (with some exceptions in the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act) and that chooses to comply with the applicable act.

Under the bills, a student that met all of the following would be exempt from the prohibition described above and would be eligible to participate in intercollegiate sports:

- The student is enrolled in an early middle college program.
- The student is in the fifth year of high school in the early middle college program.
- The student is ineligible to participate in interscholastic high school athletics for a reason other than academic ineligibility.

MCL 388.1905 (HB 6039)
MCL 388.515 (HB 6040)

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, high school students may enroll in a special program where they are able to simultaneously work toward completing the requirements for a high school diploma and earn college credit. There are several versions of these programs, with students able to complete either a portion, or all, of their 9th through 12th grade years in one of these programs. As a condition of participation, students are prohibited from participating in collegiate athletics. However, for students who enter into a fifth year of participation in an early middle college program, they have exhausted their four years of high school athletics eligibility yet are unable to participate in collegiate athletics. The bills seek to address this issue.

FISCAL IMPACT:

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

POSITIONS:

The following entities indicated support for the bills (5-10-22):

- Michigan Department of Education
- Michigan Community College Association
- Alpena Community College
- Oakland Community College
- North Central Michigan Community College
- Grand Rapids Community College
- Lake Michigan College
- Macomb Community College

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.