

# HOUSE BILL NO. 4930

May 27, 2021, Introduced by Reps. Griffin, Frederick, Martin, Howell, Markkanen, Damoose, Outman, Posthumus and Whitsett and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled  
"The revised school code,"  
(MCL 380.1 to 380.1852) by adding section 1278f.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Sec. 1278f. (1) Beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in  
2       2022, the parent or legal guardian of a pupil who has completed  
3       grade 9, a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who  
4       currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area  
5       proposed to be modified by the twenty-first century skills

1 curriculum, or who is determined by the principal to have  
2 qualifications otherwise relevant to developing a twenty-first  
3 century skills curriculum, or a school counselor or school employee  
4 qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a  
5 may request a twenty-first century skills curriculum under this  
6 section for the pupil that modifies certain Michigan merit standard  
7 requirements under section 1278a(1)(a) or section 1278b(1) or  
8 requirements under section 1278a(2). If the request for a twenty-  
9 first century skills curriculum is made by the pupil's parent or  
10 legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least age 18 or is an  
11 emancipated minor, by the pupil, the school district or public  
12 school academy shall develop a twenty-first century skills  
13 curriculum for the pupil. A teacher, school counselor, or school  
14 employee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233  
15 or 1233a may contact a pupil's parent or legal guardian to discuss  
16 the possibility and potential benefits of a twenty-first century  
17 skills curriculum under this section for the pupil. If all of the  
18 requirements under this section for completing a twenty-first  
19 century skills curriculum are met, then the board of a school  
20 district or board of directors of a public school academy may award  
21 a high school diploma to a pupil who successfully completes his or  
22 her twenty-first century skills curriculum even if it does not meet  
23 the requirements of the Michigan merit standard required under  
24 section 1278a(1)(a) and section 1278b(1) and requirements under  
25 section 1278a(2). All of the following apply to a twenty-first  
26 century skills curriculum under this section:

27 (a) The twenty-first century skills curriculum must be  
28 developed by at least a teacher described in this subdivision or  
29 the pupil's high school counselor or another designee qualified to

1 act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a selected by  
2 the high school principal. In addition, for a pupil who receives  
3 special education services, a school psychologist should also be  
4 included in the development of the twenty-first century skills  
5 curriculum. A teacher who develops the twenty-first century skills  
6 curriculum must be a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil,  
7 who currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area  
8 being modified by the twenty-first century skills curriculum, or  
9 who is determined by the principal to have qualifications that are  
10 otherwise relevant. This subdivision does not require an in-person  
11 meeting.

12 (b) Credits required in a pupil's twenty-first century skills  
13 curriculum under this section are not required to fully be aligned  
14 with subject area content expectations developed by the department  
15 and approved by the state board under section 1278b if all of the  
16 following are met:

17 (i) The pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum under  
18 this section incorporates as much of the subject area content  
19 expectations of the Michigan merit standard required under section  
20 1278a(1)(a) and section 1278b(1) as is practicable for the pupil.

21 (ii) The pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum under  
22 this section establishes measurable goals that the pupil must  
23 achieve while enrolled in high school.

24 (iii) The pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum under  
25 this section provides for a method to evaluate whether the pupil  
26 has achieved the measurable goals described in subparagraph (ii).

27 (iv) The pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum under  
28 this section aligns with the pupil's educational development plan  
29 under section 1278b(11).

1 (c) Before it takes effect, the twenty-first century skills  
2 curriculum must be approved by the superintendent of the school  
3 district or chief executive of the public school academy or his or  
4 her designee and the pupil's parent or legal guardian must be  
5 notified of the approved twenty-first century skills curriculum.

6 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall communicate  
7 with each of the pupil's teachers to monitor the pupil's progress  
8 toward the goals contained in the pupil's twenty-first century  
9 skills curriculum.

10 (e) Revisions may be made in the twenty-first century skills  
11 curriculum if the revisions are developed and approved in the same  
12 manner as the original twenty-first century skills curriculum.

13 (f) Subject to subdivision (p), the mathematics and social  
14 science credit requirements under section 1278a and the science and  
15 English language arts credit requirements under section 1278b(1)  
16 may be modified as part of a twenty-first century skills curriculum  
17 as follows:

18 (i) Not more than a total of 2 of the credit requirements  
19 described in this subdivision may be modified under this section.

20 (ii) Not more than 1 credit requirement described in this  
21 subdivision may be modified under this section for each subject  
22 area described in this subdivision.

23 (iii) Subject to subparagraphs (i) and (ii), a credit of any of  
24 the credit requirements described in this subdivision may be  
25 modified if the pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum  
26 requires that the pupil complete any of the following in place of  
27 that credit:

28 (A) A credit in mathematics, social science, science, or  
29 English language arts that, except as otherwise provided under

subdivision (b), is aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under section 1278a or 1278b(1).

(B) A credit in a subject matter that includes both health and physical education aligned with guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this sub-subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under section 1278a.

(C) A credit in visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts, as defined by the department, aligned with guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this sub-subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under section 1278a.

(D) A credit in a language other than English aligned with guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this sub-subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under section 1278a.

(E) A credit obtained through a computer science program or computer coding program that aligns with the recommended model core academic curriculum content standards under section 1278.

(F) A credit obtained through a state-approved career and technical education program.

(g) A credit of the health and physical education, visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts, and language other than

English credit requirements under section 1278a may be modified if the pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum requires that the pupil complete any of the following in place of that credit:

(i) A credit in mathematics, social science, science, or English language arts that, except as otherwise provided under subdivision (b), is aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under section 1278a or section 1278b(1).

(ii) A credit in a subject matter that includes both health and physical education aligned with guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under section 1278a.

(iii) A credit in visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts, as defined by the department, that is aligned with guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under section 1278a.

(iv) A credit in a language other than English aligned with guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under section 1278a.

(v) A credit obtained through a computer science program or computer coding program that aligns with the recommended model core

1 academic curriculum content standards under section 1278.

2 (vi) A credit obtained through a state-approved career and  
3 technical education program.

4 (h) If a pupil is enrolled in a state-approved career and  
5 technical education program or curriculum, the pupil may modify the  
6 health and physical education credit requirements under section  
7 1278a through his or her twenty-first century skills curriculum, if  
8 the twenty-first century skills curriculum requires, in place of a  
9 1/2 credit in physical education, that the pupil complete a 30-hour  
10 educational training course designed by the Occupational Safety and  
11 Health Administration within the United States Department of Labor  
12 relating to occupational safety and health standards applicable to  
13 general industry or construction.

14 (i) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as  
15 part of the pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum a  
16 modification of the Michigan merit standard requirements that would  
17 not otherwise be allowed under this section and demonstrates that  
18 the modification is necessary because the pupil is a child with a  
19 disability, the school district or public school academy may allow  
20 that additional modification to the extent necessary because of the  
21 pupil's disability if the individual or individuals who develop the  
22 twenty-first century skills curriculum under subdivision (a)  
23 determines or determine that the modification is consistent with  
24 both the pupil's educational development plan under section  
25 1278b(11) and the pupil's individualized education program. If the  
26 superintendent of public instruction has reason to believe that a  
27 school district or a public school academy is allowing  
28 modifications inconsistent with the requirements of this  
29 subdivision, the superintendent of public instruction shall monitor

1 the school district or public school academy to ensure that the  
2 school district's or public school academy's policies, procedures,  
3 and practices are in compliance with the requirements for  
4 additional modifications under this subdivision. As used in this  
5 subdivision, "child with a disability" means that term as defined  
6 in 20 USC 1401.

7 (j) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school  
8 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's  
9 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's  
10 twenty-first century skills curriculum, a modification of the  
11 Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be  
12 allowed under this section. The school district or public school  
13 academy may allow this additional modification for a transfer pupil  
14 if all of the following are met:

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

22 (ii) The transfer pupil's twenty-first century skills  
23 curriculum incorporates as much of the subject area content  
24 expectations of the Michigan merit standard as is practicable for  
25 the pupil.

26 (iii) The transfer pupil's twenty-first century skills  
27 curriculum requires the pupil to successfully complete at least 1  
28 mathematics course during his or her final year of high school  
29 enrollment. In addition, if the transfer pupil is enrolled in the



1 school district or public school academy for at least 1 full school  
2 year, both of the following apply:

3 (A) The transfer pupil's twenty-first century skills  
4 curriculum requires that this mathematics course is at least  
5 algebra I.

6 (B) If the transfer pupil demonstrates that he or she has  
7 mastered the content of algebra I, the transfer pupil's twenty-  
8 first century skills curriculum requires that this mathematics  
9 course is a course normally taken after completing algebra I.

10 (iv) The transfer pupil's twenty-first century skills  
11 curriculum includes the civics course described in section 1166(2).

12 (k) If a pupil is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor,  
13 the pupil may act on his or her own behalf under this section.

14 (l) This section does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a high  
15 school that is designated as a specialty school under section  
16 1278a(5) and that is exempt under that section from the English  
17 language arts requirement under section 1278b(1)(a) and the social  
18 science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

19 (m) The department or a school district or public school  
20 academy shall not limit or discourage the number of pupils with a  
21 twenty-first century skills curriculum on any basis other than the  
22 best interests of each individual pupil.

23 (n) A school district or public school academy annually shall  
24 notify each of its pupils and a parent or legal guardian of each of  
25 its pupils that all pupils are entitled to a twenty-first century  
26 skills curriculum under this section. The annual notice must  
27 include an explanation of what a twenty-first century skills  
28 curriculum is and state that if a twenty-first century skills  
29 curriculum is requested, the school district or public school

1 academy will grant that request. The school district or public  
2 school academy shall provide this annual notice to parents and  
3 legal guardians by sending a written notice to each pupil's home or  
4 by including the notice in a newsletter, student handbook, or  
5 similar communication that is sent to a pupil's home, and also  
6 shall post the notice on the school district's or public school  
7 academy's website.

8 (o) A pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum must be  
9 aligned with the pupil's educational development plan under section  
10 1278b(11) and must be designed so as to allow the pupil to  
11 incorporate his or her twenty-first century skills curriculum into  
12 his or her educational development plan under section 1278b(11).

13 (p) A pupil who modifies certain credit requirements through a  
14 twenty-first century skills curriculum under subdivision (f) must  
15 still be required to complete the civics course described in  
16 section 1166(2).

17 (2) The department, in conjunction with the department of  
18 labor and economic opportunity and stakeholder groups, shall  
19 develop and make available to all school districts and public  
20 school academies model information materials that school districts  
21 and public school academies may use to implement and streamline the  
22 twenty-first century skills-curriculum-development process under  
23 this section. These materials must be posted on the department's  
24 website and must be made widely available to the parents and legal  
25 guardians of pupils, pupils, teachers, school counselors, and other  
26 school district and public school academy employees. It is the  
27 intent of the legislature that the materials described in this  
28 subsection be designed to assist the parents and legal guardians of  
29 pupils, pupils, and public schools to more easily develop a twenty-

1 first century skills curriculum under this section. At a minimum,  
2 the materials described in this subsection must include models for  
3 all of the following:

4 (a) Incorporating a pupil's twenty-first century skills  
5 curriculum into his or her educational development plan as provided  
6 under subsection (1)(o).

7 (b) Integrating the process of developing a twenty-first  
8 century skills curriculum under this section into a school's  
9 standard course-scheduling process and the annual educational  
10 development plan review and revision process required under section  
11 1278b(11).

12 (c) Pathways that provide school districts and public school  
13 academies with the most commonly utilized educational tracks for  
14 pupils to adopt as their twenty-first century skills curriculum.

15 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect  
16 unless all of the following bills of the 101st Legislature are  
17 enacted into law:

18 (a) Senate Bill No.\_\_\_\_ or House Bill No.4931 (request no.  
19 00234'21 \*).

20 (b) Senate Bill No.\_\_\_\_ or House Bill No.4932 (request no.  
21 00235'21 \*).