

SENATE BILL NO. 448

May 18, 2021, Introduced by Senator THEIS and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

A bill to amend 1979 PA 94, entitled
"The state school aid act of 1979,"
(MCL 388.1601 to 388.1896) by adding section 34a.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 **Sec. 34a. (1) From the federal funding appropriated in section**
2 **11, there is allocated \$55,000,000.00 from the federal funding**
3 **awarded to this state from the elementary and secondary emergency**
4 **relief (ESSER) fund under section 2001(f) (1) of the American rescue**
5 **plan act of 2021, title II, subtitle A, part 1 of Public Law 117-2,**
6 **to Grand Valley State University for, subject to subsection (8),**

1 the purposes described in subsections (2) and (3) to address
2 learning loss among students, including, but not limited to, low-
3 income students, children with disabilities, English learners,
4 migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children
5 in foster care, by providing information and assistance to parents
6 and families to effectively support students, including in a
7 distance learning environment.

8 (2) Subject to subsection (8), Grand Valley State University
9 shall use the funding it receives under subsection (1) toward the
10 establishment of a grant program as provided under this subsection.
11 By not later than August 1, 2021, Grand Valley State University
12 shall establish a grant program for reading scholarships to
13 eligible children.

14 (3) Grand Valley State University shall directly apply funding
15 it receives under subsection (1) for each eligible child as a
16 reading scholarship described in subsection (2) toward the payment
17 of eligible services selected by the eligible child's parent or
18 legal guardian in the application described in subsection (6).
19 Grand Valley State University may apply funding under subsection
20 (1) only toward eligible services, as provided under this
21 subsection, for eligible children who are enrolled in districts
22 that have depleted the funding they designated for purposes of
23 subsection (4) under section 11r(4). Grand Valley State University
24 may apply, from the funding under subsection (1), only an amount
25 not to exceed \$1,000.00 for each eligible child.

26 (4) A district, in consultation with Grand Valley State
27 University, shall determine the number of eligible children
28 enrolled in the district. From the funding a district designated
29 for the purposes of this subsection under section 11r(4), the

1 district shall directly apply funding for each eligible child
2 described in this subsection as a reading scholarship described in
3 subsection (2) toward the payment of eligible services selected by
4 the eligible child's parent or legal guardian in the application
5 described in subsection (6). A district may apply, from the funding
6 described in this subsection, only an amount not to exceed
7 \$1,000.00 for each eligible child.

8 (5) Grand Valley State University shall develop a catalog of
9 eligible services and shall provide this catalog to the parent or
10 legal guardian of each eligible child. The catalog developed under
11 this subsection must be provided to all districts and must be
12 available to the general public through Grand Valley State
13 University's website homepage. The catalog described in this
14 subsection must include only services that provide any of the
15 following that are designed to improve reading or literacy:

16 (a) Instructional materials or curricula.

17 (b) Part-time tutoring services.

18 (c) Specialized summer education programming.

19 (d) After-school education programming.

20 (6) Grand Valley State University shall establish an
21 application process for applicants to apply for reading
22 scholarships through the grant program described in subsection (2).
23 The application process must provide for both of the following:

24 (a) The verification of the identity of the eligible child's
25 parent or legal guardian.

26 (b) Require the parent or legal guardian of the eligible child
27 who is seeking the reading scholarship to select, from the catalog
28 developed under subsection (5), which services the parent or legal
29 guardian would like his or her child to participate in through the

1 reading scholarship.

2 (7) A child to whom all of the following apply is an eligible
3 child under this section:

4 (a) The child is enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1,
5 2, 3, 4, or 5 in a district.

6 (b) The child is less than proficient in reading, based on
7 available assessment data, including benchmark assessment data and
8 state summative assessment data.

9 (c) The child has applied for a reading scholarship through
10 the grant program described in subsection (2) through the
11 application process described in subsection (6).

12 (8) From the funding allocated under subsection (1), an amount
13 not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 may be utilized by Grand Valley State
14 University for administrative costs associated with the
15 administration of the grant program described in subsection (2).
16 Grand Valley State University may charge a fee not exceeding 3% of
17 the total administrative costs associated with the administration
18 of the grant program described in subsection (2) for each
19 application submitted through the process described in subsection
20 (6).

21 (9) Each district shall notify the parent and legal guardian
22 of each eligible child enrolled in the district that his or her
23 child meets the criteria of an eligible child under this section.

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

27 (a) Senate Bill No. 265.

28 (b) Senate Bill No. 268.