

SENATE BILL NO. 876

February 16, 2022, Introduced by Senators SCHMIDT, IRWIN, GEISS, BULLOCK, BRINKS, CHANG, HOLLIER, WOJNO, BUMSTEAD, VANDERWALL and BAYER and referred to the Committee on Education and Career Readiness.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
"The revised school code,"
by amending section 1278 (MCL 380.1278), as amended by 2016 PA 170.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1278. (1) In addition to the requirements for
2 accreditation under section 1280 specified in that section, if the
3 board of a school district wants all of the schools of the school
4 district to be accredited under section 1280, the board shall
5 provide to all pupils attending public school in the district a

1 core academic curriculum in compliance with subsection (3) in each
2 of the curricular areas specified in the state board recommended
3 model core academic curriculum content standards developed under
4 subsection (2). The state board model core academic curriculum
5 content standards ~~shall~~**must** encompass academic and cognitive
6 instruction only. For purposes of this section, the state board
7 model core academic curriculum content standards ~~shall~~**must** not
8 include attitudes, beliefs, or value systems that are not essential
9 in the legal, economic, and social structure of our society and to
10 the personal and social responsibility of citizens of our society.

11 (2) Recommended model core academic curriculum content
12 standards ~~shall~~**must** be developed and periodically updated by the
13 state board, ~~shall~~**must** be in the form of knowledge and skill
14 content standards that are recommended as state standards for
15 adoption by public schools in local curriculum formulation and
16 adoption, and ~~shall~~**must** be distributed to each school district in
17 ~~the~~**this** state. The recommended model core academic curriculum
18 content standards ~~shall~~**must** set forth desired learning objectives
19 in math, science, reading, history, geography, economics, American
20 government, and writing for all children at each stage of schooling
21 and be based upon the "Michigan K-12 Program Standards of Quality"
22 to ensure that high academic standards, academic skills, and
23 academic subject matters are built into the instructional goals of
24 all school districts for all children. The state board shall ensure
25 that the recommended model core academic curriculum content
26 standards for history for grades 8 to 12 include learning
27 objectives concerning genocide, including, but not limited to, the
28 Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide. **The state board is strongly**
29 **encouraged to ensure that the recommended model core academic**

1 **curriculum content standards for history for grades 8 to 12 include**
2 **learning objectives concerning Indian boarding schools.** The state
3 board also shall ensure that the state assessment program and the
4 Michigan merit examination are based on the state recommended model
5 core curriculum content standards, are testing only for proficiency
6 in basic and advanced academic skills and academic subject matter,
7 and are not used to measure pupils' values or attitudes.

8 (3) The board of each school district, considering academic
9 curricular objectives defined and recommended ~~pursuant to~~**under**
10 subsection (2), shall do both of the following:

11 (a) Establish a core academic curriculum for its pupils at the
12 elementary, middle, and secondary school levels. The core academic
13 curriculum ~~shall~~**must** define academic objectives to be achieved by
14 all pupils and ~~shall~~**must** be based upon the school district's
15 educational mission, long-range pupil goals, and pupil performance
16 objectives. The core academic curriculum may vary from the model
17 core academic curriculum content standards recommended by the state
18 board ~~pursuant to~~**under** subsection (2).

19 (b) After consulting with teachers and school building
20 administrators, determine the aligned instructional program for
21 delivering the core academic curriculum and identify the courses
22 and programs in which the core academic curriculum will be taught.

23 (4) The board may supplement the core academic curriculum by
24 providing instruction through additional classes and programs.

25 (5) For all pupils, the subjects or courses, and the delivery
26 of those including special assistance, that constitute the
27 curriculum the pupils engage in ~~shall~~**must** assure the pupils have a
28 realistic opportunity to learn all subjects and courses required by
29 the district's core academic curriculum. A subject or course

1 required by the core academic curriculum ~~pursuant to~~ **under**
 2 subsection (3) ~~shall~~ **must** be provided to all pupils in the school
 3 district by a school district, a consortium of school districts, or
 4 a consortium of 1 or more school districts and 1 or more
 5 intermediate school districts.

6 (6) To the extent practicable, the state board may adopt or
 7 develop academic objective-oriented high standards for knowledge
 8 and life skills, and a recommended core academic curriculum, for
 9 special education pupils for whom it may not be realistic or
 10 desirable to expect achievement of initial mastery of the state
 11 board recommended model core academic content standards objectives
 12 or of a high school diploma.

13 (7) The state board shall make available to all nonpublic
 14 schools in this state, as a resource for their consideration, the
 15 model core academic curriculum content standards developed for
 16 public schools ~~pursuant to~~ **under** subsection (2) for the purpose of
 17 assisting the governing body of a nonpublic school in developing
 18 its core academic curriculum.

19 (8) Excluding special education pupils, pupils having a
 20 learning disability, and pupils with extenuating circumstances as
 21 determined by school officials, a pupil who does not score
 22 satisfactorily on the ~~fourth or seventh~~ grade **4 or 7** state
 23 assessment program reading test ~~shall~~ **must** be provided special
 24 assistance reasonably expected to enable the pupil to bring his or
 25 her reading skills to grade level within 12 months.

26 (9) Any course that would have been considered a nonessential
 27 elective course under *Snyder v Charlotte School Dist*, 421 Mich 517
 28 (1984), on April 13, 1990 ~~shall~~ **must** continue to be offered to
 29 resident pupils of nonpublic schools on a shared time basis.

1 (10) As used in this section: 7

2 (a) "Armenian Genocide", "genocide", and "Holocaust" mean
3 those terms as defined in section 1168.

4 (b) "Indian boarding schools" means entities that had or have
5 as their purpose the cultural assimilation of Indigenous children
6 through the forceful relocation of these children from their
7 families and communities to distant residential facilities where
8 the children's American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian
9 identities, languages, and beliefs were to be forcibly suppressed.

10 (11) It is the intent of the Legislature that the amendatory
11 act that added this subsection serve as recognition of the
12 following:

13 (a) That many Indigenous children spent the entirety of their
14 childhood in school systems without seeing their parents or
15 families for many years.

16 (b) That Indigenous children have suffered physical, sexual,
17 cultural, and spiritual abuse and neglect and have experienced
18 treatment that, in many cases, constituted torture for speaking
19 their native languages.

20 (c) That Indigenous children have lost their lives at Indian
21 boarding schools due to abuse, malnutrition, starvation, neglect,
22 inadequate medical care, and disease.