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STATE OF MICHIGAN
90TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1999

Introduced by Reps. Van Woerkom, Birkholz, Bisbee, Sanborn, DeRossett, Law, Richardville, Mead, Kukuk, Cameron Brown, Pumford, Jelinek, Mortimer, LaSata, Pappageorge, Caul, Gilbert, Rick Johnson, Hager, Bishop, Shulman, Rocca, Kuipers, Ehardt, Allen, Gosselin, Julian, Hart, Garcia, Faunce, Toy, Byl, Patterson, Koetje, DeVuyst, Jansen, Stamas, Shackleton, Tabor, Bradstreet, DeWeese, Voorhees, Kowall, Howell, Jellema, Scranton, Richner, Green and Raczkowski

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 4241

AN ACT to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled "An act to provide a system of public instruction and elementary and secondary schools; to revise, consolidate, and clarify the laws relating to elementary and secondary education; to provide for the organization, regulation, and maintenance of schools, school districts, public school academies, and intermediate school districts; to prescribe rights, powers, duties, and privileges of schools, school districts, public school academies, and intermediate school districts; to provide for the regulation of school teachers and certain other school employees; to provide for school elections and to prescribe powers and duties with respect thereto; to provide for the levy and collection of taxes; to provide for the borrowing of money and issuance of bonds and other evidences of indebtedness; to establish a fund and provide for expenditures from that fund; to provide for and prescribe the powers and duties of certain state departments, the state board of education, and certain other boards and officials; to provide for licensure of boarding schools; to prescribe penalties; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," by amending sections 5, 14, 374, and 1311 (MCL 380.5, 380.14, 380.374, and 380.1311), section 5 as amended by 1995 PA 289, section 14 as added by 1998 PA 406, section 374 as added by 1999 PA 10, and section 1311 as amended by 1995 PA 250, and by adding sections 1311b, 1311c, 1311d, 1311e, 1311f, 1311g, 1311h, 1311i, 1311j, 1311k, and 1311l.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 5. (1) "Local act school district" or "special act school district" means a district governed by a special or local act or chapter of a local act. "Local school district" and "local school district board" as used in article 3 include a local act school district and a local act school district board.

(2) "Membership" means the number of full-time equivalent pupils in a public school as determined by the number of pupils registered for attendance plus pupils received by transfer and minus pupils lost as defined by rules promulgated by the state board.

(3) "Nonpublic school" means a private, denominational, or parochial school.

(4) "Objectives" means measurable pupil academic skills and knowledge.

(5) "Public school" means a public elementary or secondary educational entity or agency that is established under this act, has as its primary mission the teaching and learning of academic and vocational-technical skills and knowledge, and is operated by a school district, local act school district, special act school district, intermediate school district, public school academy corporation, strict discipline academy corporation, or by the department or state board. Public school also includes a laboratory school or other elementary or secondary school that is controlled and operated by a state public university described in section 4, 5, or 6 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963.

(6) "Public school academy" means a public school academy established under part 6a and, except as used in part 6a, also includes a strict discipline academy established under sections 1311b to 1311f.

(7) "Pupil membership count day" of a school district means that term as defined in section 6 of the state school aid act of 1979, MCL 388.1606.

(8) "Reorganized intermediate school district" means an intermediate school district formed by consolidation or annexation of 2 or more intermediate school districts under sections 701 and 702.

(9) "Rule" means a rule promulgated pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

Sec. 14. A petition under sections 11a, 411a, 412a, 503, 614, 617, 690, 701, 853, 860, 931, 1026, 1032, 1066, or 1311e, including the circulation and signing of the petition, is subject to section 488 of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.488. A person who violates a provision of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.1 to 168.992, applicable to a petition described in this section is subject to the penalties prescribed for that violation in the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.1 to 168.992.

Sec. 374. (1) A school reform board established under this part shall appoint for the qualifying school district a chief executive officer. The appointment of a chief executive officer must be by at least a 2/3 majority vote of the school reform board, and, for the 5-year period described in section 372(2)(b), the majority vote must include the vote of the superintendent of public instruction or his or her designee on the school reform board. The chief executive officer is employed at the will of the school reform board and has the powers and duties provided under this part.

(2) The chief executive officer, with the approval of the school reform board, shall appoint for the qualifying school district a chief financial officer, chief academic officer, chief operations officer, and chief purchasing officer. These officers are employed at the will of the chief executive officer.

(3) If a vacancy occurs in a position described in this section, a successor shall be appointed in the same manner as the original appointment.

Sec. 1311. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the school board, or the school district superintendent, a school building principal, or another school district official if designated by the school board, may authorize or order the suspension or expulsion from school of a pupil guilty of gross misdemeanor or persistent disobedience if, in the judgment of the school board or its designee, as applicable, the interest of the school is served by the authorization or order. If there is reasonable cause to believe that the pupil is handicapped, and the school district has not evaluated the pupil in accordance with rules of the state board to determine if the student is handicapped, the pupil shall be evaluated immediately by the intermediate school district of which the school district is constituent in accordance with section 1711.

(2) If a pupil possesses in a weapon free school zone a weapon that constitutes a dangerous weapon, commits arson in a school building or on school grounds, or commits criminal sexual conduct in a school building or on school grounds, the school board, or the designee of the school board as described in subsection (1) on behalf of the school board, shall expel the pupil from the school district permanently, subject to possible reinstatement under subsection (5). However, a school board is not required to expel a pupil for possessing a weapon if the pupil establishes in a clear and convincing manner at least 1 of the following:

(a) The object or instrument possessed by the pupil was not possessed by the pupil for use as a weapon, or for direct or indirect delivery to another person for use as a weapon.

(b) The weapon was not knowingly possessed by the pupil.

(c) The pupil did not know or have reason to know that the object or instrument possessed by the pupil constituted a dangerous weapon.

(d) The weapon was possessed by the pupil at the suggestion, request, or direction of, or with the express permission of, school or police authorities.

(3) If an individual is expelled pursuant to subsection (2), the expelling school district shall enter on the individual's permanent record that he or she has been expelled pursuant to subsection (2). Except if a school district operates or participates cooperatively in an alternative education program appropriate for individuals expelled pursuant to subsection (2) and in its discretion admits the individual to that program, and except for a strict discipline academy established under sections 1311b to 1311f, an individual expelled pursuant to subsection (2) is expelled from all public schools in this state and the officials of a school district shall not allow the individual to enroll in the school district unless the individual has been reinstated under subsection (5). Except as otherwise provided by law, a program operated for individuals expelled pursuant to subsection (2) shall ensure that those individuals are physically separated at all times during the school day from the general pupil population. If an individual expelled from a school district pursuant to subsection (2) is not placed in an alternative education program or strict discipline academy, the school district may provide, or may arrange for the intermediate school district to provide, appropriate instructional services to the

individual at home. The type of services provided shall meet the requirements of section 6(4)(v) of the state school aid act of 1979, MCL 388.1606, and the services may be contracted for in the same manner as services for homebound pupils under section 109 of the state school aid act of 1979, MCL 388.1709. This subsection does not require a school district to expend more money for providing services for a pupil expelled pursuant to subsection (2) than the amount of the foundation allowance the school district receives for the pupil under section 20 of the state school aid act of 1979, MCL 388.1620.

(4) If a school board expels an individual pursuant to subsection (2), the school board shall ensure that, within 3 days after the expulsion, an official of the school district refers the individual to the appropriate county department of social services or county community mental health agency and notifies the individual's parent or legal guardian or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, notifies the individual of the referral.

(5) The parent or legal guardian of an individual expelled pursuant to subsection (2) or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the individual may petition the expelling school board for reinstatement of the individual to public education in the school district. If the expelling school board denies a petition for reinstatement, the parent or legal guardian or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the individual may petition another school board for reinstatement of the individual in that other school district. All of the following apply to reinstatement under this subsection:

(a) For an individual who was enrolled in grade 5 or below at the time of the expulsion and who has been expelled for possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon, the parent or legal guardian or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the individual may initiate a petition for reinstatement at any time after the expiration of 60 school days after the date of expulsion. For an individual who was enrolled in grade 5 or below at the time of the expulsion and who has been expelled pursuant to subsection (2) for a reason other than possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon, the parent or legal guardian or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the individual may initiate a petition for reinstatement at any time. For an individual who was in grade 6 or above at the time of expulsion, the parent or legal guardian or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the individual may initiate a petition for reinstatement at any time after the expiration of 150 school days after the date of expulsion.

(b) An individual who was in grade 5 or below at the time of the expulsion and who has been expelled for possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon shall not be reinstated before the expiration of 90 school days after the date of expulsion. An individual who was in grade 5 or below at the time of the expulsion and who has been expelled pursuant to subsection (2) for a reason other than possessing a firearm or threatening another person with a dangerous weapon shall not be reinstated before the expiration of 10 school days after the date of the expulsion. An individual who was in grade 6 or above at the time of the expulsion shall not be reinstated before the expiration of 180 school days after the date of expulsion.

(c) It is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, of the individual to prepare and submit the petition. A school board is not required to provide any assistance in preparing the petition. Upon request by a parent or legal guardian or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, by the individual, a school board shall make available a form for a petition.

(d) Not later than 10 school days after receiving a petition for reinstatement under this subsection, a school board shall appoint a committee to review the petition and any supporting information submitted by the parent or legal guardian or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, by the individual. The committee shall consist of 2 school board members, 1 school administrator, 1 teacher, and 1 parent of a pupil in the school district. During this time the superintendent of the school district may prepare and submit for consideration by the committee information concerning the circumstances of the expulsion and any factors mitigating for or against reinstatement.

(e) Not later than 10 school days after all members are appointed, the committee described in subdivision (d) shall review the petition and any supporting information and information provided by the school district and shall submit a recommendation to the school board on the issue of reinstatement. The recommendation shall be for unconditional reinstatement, for conditional reinstatement, or against reinstatement, and shall be accompanied by an explanation of the reasons for the recommendation and of any recommended conditions for reinstatement. The recommendation shall be based on consideration of all of the following factors:

(i) The extent to which reinstatement of the individual would create a risk of harm to pupils or school personnel.

(ii) The extent to which reinstatement of the individual would create a risk of school district liability or individual liability for the school board or school district personnel.

(iii) The age and maturity of the individual.

(iv) The individual's school record before the incident that caused the expulsion.

(v) The individual's attitude concerning the incident that caused the expulsion.

(vi) The individual's behavior since the expulsion and the prospects for remediation of the individual.

(vi) If the petition was filed by a parent or legal guardian, the degree of cooperation and support that has been provided by the parent or legal guardian and that can be expected if the individual is reinstated, including, but not limited to, receptiveness toward possible conditions placed on the reinstatement.

(f) Not later than the next regularly scheduled board meeting after receiving the recommendation of the committee under subdivision (e), a school board shall make a decision to unconditionally reinstate the individual, conditionally reinstate the individual, or deny reinstatement of the individual. The decision of the school board is final.

(g) A school board may require an individual and, if the petition was filed by a parent or legal guardian, his or her parent or legal guardian to agree in writing to specific conditions before reinstating the individual in a conditional reinstatement. The conditions may include, but are not limited to, agreement to a behavior contract, which may involve the individual, parent or legal guardian, and an outside agency; participation in or completion of an anger management program or other appropriate counseling; periodic progress reviews; and specified immediate consequences for failure to abide by a condition. A parent or legal guardian or, if the individual is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the individual may include proposed conditions in a petition for reinstatement submitted under this subsection.

(6) A school board or school administrator that complies with subsection (2) is not liable for damages for expelling a pupil pursuant to subsection (2), and the authorizing body of a public school academy is not liable for damages for expulsion of a pupil by the public school academy pursuant to subsection (2).

(7) The department shall develop and distribute to all school districts a form for a petition for reinstatement to be used under subsection (5).

(8) This section does not diminish the due process rights under federal law of a pupil who has been determined to be eligible for special education programs and services.

(9) If a pupil expelled from a public school district pursuant to subsection (2) is enrolled by a public school district sponsored alternative education program or a public school academy during the period of expulsion, the public school academy or alternative education program shall immediately become eligible for the prorated share of either the public school academy or operating school district's foundation allowance or the expelling school district's foundation allowance, whichever is higher.

(10) If an individual is expelled pursuant to subsection (2), it is the responsibility of that individual and of his or her parent or legal guardian to locate a suitable alternative educational program and to enroll the individual in such a program during the expulsion. The office of safe schools in the department shall compile information on and catalog existing alternative education programs or schools and nonpublic schools that may be open to enrollment of individuals expelled pursuant to subsection (2) and pursuant to section 1311a, and shall periodically distribute this information to school districts for distribution to expelled individuals. A school board that establishes an alternative education program or school described in this subsection shall notify the office of safe schools about the program or school and the types of pupils it serves. The office of safe schools also shall work with and provide technical assistance to school districts, authorizing bodies for public school academies, and other interested parties in developing these types of alternative education programs or schools in geographic areas that are not being served.

(11) As used in this section:

(a) "Arson" means a felony violation of chapter X of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.71 to 750.80.

(b) "Criminal sexual conduct" means a violation of section 520b, 520c, 520d, 520e, or 520g of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.520b, 750.520c, 750.520d, 750.520e, and 750.520g.

(c) "Dangerous weapon" means that term as defined in section 1313.

(d) "Firearm" means that term as defined in section 921 of title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. 921.

(e) "School board" means a school board, intermediate school board, or the board of directors of a public school academy.

(f) "School district" means a school district, a local act school district, an intermediate school district, or a public school academy.

(g) "Weapon free school zone" means that term as defined in section 237a of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.237a.

Sec. 1311b. (1) A strict discipline academy is a public school under section 2 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963, is a school district for the purposes of section 11 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963 and for the purposes of section 1225, and is subject to the leadership and general supervision of the state board over all public education under section 3 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963. A strict discipline academy is a body corporate and is a governmental agency. The powers granted to a strict discipline academy under sections 1311b to 1311f constitute the performance of essential public purposes and governmental functions of this state.

(2) As used in sections 1311b to 1311f:

(a) "Authorizing body" means any of the following that issues a contract as provided in sections 1311b to 1311f:

(i) The board of a school district that operates grades K to 12.

(ii) An intermediate school board.

(iii) The board of a community college.

(iv) The governing board of a state public university.

(b) "Certificated teacher" means an individual who holds a valid teaching certificate issued by the state board under section 1531.

(c) "Community college" means a community college organized under the community college act of 1966, 1966 PA 331, MCL 389.1 to 389.195, or a federal tribally controlled community college that is recognized under the tribally controlled community college assistance act of 1978, Public Law 95-471, and is determined by the department to meet the requirements for accreditation by a recognized regional accrediting body.

(d) "Contract" means the executive act taken by an authorizing body that evidences the authorization of a strict discipline academy and that establishes, subject to the constitutional powers of the state board and applicable law, the written instrument executed by an authorizing body conferring certain rights, franchises, privileges, and obligations on a strict discipline academy, as provided by sections 1311b to 1311i, and confirming the status of a strict discipline academy as a public school in this state.

(e) "Entity" means a partnership, nonprofit or business corporation, labor organization, or any other association, corporation, trust, or other legal entity.

(f) "State public university" means a university described in section 4, 5, or 6 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963.

Sec. 1311c. Not later than 1 year after the effective date of this section, and at least annually thereafter, the state board shall submit a comprehensive report, with findings and recommendations, to the house and senate committees on education. The report shall evaluate strict discipline academies generally, including, but not limited to, an evaluation of whether strict discipline academies are fulfilling the purposes specified in former section 511(1). The report also shall contain, for each strict discipline academy, a copy of the academy's mission statement, attendance statistics and dropout rate, aggregate assessment test scores, projections of financial stability, and number of and comments on supervisory visits by the authorizing body.

Sec. 1311d. (1) A strict discipline academy shall be organized and administered under the direction of a board of directors in accordance with sections 1311b to 1311i and with bylaws adopted by the board of directors. A strict discipline academy corporation created to operate a strict discipline academy shall be organized under the nonprofit corporation act, 1982 PA 162, MCL 450.2101 to 450.3192, except that the strict discipline academy corporation is not required to comply with sections 170 to 177 of 1931 PA 327, MCL 450.170 to 450.177. To the extent disqualified under the state or federal constitution, a strict discipline academy shall not be organized by a church or other religious organization and shall not have any organizational or contractual affiliation with or constitute a church or other religious organization.

(2) Any of the following may act as an authorizing body to issue a contract to organize and operate 1 or more strict discipline academies under sections 1311b to 1311i:

(a) The board of a school district that operates grades K to 12. However, the board of a school district shall not issue a contract for a strict discipline academy to operate outside the school district's boundaries, and a strict discipline academy authorized by the board of a school district shall not operate outside that school district's boundaries.

(b) An intermediate school board. However, the board of an intermediate school district shall not issue a contract for a strict discipline academy to operate outside the intermediate school district's boundaries, and a strict discipline academy authorized by the board of an intermediate school district shall not operate outside that intermediate school district's boundaries.

(c) The board of a community college. However, except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, the board of a community college shall not issue a contract for a strict discipline academy to operate in a school district organized as a school district of the first class, a strict discipline academy authorized by the board of a community college shall not operate in a school district organized as a school district of the first class, the board of a community college shall not issue a contract for a strict discipline academy to operate outside the boundaries of the community college district, and a strict discipline academy authorized by the board of a community college shall not operate outside the boundaries of the community college district. The board of a community college also may issue a contract for not more than 1 strict discipline academy to operate on the grounds of an active or closed federal military installation located outside the boundaries of the community college district, or may operate a strict discipline academy itself on the grounds of such a federal military installation, if the federal military installation is not located within the boundaries of any community college district and the community college has previously offered courses on the grounds of the federal military installation for at least 10 years.

(d) The governing board of a state public university.

(3) To obtain a contract to organize and operate 1 or more strict discipline academies, 1 or more persons or an entity may apply to an authorizing body described in subsection (2). The application shall include at least all of the following:

(a) Identification of the applicant for the contract.

(b) Subject to the resolution adopted by the authorizing body under section 1311e, a list of the proposed members of the board of directors of the strict discipline academy and a description of the qualifications and method for appointment or election of members of the board of directors.

(c) The proposed articles of incorporation, which shall include at least all of the following:

(i) The name of the proposed strict discipline academy.

(ii) The purposes for the strict discipline academy corporation that will operate the strict discipline academy. This language shall provide that the strict discipline academy is established pursuant to sections 1311b to 1311f and that the strict discipline academy corporation is a governmental entity.

(iii) The name of the authorizing body.

(iv) The proposed time when the articles of incorporation will be effective.

(v) Other matters considered expedient to be in the articles of incorporation.

(d) A copy of the proposed bylaws of the strict discipline academy.

(e) Documentation meeting the application requirements of the authorizing body, including at least all of the following:

(i) The governance structure of the strict discipline academy.

(ii) A copy of the educational goals of the strict discipline academy and the curricula to be offered and methods of pupil assessment to be used by the strict discipline academy. To the extent applicable, the progress of the pupils in the strict discipline academy shall be assessed using at least a Michigan education assessment program (MEAP) test or an assessment instrument developed under section 1279 for a state-endorsed high school diploma.

(iii) The admission policy and criteria to be maintained by the strict discipline academy. The admission policy and criteria shall comply with section 1311g. This part of the application also shall include a description of how the applicant will provide to the general public adequate notice that a strict discipline academy is being created and adequate information on the admission policy, criteria, and process.

(iv) The school calendar and school day schedule.

(v) The age or grade range of pupils to be enrolled.

(vi) The type of pupils to be enrolled in the strict discipline academy, as described in section 1311g(3) and (4).

(f) Descriptions of staff responsibilities and of the strict discipline academy's governance structure.

(g) For an application to the board of a school district, an intermediate school board, or board of a community college, identification of the local and intermediate school districts in which the strict discipline academy will be located.

(h) An agreement that the strict discipline academy will comply with the provisions of sections 1311b to 1311f and, subject to the provisions of these sections, with all other state law applicable to public bodies and with federal law applicable to public bodies or school districts.

(i) For a strict discipline academy authorized by a school district, an assurance that employees of the strict discipline academy will be covered by the collective bargaining agreements that apply to other employees of the school district employed in similar classifications in schools that are not strict discipline academies.

(j) A description of and address for the proposed physical plant in which the strict discipline academy will be located.

(4) An authorizing body shall oversee, or shall contract with an intermediate school district, community college, or state public university to oversee, each strict discipline academy operating under a contract issued by the authorizing body. The oversight shall be sufficient to ensure that the authorizing body can certify that the strict discipline academy is in compliance with statute, rules, and the terms of the contract.

(5) If the state board finds that an authorizing body is not engaging in appropriate continuing oversight of 1 or more strict discipline academies operating under a contract issued by the authorizing body, the state board may suspend the power of the authorizing body to issue new contracts to organize and operate strict discipline academies. A contract issued by the authorizing body during the suspension is void. A contract issued by the authorizing body before the suspension is not affected by the suspension.

(6) An authorizing body shall not charge a fee, or require reimbursement of expenses, for considering an application for a contract, for issuing a contract, or for providing oversight of a contract for a strict discipline academy in an amount that exceeds a combined total of 3% of the total state school aid received by the strict discipline academy in the school year in which the fees or expenses are charged. An authorizing body may provide other services for a strict discipline academy and charge a fee for those services, but shall not require such an arrangement as a condition to issuing the contract authorizing the strict discipline academy.

(7) A strict discipline academy shall be presumed to be legally organized if it has exercised the franchises and privileges of a strict discipline academy for at least 2 years.

Sec. 1311e. (1) An authorizing body is not required to issue a contract to any person or entity. Contracts for strict discipline academies shall be issued on a competitive basis taking into consideration the resources available for the proposed strict discipline academy, the population to be served by the proposed strict discipline academy, and the educational goals to be achieved by the proposed strict discipline academy.

(2) If a person or entity applies to the board of a school district for a contract to organize and operate 1 or more strict discipline academies within the boundaries of the school district and the board does not issue the contract, the person or entity may petition the board to place the question of issuing the contract on the ballot to be decided by the school electors of the school district. The petition shall contain all of the information required to be in the contract application under section 1311d and shall be signed by a number of school electors of the school district equal to at least 15% of the total number of school electors of that school district. The petition shall be filed with the secretary of the board. If the board receives a petition meeting the requirements of this subsection, the board shall place the question of issuing the contract on the ballot at its next annual school election held at least 60 days after receiving the petition. If a majority of the school electors of the school district voting on the question vote to issue the contract, the board shall issue the contract.

(3) Within 10 days after issuing a contract for a strict discipline academy, the board of the authorizing body shall submit to the state board a copy of the contract and of the application under section 1311d.

(4) An authorizing body shall adopt a resolution establishing the method of selection, length of term, and number of members of the board of directors of each strict discipline academy subject to its jurisdiction.

(5) A contract issued to organize and administer a strict discipline academy shall contain at least all of the following:

(a) The educational goals the strict discipline academy is to achieve and the methods by which it will be held accountable. To the extent applicable, the pupil performance of a strict discipline academy shall be assessed using at least a Michigan education assessment program (MEAP) test or an assessment instrument developed under section 1279 for a state-endorsed high school diploma.

(b) A description of the method to be used to monitor the strict discipline academy's compliance with applicable law and its performance in meeting its targeted educational objectives.

(c) A description of the process for amending the contract during the term of the contract.

(d) All of the matters set forth in the application for the contract.

(e) For a strict discipline academy authorized by a school district, an agreement that employees of the strict discipline academy will be covered by the collective bargaining agreements that apply to employees of the school district employed in similar classifications in schools that are not strict discipline academies.

(f) Procedures for revoking the contract and grounds for revoking the contract, including at least the grounds listed in section 1311f.

(g) A description of and address for the proposed physical plant in which the strict discipline academy will be located.

(h) Requirements and procedures for financial audits. The financial audits shall be conducted at least annually by a certified public accountant in accordance with generally accepted governmental auditing principles.

(6) A strict discipline academy shall comply with all applicable law, including all of the following:

(a) The open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

(b) The freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(c) 1947 PA 336, MCL 423.201 to 423.217.

(d) 1965 PA 166, MCL 408.551 to 408.558.

(e) Sections 1134, 1135, 1146, 1153, 1263(3), 1267, and 1274.

(f) Except for part 6a, all provisions of this act that explicitly apply to public school academies established under part 6a.

(7) A strict discipline academy and its incorporators, board members, officers, employees, and volunteers have governmental immunity as provided in section 7 of 1964 PA 170, MCL 691.1407. An authorizing body and its board members, officers, and employees are immune from civil liability, both personally and professionally, for any acts or omissions in authorizing a strict discipline academy if the authorizing body or the person acted or reasonably believed he or she acted within the authorizing body's or the person's scope of authority.

(8) A strict discipline academy is exempt from all taxation on its earnings and property. Instruments of conveyance to or from a strict discipline academy are exempt from all taxation including taxes imposed by 1966 PA 134, MCL 207.501 to 207.513. A strict discipline academy may not levy ad valorem property taxes or any other tax for any purpose. However, operation of 1 or more strict discipline academies by a school district or intermediate school district does not affect the ability of the school district or intermediate school district to levy ad valorem property taxes or any other tax.

(9) A strict discipline academy may acquire by purchase, gift, devise, lease, sublease, installment purchase agreement, land contract, option, or by any other means, hold and own in its own name buildings and other property for school purposes, and interests therein, and other real and personal property, including, but not limited to, interests in property subject to mortgages, security interests, or other liens, necessary or convenient to fulfill its purposes. For the purposes of condemnation, a strict discipline academy may proceed under the uniform condemnation procedures act, 1980 PA 87, MCL 213.51 to 213.75, excluding sections 6 to 9 of that act, MCL 213.56 to 213.59, or other applicable statutes, but only with the express, written permission of the authorizing body in each instance of condemnation and only after just compensation has been determined and paid.

Sec. 1311f. If a school district or intermediate school district applies for and obtains a contract to operate 1 or more strict discipline academies under sections 1311b to 1311l, the power of the school district or intermediate school district to levy taxes for any purpose under this act is not affected by the operation of a strict discipline academy by the school district or intermediate school district. Revenue from taxes levied by a school district or intermediate school district under this act or bonds issued by a school district or intermediate school district under this act may be used to support the operation or facilities of a strict discipline academy operated by the school district or intermediate school district in the same manner as that revenue may be used under this act by the school district or intermediate school district to support school district or intermediate school district operations and facilities. This section does not authorize a school district or intermediate school district to levy taxes or to issue bonds for any purpose that is not otherwise authorized under this act.

Sec. 1311g. (1) A strict discipline academy may be located in all or part of an existing public school building. Except for a strict discipline academy that includes pupils who are the responsibility of a county juvenile agency, a strict discipline academy shall not operate at a site other than the single site requested for the configuration of grades that will use the site, as specified in the application required under section 1311d and in the contract.

(2) A strict discipline academy shall not charge tuition. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (5), a strict discipline academy shall not discriminate in its pupil admissions policies or practices on the basis of intellectual or athletic ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, status as a handicapped person, or any other basis that would be illegal if used by a school district. However, a strict discipline academy may limit admission to pupils who are within a particular range of age or grade level or on any other basis that would be legal if used by a school district.

(3) A strict discipline academy shall be established under sections 1311b to 1311l specifically for enrolling 1 or more of the following types of pupils:

(a) Pupils placed in the strict discipline academy by a court or by the family independence agency or a county juvenile agency under the direction of a court.

(b) Pupils who have been expelled under section 1311(2).

(c) Pupils who have been expelled under section 1311a or another provision of this act.

(d) Other expelled pupils referred to the strict discipline academy by that pupil's school and placed in the strict discipline academy by the pupil's parent or legal guardian.

(4) In addition to the types of pupils specified in subsection (3), a strict discipline public school academy shall be open for enrollment of a special education pupil who does not meet the requirements of subsection (3) if the special education pupil's individualized educational planning committee recommends that the special education pupil be placed in the strict discipline public school academy. As used in this subsection, "individualized educational planning committee" means that term as defined in R 340.1701a of the Michigan administrative code or an individualized education program team as defined in section 614 of part B of title VI of the individuals with disabilities education act, Public Law 91-230, 20 U.S.C. 1414.

(5) A strict discipline academy shall enroll only 1 or more of the types of pupils described in subsection (3) or (4). A strict discipline academy is not required to keep any group of pupils described in subsection (3) or (4) physically separated from another group of those pupils, as might otherwise be required under section 1311, section 1311a, or another provision of this act.

(6) Strict discipline academies are not intended to enroll or otherwise be used to educate individuals who are committed to a high-security or medium-security juvenile facility operated by the family independence agency or another state department or agency. Further, if the family independence agency, department of corrections, or another state department or agency has custody of or jurisdiction over a child, that state department or agency has the financial responsibility for educating the child.

(7) Except for a foreign exchange student who is not a United States citizen, a strict discipline academy shall not enroll a pupil who is not a resident of this state. Enrollment in the strict discipline academy may be open to all individuals who reside in this state who meet the admission policy under subsections (3) and (4) and shall be open to all pupils who reside within the geographic boundaries, if any, of the authorizing body as described in section 1311d who meet the admission policy under subsections (3) and (4), except that admission to a strict discipline academy authorized by the board of a community college to operate, or operated by the board of a community college, on the grounds of a

federal military installation, as described in section 1311d, shall be open to all pupils who reside in the county in which the federal military installation is located who meet the admission policy under subsections (3) and (4). For a strict discipline academy authorized by a state public university, enrollment shall be open to all pupils who reside in this state who meet the admission policy under subsections (3) and (4). If there are more applications to enroll in the strict discipline academy than there are spaces available, pupils shall be selected to attend using a random selection process. However, a strict discipline academy may give enrollment priority to a sibling of a pupil enrolled in the strict discipline academy. A strict discipline academy shall allow any pupil who was enrolled in the strict discipline academy in the immediately preceding school year to enroll in the strict discipline academy in the appropriate grade unless the appropriate grade is not offered at that strict discipline academy.

(8) A strict discipline academy may include any grade up to grade 12 or any configuration of those grades, including kindergarten and early childhood education, as specified in its contract. The authorizing body may approve amendment of a contract with respect to ages of pupils or grades offered.

Sec. 1311h. In addition to other powers set forth in sections 1311b to 1311l, a strict discipline academy may take action to carry out the purposes for which it was incorporated under sections 1311b to 1311l, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(a) To sue and be sued in its name.

(b) To acquire, hold, and own in its own name real and personal property, or interests in real or personal property, for educational purposes by purchase, gift, grant, devise, bequest, lease, sublease, installment purchase agreement, land contract, option, or condemnation, and subject to mortgages, security interests, or other liens; and to sell or convey the property as the interests of the strict discipline academy require.

(c) To receive and disburse funds for lawful purposes.

(d) To enter into binding legal agreements with persons or entities as necessary for the operation, management, and maintenance of the strict discipline academy.

(e) To incur temporary debt in accordance with section 1225.

(f) To solicit and accept any grants or gifts for educational purposes and to establish or permit to be established on its behalf 1 or more nonprofit corporations the purpose of which is to assist the strict discipline academy in the furtherance of its public purposes.

Sec. 1311i. If a strict discipline academy is operated by a school district that is subject to a court desegregation order, pupil selection at the strict discipline academy is subject to that order.

Sec. 1311j. (1) Except as otherwise provided by law, a strict discipline academy shall use certificated teachers according to state board or superintendent of public instruction rule.

(2) A strict discipline academy operated by a state public university or community college may use noncertificated individuals to teach as follows:

(a) If the strict discipline academy is operated by a state public university, the strict discipline academy may use as a classroom teacher in any grade a faculty member who is employed full-time by the state public university and who has been granted institutional tenure, or has been designated as being on tenure track, by the state public university.

(b) For a strict discipline academy operated by a community college, the strict discipline academy may use as a classroom teacher a full-time member of the community college faculty who has at least 5 years' experience at that community college in teaching the subject matter that he or she is teaching at the strict discipline academy.

(c) In any other situation in which a school district is permitted under this act to use noncertificated teachers.

(3) A strict discipline academy may develop and implement new teaching techniques or methods or significant revisions to known teaching techniques or methods, and shall report those to the authorizing body and state board to be made available to the public. A strict discipline academy may use any instructional technique or delivery method that may be used by a school district.

Sec. 1311k. A strict discipline academy, with the approval of the authorizing body, may employ or contract with personnel as necessary for the operation of the strict discipline academy, prescribe their duties, and fix their compensation.

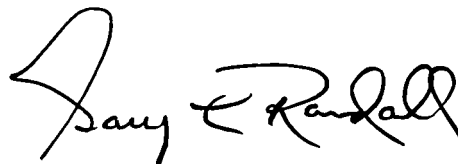
Sec. 1311l. (1) The authorizing body for a strict discipline academy is the fiscal agent for the strict discipline academy. A state school aid payment for a strict discipline academy shall be paid to the authorizing body that is the fiscal agent for that strict discipline academy, which shall then forward the payment to the strict discipline academy. An authorizing body has the responsibility to oversee a strict discipline academy's compliance with the contract and all applicable law. A contract issued under sections 1311b to 1311l may be revoked by the authorizing body that issued the contract if the authorizing body determines that 1 or more of the following has occurred:

- (a) Failure of the strict discipline academy to abide by and meet the educational goals set forth in the contract.
- (b) Failure of the strict discipline academy to comply with all applicable law.
- (c) Failure of the strict discipline academy to meet generally accepted public sector accounting principles.
- (d) The existence of 1 or more other grounds for revocation as specified in the contract.

(2) The decision of an authorizing body to revoke a contract under this section is solely within the discretion of the authorizing body, is final, and is not subject to review by a court or any state agency. An authorizing body that revokes a contract under this section is not liable for that action to the strict discipline academy, strict discipline academy corporation, a pupil of the strict discipline academy, the parent or guardian of a pupil of the strict discipline academy, or any other person.

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act shall be known and may be cited as the "safe schools and communities law".

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Clerk of the House of Representatives.



Secretary of the Senate.

Approved _____

Governor.