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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 1154 (Substitute S-1 as reported)
Sponsor: Senator Michael Switalski
Committee: Education

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act to require a student, beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, to achieve a qualifying score on a "readiness assessment", rather than on the MEAP test, in order to participate in the postsecondary enrollment program.

Currently, to be an "eligible student" under the Act, a pupil must have achieved a State endorsement in all subject areas on the high school proficiency test (also known as the MEAP test). Alternatively, a student may enroll only in a course in a subject area for which he or she has achieved State endorsement, a course in computer science or foreign language not offered by the school district, or a fine arts course.

Under the bill, beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, to be eligible to participate in the program, a student would have to achieve a qualifying score in all subject areas on a readiness assessment (or enroll only in one or more eligible courses in a subject area for which he or she had achieved a qualifying score, in computer science or foreign language not offered by the district, or in fine arts).

The bill would define "readiness assessment" as assessment instruments that were aligned with State learning standards; that were used nationally to provide high school students with an early indication of proficiency in English, math, reading, and science, and contained a comprehensive career planning program; and that were approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The bill is tie-barred to Senate Bills 1153, 1155, 1156, and 1157.

MCL 388.513 et al.

Legislative Analyst: Suzanne Lowe

FISCAL IMPACT

The ACT offers a "readiness assessment" exam that would satisfy the definitional requirements laid out in the bill. This exam is called PLAN and the estimated cost is \$8.50 per scored test. If a student paid for such an exam in order to become eligible for postsecondary enrollment under this Act, there would be no cost to the district. If, however, districts chose to offer this "readiness assessment" as proposed in the bill, the cost to the districts would be \$8.50 per 10th grader.

Date Completed: 11-9-04

Fiscal Analyst: Kathryn Summers-Coty

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Analysis available @ <http://www.michiganlegislature.org>

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