

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 66**

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled  
"The revised school code,"  
by amending sections 1278a and 1278b (MCL 380.1278a and 380.1278b),  
section 1278a as amended by 2009 PA 205 and section 1278b as  
amended by 2010 PA 80.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 1278a. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section  
2 or section 1278b, beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2006,  
3 the board of a school district or board of directors of a public  
4 school academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil  
5 unless the pupil meets all of the following:

6           (a) Has successfully completed all of the following credit  
7 requirements of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from  
8 high school:

1 (i) At least 4 credits in mathematics that are aligned with  
2 subject area content expectations developed by the department and  
3 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including  
4 completion of at least algebra I, geometry, and algebra II, or an  
5 integrated sequence of this course content that consists of 3  
6 credits, and an additional mathematics credit, such as  
7 trigonometry, statistics, precalculus, calculus, applied math,  
8 accounting, business math, a retake of algebra II, **OR** a course in  
9 financial literacy as described in section 1165. A pupil may  
10 complete algebra II over 2 years with 2 credits awarded or over 1.5  
11 years with 1.5 credits awarded for the purposes of this section and  
12 section 1278b. A pupil also may partially or fully fulfill the  
13 algebra II requirement by completing a department-approved formal  
14 career and technical education program or curriculum, ~~that has~~  
15 ~~appropriate embedded mathematics content,~~ such as a program or  
16 curriculum in electronics, machining, construction, welding,  
17 engineering, or renewable energy, **AND IN THAT PROGRAM OR CURRICULUM**  
18 **SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THE SAME CONTENT AS THE ALGEBRA II**  
19 **BENCHMARKS ASSESSED ON THE DEPARTMENT-PRESCRIBED STATE HIGH SCHOOL**  
20 **ASSESSMENT, AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT.** ~~Not later than 30 days~~  
21 ~~after the effective date of the amendatory act that added the~~  
22 ~~immediately preceding sentence, the~~ **THE** department shall post on  
23 its website and ~~submit to the senate and house standing committees~~  
24 ~~on education guidelines~~ for implementation of the immediately  
25 preceding sentence. Each pupil must successfully complete at least  
26 1 mathematics course during his or her final year of high school  
27 enrollment. This subparagraph does not require completion of

1 mathematics courses in any particular sequence.

2 (ii) At least 3 credits in social science that are aligned with  
3 subject area content expectations developed by the department and  
4 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including  
5 completion of at least 1 credit in United States history and  
6 geography, 1 credit in world history and geography, 1/2 credit in  
7 economics, and the civics course described in section 1166(2).

8 (iii) At least 1 credit in subject matter that includes both  
9 health and physical education aligned with guidelines developed by  
10 the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b.

11 (iv) At least 1 credit in visual arts, performing arts, or  
12 applied arts, as defined by the department, that is aligned with  
13 guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state  
14 board under section 1278b. **A PUPIL MAY FULFILL THIS REQUIREMENT BY**  
15 **SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSE**  
16 **THAT COVERS ALL OF THE SAME CONTENT STANDARDS THAT ARE COVERED IN 1**  
17 **CREDIT IN VISUAL ARTS, PERFORMING ARTS, OR APPLIED ARTS, AS**  
18 **DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT.**

19 (v) The credit requirements specified in section 1278b(1).

20 (b) Meets the online course or learning experience requirement  
21 of this subsection. A school district or public school academy  
22 shall provide the basic level of technology and internet access  
23 required by the state board to complete the online course or  
24 learning experience. For a pupil to meet this requirement, the  
25 pupil shall meet either of the following, as determined by the  
26 school district or public school academy:

27 (i) Has successfully completed at least 1 course or learning

1 experience that is presented online, as defined by the department.

2 (ii) The pupil's school district or public school academy has  
3 integrated an online experience throughout the high school  
4 curriculum by ensuring that each teacher of each course that  
5 provides the required credits of the Michigan merit curriculum has  
6 integrated an online experience into the course.

7 (2) In addition to the requirements under subsection (1),  
8 beginning with pupils entering grade 3 in 2006, the board of a  
9 school district or board of directors of a public school academy  
10 shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil  
11 has successfully completed during grades 9 to 12 at least 2  
12 credits, as determined by the department, in a language other than  
13 English, or the pupil has successfully completed at any time during  
14 grades K to 12 course work or other learning experiences that are  
15 substantially equivalent to 2 credits in a language other than  
16 English, based on guidelines developed by the department. **SCHOOL**  
17 **DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIES ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO**  
18 **OFFER INSTRUCTION BEFORE HIGH SCHOOL IN AT LEAST 1 LANGUAGE OTHER**  
19 **THAN ENGLISH.** For the purposes of this subsection, all of the  
20 following apply:

21 (a) American sign language is considered to be a language  
22 other than English.

23 (b) The pupil may meet all or part of this requirement with  
24 online course work.

25 (3) The requirements under this section and section 1278b for  
26 a high school diploma are in addition to any local requirements  
27 imposed by the board of a school district or board of directors of

1 a public school academy. The board of a school district or board of  
2 directors of a public school academy, as a local requirement for a  
3 high school diploma, may require a pupil to complete the Michigan  
4 merit examination under section 1279g or may require a pupil to  
5 participate in the MIAccess assessments if appropriate for the  
6 pupil.

7 (4) For the purposes of this section and section 1278b, all of  
8 the following apply:

9 (a) A pupil is considered to have completed a credit if the  
10 pupil successfully completes the subject area content expectations  
11 or guidelines developed by the department that apply to the credit.

12 (b) A school district or public school academy shall base its  
13 determination of whether a pupil has successfully completed the  
14 subject area content expectations or guidelines developed by the  
15 department that apply to a credit at least in part on the pupil's  
16 performance on the assessments developed or selected by the  
17 department under section 1278b or on 1 or more assessments  
18 developed or selected by the school district or public school  
19 academy that measure a pupil's understanding of the subject area  
20 content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit.

21 (c) A school district or public school academy shall also  
22 grant a pupil a credit if the pupil earns a qualifying score, as  
23 determined by the department, on the assessments developed or  
24 selected for the subject area by the department under section 1278b  
25 or the pupil earns a qualifying score, as determined by the school  
26 district or public school academy, on 1 or more assessments  
27 developed or selected by the school district or public school

1 academy that measure a pupil's understanding of the subject area  
2 content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit.

3 (5) If a high school is designated by the superintendent of  
4 public instruction as a specialty school and the high school meets  
5 the requirements of subsection (6), then the pupils of the high  
6 school are not required to successfully complete the 4 credits in  
7 English language arts required under section 1278b(1)(a) or the 3  
8 credits in social science required under subsection (1)(a)(ii) and  
9 the school district or public school academy is not required to  
10 ensure that each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for  
11 meeting those English language arts or social science credit  
12 requirements. The superintendent of public instruction may  
13 designate up to 15 high schools that meet the requirements of this  
14 subsection as specialty schools. Subject to this maximum number,  
15 the superintendent of public instruction shall designate a high  
16 school as a specialty school if the superintendent of public  
17 instruction finds that the high school meets all of the following  
18 criteria:

19 (a) The high school incorporates a significant reading and  
20 writing component throughout its curriculum.

21 (b) The high school uses a specialized, innovative, and  
22 rigorous curriculum in such areas as performing arts, foreign  
23 language, extensive use of internships, or other learning  
24 innovations that conform to pioneering innovations among other  
25 leading national or international high schools.

26 (6) A high school that is designated by the superintendent of  
27 public instruction as a specialty school under subsection (5) is

1 only exempt from requirements as described under subsection (5) as  
2 long as the superintendent of public instruction finds that the  
3 high school continues to meet all of the following requirements:

4 (a) The high school clearly states to prospective pupils and  
5 their parents that it does not meet the requirements of the  
6 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278b but is  
7 a designated specialty school that is exempt from some of those  
8 requirements and that a pupil who enrolls in the high school and  
9 subsequently transfers to a high school that is not a specialty  
10 school meeting the requirements of this subsection will be required  
11 to comply with the requirements of the Michigan merit standard  
12 under this section and section 1278b.

13 (b) For the most recent year for which the data are available,  
14 the mean scores on both the mathematics and science portions of the  
15 ACT examination for the pupils of the high school exceed by at  
16 least 10% the mean scores on the mathematics and science portions  
17 of the ACT examination for the pupils of the school district in  
18 which the greatest number of the pupils of the high school reside.

19 (c) For the most recent year for which the data are available,  
20 the high school had a graduation rate of at least 85%, as  
21 determined by the department.

22 (d) For the most recent year for which the data are available,  
23 at least 75% of the pupils who graduated from the high school the  
24 preceding year are enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

25 (e) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the  
26 mathematics credit requirements of subsection (1)(a)(i), with no  
27 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5), and each

1 pupil is offered the curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

2 (f) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the  
3 science credit requirements of section 1278b(1)(b) and are also  
4 required to successfully complete at least 1 additional science  
5 credit, for a total of at least 4 science credits, with no  
6 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5), and each  
7 pupil is offered the curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

8 Sec. 1278b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section  
9 or section 1278a, beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2006,  
10 as part of the requirements under section 1278a the board of a  
11 school district or board of directors of a public school academy  
12 shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil  
13 has successfully completed all of the following credit requirements  
14 of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from high school:

15 (a) At least 4 credits in English language arts that are  
16 aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the  
17 department and approved by the state board under this section.

18 (b) At least 3 credits in science that are aligned with  
19 subject area content expectations developed by the department and  
20 approved by the state board under this section, including  
21 completion of at least biology and either chemistry or physics. The  
22 legislature strongly encourages pupils to complete a fourth credit  
23 in science, such as forensics, astronomy, Earth science,  
24 agricultural science, **BUILDING SCIENCE**, environmental science,  
25 geology, physics or chemistry, physiology, or microbiology.

26 (c) The credit requirements specified in section 1278a(1)(a)(i)  
27 to (iv).



1           (2) If a pupil successfully completes 1 or more of the high  
2 school credits required under subsection (1) or under section  
3 1278a(1) before entering high school, the pupil shall be given high  
4 school credit for that credit.

5           (3) For the purposes of this section and section 1278a, the  
6 department shall do all of the following:

7           (a) Develop subject area content expectations that apply to  
8 the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are  
9 required under subsection (1)(a) and (b) and section 1278a(1)(a)(i)  
10 and (ii) and develop guidelines for the remaining credit  
11 requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are required under  
12 this section and section 1278a(1)(a), for the online course or  
13 learning experience required under section 1278a(1)(b), and for the  
14 requirements for a language other than English under section  
15 1278a(2). All of the following apply to these subject area content  
16 expectations and guidelines:

17           (i) All subject area content expectations shall be consistent  
18 with the state board recommended model core academic curriculum  
19 content standards under section 1278. Subject area content  
20 expectations or guidelines shall not include attitudes, beliefs, or  
21 value systems that are not essential in the legal, economic, and  
22 social structure of our society and to the personal and social  
23 responsibility of citizens of our society. The subject area content  
24 expectations shall require pupils to demonstrate critical thinking  
25 skills.

26           (ii) The subject area content expectations and the guidelines  
27 must be approved by the state board under subsection (4).

1           (iii) The subject area content expectations shall state in clear  
2 and measurable terms what pupils are expected to know upon  
3 completion of each credit.

4           (iv) The department shall complete the development of the  
5 subject area content expectations that apply to algebra I and the  
6 guidelines for the online course or learning experience under  
7 section 1278a(1)(b) not later than August 1, 2006.

8           (v) The department shall complete development of the subject  
9 area content expectations or guidelines that apply to each of the  
10 other credits required in the Michigan merit standard under  
11 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) not later than 1 year before  
12 the beginning of the school year in which a pupil entering high  
13 school in 2007 would normally be expected to complete the credit.

14           (vi) If the department has not completed development of the  
15 subject area content expectations that apply to a particular credit  
16 required in the Michigan merit standard under subsection (1) or  
17 section 1278a(1)(a) by the date required under this subdivision, a  
18 school district or public school academy may align the content of  
19 the credit with locally adopted standards.

20           (vii) Until all of the subject area content expectations and  
21 guidelines have been developed by the department and approved by  
22 the state board, the department shall submit a report at least  
23 every 6 months to the senate and house standing committees  
24 responsible for education legislation on the status of the  
25 development of the subject area content expectations and  
26 guidelines. The report shall detail any failure by the department  
27 to meet a deadline established under subparagraph (iv) or (v) and

1 the reasons for that failure.

2 (b) Develop and implement a process for developing the subject  
3 area content expectations and guidelines required under this  
4 section. This process shall provide for all of the following:

5 (i) Soliciting input from all of the following groups:

6 (A) Recognized experts in the relevant subject areas.

7 (B) Representatives from 4-year colleges or universities,  
8 community colleges, and other postsecondary institutions.

9 (C) Teachers, administrators, and school personnel who have  
10 specialized knowledge of the subject area.

11 (D) Representatives from the business community.

12 (E) Representatives from vocational and career and technical  
13 education providers.

14 (F) Government officials, including officials from the  
15 legislature.

16 (G) Parents of public school pupils.

17 (ii) A review of the subject area content expectations or  
18 guidelines by national experts.

19 (iii) An opportunity for the public to review and provide input  
20 on the proposed subject area content expectations or guidelines  
21 before they are submitted to the state board for approval. The time  
22 period allowed for this review and input shall be at least 15  
23 business days.

24 (c) Determine the basic level of technology and internet  
25 access required for pupils to complete the online course or  
26 learning experience requirement of section 1278a(1)(b), and submit  
27 that determination to the state board for approval.

1 (d) Develop and make available material to assist school  
2 districts and public school academies in implementing the  
3 requirements of this section and section 1278a. This shall include  
4 developing guidelines for alternative instructional delivery  
5 methods as described in subsection ~~(7)~~-(9).

6 (4) The state board shall approve subject area content  
7 expectations and guidelines developed by the department under  
8 subsection (3) before those subject area content expectations and  
9 guidelines may take effect. The state board also shall approve the  
10 basic level of technology and internet access required for pupils  
11 to complete the online course or learning experience requirement of  
12 section 1278a(1)(b).

13 (5) The parent or legal guardian of a pupil who has completed  
14 grade 9, a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who  
15 currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area  
16 proposed to be modified by the personal curriculum, or who is  
17 determined by the principal to have qualifications otherwise  
18 relevant to developing a personal curriculum, or a school counselor  
19 or school employee qualified to act in a counseling role under  
20 section 1233 or 1233a may request a personal curriculum under this  
21 subsection for the pupil that modifies certain of the Michigan  
22 merit standard requirements under subsection (1) or section  
23 1278a(1)(a). **IF THE REQUEST FOR A PERSONAL CURRICULUM IS MADE BY**  
24 **THE PUPIL'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OR, IF THE PUPIL IS AT LEAST**  
25 **AGE 18 OR IS AN EMANCIPATED MINOR, BY THE PUPIL, THE SCHOOL**  
26 **DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL DEVELOP FOR THE PUPIL A**  
27 **PERSONAL CURRICULUM THAT COMPLIES WITH THIS SUBSECTION.** A teacher,

1 school counselor, or school employee qualified to act in a  
2 counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a may contact a pupil's  
3 parent or legal guardian to discuss the possibility and potential  
4 benefits of a personal curriculum under this subsection for the  
5 pupil. If all of the requirements under this subsection for a  
6 personal curriculum are met, then the board of a school district or  
7 board of directors of a public school academy may award a high  
8 school diploma to a pupil who successfully completes his or her  
9 personal curriculum even if it does not meet the requirements of  
10 the Michigan merit standard required under subsection (1) and  
11 section 1278a(1)(a). All of the following apply to a personal  
12 curriculum:

13 (a) The personal curriculum shall be developed by a group that  
14 includes at least the pupil, at least 1 of the pupil's parents or  
15 the pupil's legal guardian, **AND** a teacher described in this  
16 subdivision ~~and~~ **OR** the pupil's high school counselor or another  
17 designee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233  
18 or 1233a selected by the high school principal. In addition, for a  
19 pupil who receives special education services, a school  
20 psychologist should also be included in this group. The teacher  
21 included in the group developing the personal curriculum shall be a  
22 teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who currently teaches  
23 in or whose expertise is in a subject area being modified by the  
24 personal curriculum, or who is determined by the principal to have  
25 qualifications otherwise relevant to the group. **THIS SUBDIVISION**  
26 **DOES NOT REQUIRE THE GROUP TO MEET IN PERSON.**

27 (b) The personal curriculum shall incorporate as much of the

1 subject area content expectations of the Michigan merit standard  
2 required under subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) as is  
3 practicable for the pupil; shall establish measurable goals that  
4 the pupil must achieve while enrolled in high school and shall  
5 provide a method to evaluate whether the pupil achieved these  
6 goals; and shall be aligned with the pupil's educational  
7 development plan developed under subsection ~~(11)~~-(13).

8 (c) Before it takes effect, the personal curriculum must be  
9 agreed to by the pupil's parent or legal guardian and by the  
10 superintendent of the school district or chief executive of the  
11 public school academy or his or her designee.

12 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall be in  
13 communication with each of the pupil's teachers at least once each  
14 calendar ~~quarter~~-**YEAR** to monitor the pupil's progress toward the  
15 goals contained in the pupil's personal curriculum.

16 (e) Revisions may be made in the personal curriculum if the  
17 revisions are developed and agreed to in the same manner as the  
18 original personal curriculum.

19 (f) The English language arts credit requirements of  
20 subsection (1)(a) and the science credit requirements of subsection  
21 (1)(b) are not subject to modification as part of a personal  
22 curriculum under this subsection.

23 (g) The mathematics credit requirements of section  
24 1278a(1)(a)(i) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum if  
25 the pupil successfully completes at least 3-1/2 total credits of  
26 the mathematics credits required under that section before  
27 completing high school, including algebra I and geometry, and

1 successfully completes at least 1 mathematics course during his or  
 2 her final year of high school. The algebra II credit required under  
 3 that section may be modified as part of a personal curriculum under  
 4 this subsection if the pupil meets 1 or more of the following:

5 (i) Successfully completes the same content as 1 semester of  
 6 algebra II, as determined by the department.

7 (ii) Elects to complete the same content as algebra II over 2  
 8 years, with a credit awarded for each of those 2 years, and  
 9 successfully completes that content.

10 (iii) Enrolls in a formal career and technical education program  
 11 or curriculum and in that program or curriculum successfully  
 12 completes the same content as ~~1 semester of algebra II,~~ **THE ALGEBRA**  
 13 **II BENCHMARKS ASSESSED ON THE DEPARTMENT-PRESCRIBED STATE HIGH**  
 14 **SCHOOL ASSESSMENT**, as determined by the department.

15 (iv) Successfully completes 1 semester of statistics or  
 16 functions and data analysis.

17 (h) The social science credit requirements of section  
 18 1278a(1)(a)(ii) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum  
 19 only if all of the following are met:

20 (i) The pupil has successfully completed 2 credits of the  
 21 social science credits required under section 1278a(1), including  
 22 the civics course described in section 1166(2).

23 (ii) The modification requires the pupil to ~~complete~~ **DO 1 OF**  
 24 **THE FOLLOWING:**

25 (A) **COMPLETE** 1 additional credit in English language arts,  
 26 mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other  
 27 than English. This additional credit must be in addition to the

1 number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and  
2 section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

3 **(B) COMPLETE A FORMAL CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

4 (i) The health and physical education credit requirement under  
5 section 1278a(1) (a) (iii) may be modified as part of a personal  
6 curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil to ~~complete~~  
7 **DO 1 OF THE FOLLOWING:**

8 (i) **COMPLETE** 1 additional credit in English language arts,  
9 mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other  
10 than English. This additional credit must be in addition to the  
11 number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and  
12 section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

13 (ii) **COMPLETE A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM MEETING**  
14 **THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (7).**

15 (j) The visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts credit  
16 requirement under section 1278a(1) (a) (iv) may be modified as part of  
17 a personal curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil  
18 to ~~complete~~ **DO 1 OF THE FOLLOWING:**

19 (i) **COMPLETE** 1 additional credit in English language arts,  
20 mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other  
21 than English. This additional credit must be in addition to the  
22 number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and  
23 section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

24 (ii) **COMPLETE A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM MEETING**  
25 **THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (7).**

26 (k) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as  
27 part of the pupil's personal curriculum a modification of the



1 Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be  
2 allowed under this section and demonstrates that the modification  
3 is necessary because the pupil is a child with a disability, the  
4 school district or public school academy may allow that additional  
5 modification to the extent necessary because of the pupil's  
6 disability if the group under subdivision (a) determines that the  
7 modification is consistent with both the pupil's educational  
8 development plan under subsection ~~(11)~~-(13) and the pupil's  
9 individualized education program. If the superintendent of public  
10 instruction has reason to believe that a school district or a  
11 public school academy is allowing modifications inconsistent with  
12 the requirements of this subdivision, the superintendent of public  
13 instruction shall monitor the school district or public school  
14 academy to ensure that the school district's or public school  
15 academy's policies, procedures, and practices are in compliance  
16 with the requirements for additional modifications under this  
17 subdivision. As used in this subdivision, "child with a disability"  
18 means that term as defined in 20 USC 1401.

19 (l) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school  
20 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's  
21 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's  
22 personal curriculum, a modification of the Michigan merit standard  
23 requirements that would not otherwise be allowed under this  
24 section. The school district or public school academy may allow  
25 this additional modification for a transfer pupil if all of the  
26 following are met:

27 (i) The transfer pupil has successfully completed at least the

1 equivalent of 2 years of high school credit out of state or at a  
2 nonpublic school. The school district or public school academy may  
3 use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits,  
4 if any, the pupil has earned out of state or at a nonpublic school  
5 that may be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the  
6 Michigan merit standard and this subdivision.

7 (ii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum incorporates as  
8 much of the subject area content expectations of the Michigan merit  
9 standard as is practicable for the pupil.

10 (iii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum requires the  
11 pupil to successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during  
12 his or her final year of high school enrollment. In addition, if  
13 the transfer pupil is enrolled in the school district or public  
14 school academy for at least 1 full school year, both of the  
15 following apply:

16 (A) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum shall require  
17 that this mathematics course is at least algebra I.

18 (B) If the transfer pupil demonstrates that he or she has  
19 mastered the content of algebra I, the transfer pupil's personal  
20 curriculum shall require that this mathematics course is a course  
21 normally taken after completing algebra I.

22 (iv) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum includes the  
23 civics course described in section 1166(2).

24 (m) If a pupil is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor,  
25 the pupil may act on his or her own behalf under this subsection.

26 (n) This subsection does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a  
27 high school that is designated as a specialty school under section

1 1278a(5) and that is exempt under that section from the English  
2 language arts requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the social  
3 science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

4 (O) THE DEPARTMENT OR A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL  
5 ACADEMY SHALL NOT LIMIT THE NUMBER OF PUPILS WITH A PERSONAL  
6 CURRICULUM, OR DISCOURAGE A PUPIL FROM REQUESTING A PERSONAL  
7 CURRICULUM, ON ANY BASIS OTHER THAN THE BEST INTERESTS OF EACH  
8 INDIVIDUAL PUPIL.

9 (P) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY ANNUALLY SHALL  
10 NOTIFY EACH OF ITS PUPILS AND A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF EACH OF  
11 ITS PUPILS THAT ALL PUPILS ARE ENTITLED TO A PERSONAL CURRICULUM  
12 UNDER THIS SUBSECTION. THE ANNUAL NOTICE SHALL INCLUDE AN  
13 EXPLANATION OF WHAT A PERSONAL CURRICULUM IS AND STATE THAT IF A  
14 PERSONAL CURRICULUM IS REQUESTED BY THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN  
15 OR, IF THE PUPIL IS AT LEAST AGE 18 OR IS AN EMANCIPATED MINOR, BY  
16 THE PUPIL, AND IF THE PERSONAL CURRICULUM COMPLIES WITH THIS  
17 SUBSECTION, THE PUBLIC SCHOOL OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY WILL GRANT  
18 THAT REQUEST. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL  
19 PROVIDE THIS ANNUAL NOTICE TO PARENTS AND LEGAL GUARDIANS BY  
20 SENDING A WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH PUPIL'S HOME OR BY INCLUDING THE  
21 NOTICE IN A NEWSLETTER, STUDENT HANDBOOK, OR SIMILAR COMMUNICATION  
22 THAT IS SENT TO A PUPIL'S HOME, AND ALSO SHALL POST THE NOTICE ON  
23 THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY'S WEBSITE.

24 (6) If a pupil receives special education services, the  
25 pupil's individualized education program, in accordance with the  
26 individuals with disabilities education act, title VI of Public Law  
27 91-230, shall identify the appropriate course or courses of study

1 and identify the supports, accommodations, and modifications  
2 necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular  
3 requirements of this section and section 1278a, or in a personal  
4 curriculum as provided under subsection (5), and meet the  
5 requirements for a high school diploma.

6 (7) THE PERSONAL CURRICULUM MODIFICATION ALLOWED UNDER  
7 SUBSECTION (5) (I) (ii) AND (J) (ii) IS AVAILABLE ONLY FOR A CAREER AND  
8 TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT IS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND  
9 IS ESTABLISHED AND OFFERED BY THE BOARD OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR  
10 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY, EITHER ON ITS OWN  
11 OR THROUGH ITS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT, AS A FORMAL  
12 PARTNERSHIP WITH A LOCAL BUSINESS ENTITY, TRADE ORGANIZATION,  
13 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION, STATE LICENSED PROPRIETARY SCHOOL,  
14 UNIVERSITY, OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

15 (8) IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR  
16 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY REQUESTS INFORMATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT ON  
17 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE OR  
18 THAT MAY BE USED TO HELP FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION  
19 AND SECTION 1278A, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THAT INFORMATION  
20 WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME. IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COMPILE  
21 AND POST ON ITS WEBSITE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING  
22 BEST PRACTICES IN CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION:

23 (A) A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE WAYS THAT CAREER AND  
24 TECHNICAL EDUCATION MAY BE USED TO HELP FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
25 THIS SECTION AND SECTION 1278A, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE  
26 ROLE OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN A PERSONAL CURRICULUM  
27 UNDER SUBSECTION (5).

1           (B) INFORMATION HIGHLIGHTING AND DESCRIBING SUCCESSFUL CAREER  
2 AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS BEING OPERATED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
3 AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

4           (C) A LISTING AND DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIOUS TYPES OF CAREER  
5 AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT ARE PROVIDED AROUND THIS  
6 STATE AND THE SUBJECT AREAS AND DISCIPLINES THAT ARE COVERED BY  
7 THESE PROGRAMS.

8           (D) ILLUSTRATIONS OF HOW SCHOOL DISTRICTS, INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
9 DISTRICTS, AND PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIES CAN AND DO WORK WITH LOCAL  
10 BUSINESS ENTITIES, TRADE ORGANIZATIONS, STATE LICENSED PROPRIETARY  
11 SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITIES, OR COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO PROVIDE QUALITY  
12 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

13           (E) THE VARIOUS WAYS IN WHICH SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC  
14 SCHOOL ACADEMIES HAVE EMBEDDED THE COURSE CONTENT FROM CREDITS  
15 REQUIRED UNDER THE MICHIGAN MERIT STANDARD INTO CAREER AND  
16 TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY  
17 METHODS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (9) IN ORDER TO DELIVER THE  
18 CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION AND SECTION 1278A.

19           (9) ~~(7)~~—The board of a school district or board of directors  
20 of a public school academy that operates a high school shall ensure  
21 that each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for the pupil  
22 to meet the curricular requirements of this section and section  
23 1278a. The board or board of directors may provide this curriculum  
24 by providing the credits specified in this section and section  
25 1278a, by using alternative instructional delivery methods such as  
26 alternative course work, humanities course sequences, career and  
27 technical education, industrial technology courses, or vocational

1 education, or by a combination of these. School districts and  
2 public school academies that operate career and technical education  
3 programs are encouraged to integrate the credit requirements of  
4 this section and section 1278a into those programs.

5 (10) ~~(8)~~—If the board of a school district or board of  
6 directors of a public school academy wants its high school to be  
7 accredited under section 1280, the board or board of directors  
8 shall ensure that all elements of the curriculum required under  
9 this section and section 1278a are made available to all affected  
10 pupils. If a school district or public school academy does not  
11 offer all of the required credits, the board of the school district  
12 or board of directors of the public school academy shall ensure  
13 that the pupil has access to the required credits by another means,  
14 such as enrollment in a postsecondary course under the  
15 postsecondary enrollment options act, 1996 PA 160, MCL 388.511 to  
16 388.524; enrollment in an online course; a cooperative arrangement  
17 with a neighboring school district or with a public school academy;  
18 or granting approval under section 6(6) of the state school aid act  
19 of 1979, MCL 388.1606, for the pupil to be counted in membership in  
20 another school district.

21 (11) ~~(9)~~—If a pupil is not successfully completing a credit  
22 required for graduation under this section and section 1278a, or is  
23 identified as being at risk of withdrawing from high school, then  
24 the pupil's school district or public school academy shall notify  
25 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least  
26 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the pupil, of the availability  
27 of tutoring or other supplemental educational support and

1 counseling services that may be available to the pupil under  
2 existing state or federal programs, such as those programs or  
3 services available under section 31a of the state school aid act of  
4 1979, MCL 388.1631a, or under the no child left behind act of 2001,  
5 Public Law 107-110.

6 (12) ~~(10)~~—To the extent required by the no child left behind  
7 act of 2001, Public Law 107-110, the board of a school district or  
8 public school academy shall ensure that all components of the  
9 curricular requirements under this section and section 1278a are  
10 taught by highly qualified teachers. If a school district or public  
11 school academy demonstrates to the department that the school  
12 district or public school academy is unable to meet the  
13 requirements of this section because the school district or public  
14 school academy is unable to hire enough highly qualified teachers,  
15 the department shall work with the school district or public school  
16 academy to develop a plan to allow the school district or public  
17 school academy to hire enough highly qualified teachers to meet the  
18 requirements of this section.

19 (13) ~~(11)~~—The board of a school district or board of directors  
20 of a public school academy shall provide the opportunity for each  
21 pupil to develop an educational development plan during grade 7,  
22 and shall ensure that each pupil reviews his or her educational  
23 development plan during grade 8 and revises it as appropriate  
24 before he or she begins high school. An educational development  
25 plan shall be developed, reviewed, and revised by the pupil under  
26 the supervision of the pupil's school counselor or another designee  
27 qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a

1 selected by the school principal and shall be based on high school  
2 readiness scores and a career pathways program or similar career  
3 exploration program. An educational development plan shall be  
4 designed to assist pupils to identify career development goals as  
5 they relate to academic requirements. **AS PART OF THE PROCESS OF**  
6 **DEVELOPING AN EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN, THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL**  
7 **DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL**  
8 **ENSURE THAT PUPILS ARE PROVIDED WITH INFORMATION ABOUT HOW THEY CAN**  
9 **FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION WITH CAREER AND TECHNICAL**  
10 **EDUCATION.**

11 (14) ~~(12)~~—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if  
12 a school district or public school academy is unable to implement  
13 all of the curricular requirements of this section and section  
14 1278a for pupils entering grade 9 in 2007 or is unable to implement  
15 another requirement of this section or section 1278a, the school  
16 district or public school academy may apply to the department for  
17 permission to phase in 1 or more of the requirements of this  
18 section or section 1278a. To apply, the school district or public  
19 school academy shall submit a proposed phase-in plan to the  
20 department. The department shall approve a phase-in plan if the  
21 department determines that the plan will result in the school  
22 district or public school academy making satisfactory progress  
23 toward full implementation of the requirements of this section and  
24 section 1278a. If the department disapproves a proposed phase-in  
25 plan, the department shall work with the school district or public  
26 school academy to develop a satisfactory plan that may be approved.  
27 However, if legislation is enacted that adds section 1290 to allow



1 school districts and public school academies to apply for a  
2 contract that waives certain state or federal requirements, then  
3 this subsection does not apply but a school district or public  
4 school academy may take action as described in subsection ~~(13)~~  
5 (15). This subsection does not apply to a high school that is  
6 designated as a specialty school under section 1278a(5) and that is  
7 exempt under that section from the English language arts  
8 requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the social science credit  
9 requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

10 (15) ~~(13)~~—If a school district or public school academy does  
11 not offer all of the required credits or provide options to have  
12 access to the required credits as provided under subsection ~~(8)~~  
13 (10) and if legislation is enacted that adds section 1290 to allow  
14 school districts and public school academies to apply for a  
15 contract that waives certain state or federal requirements, then  
16 the school district or public school academy is encouraged to apply  
17 for a contract under section 1290. The purpose of a contract  
18 described in this subsection is to improve pupil performance.

19 (16) ~~(14)~~—This section and section 1278a do not prohibit a  
20 pupil from satisfying or exceeding the credit requirements of the  
21 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278a  
22 through advanced studies such as accelerated course placement,  
23 advanced placement, dual enrollment in a postsecondary institution,  
24 or participation in the international baccalaureate program or an  
25 early college/middle college program.

26 (17) ~~(15)~~—Not later than April 1 of each year, the department  
27 shall submit an annual report to the legislature that evaluates the

1 overall success of the curriculum required under this section and  
2 section 1278a, the rigor and relevance of the course work required  
3 by the curriculum, the ability of public schools to implement the  
4 curriculum and the required course work, and the impact of the  
5 curriculum on pupil success, and that details any activities the  
6 department has undertaken to implement this section and section  
7 1278a or to assist public schools in implementing the requirements  
8 of this section and section 1278a.

9 (18) SCHOOL DISTRICTS, PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIES, AND  
10 INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO ESTABLISH  
11 PROGRAMS IN WHICH, UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM AND GRADUATION  
12 FROM HIGH SCHOOL, THE COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM IS CREDITED TOWARD  
13 ACHIEVEMENT OF A PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE, TRAINING,  
14 APPRENTICESHIP, OR COLLEGE CREDIT IN A SPECIFIC CAREER AND  
15 TECHNICAL FIELD.

16 (19) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, "STATE LICENSED PROPRIETARY  
17 SCHOOL" MEANS A PROPRIETARY SCHOOL LICENSED UNDER THE PROPRIETARY  
18 SCHOOLS ACT, 1943 PA 148, MCL 395.101 TO 395.103.