

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 5463**

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
"The revised school code,"
by amending section 1278a (MCL 380.1278a), as amended by 2015 PA
186.

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:

9 (i) At least 4 credits in mathematics that are aligned with

1 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
2 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including
3 completion of at least algebra I, geometry, and algebra II, or an
4 integrated sequence of this course content that consists of 3
5 credits, and an additional mathematics credit, such as
6 trigonometry, statistics, precalculus, calculus, applied math,
7 accounting, business math, a retake of algebra II, or a course in
8 financial literacy as described in section 1165. A pupil may
9 complete algebra II over 2 years with 2 credits awarded or over 1.5
10 years with 1.5 credits awarded for the purposes of this section and
11 section 1278b. A pupil also may partially or fully fulfill the
12 algebra II requirement by completing a department-approved formal
13 career and technical education program or curriculum, such as a
14 program or curriculum in electronics, machining, construction,
15 welding, engineering, computer science, or renewable energy, and in
16 that program or curriculum successfully completing the same content
17 as the algebra II benchmarks assessed on the department-prescribed
18 state high school assessment, as determined by the department. The
19 department shall post on its website guidelines for implementation
20 of the immediately preceding sentence. Each pupil must successfully
21 complete at least 1 mathematics course during his or her final year
22 of high school enrollment. This subparagraph does not require
23 completion of mathematics courses in any particular sequence.

24 (ii) At least 3 credits in social science that are aligned
25 with subject area content expectations developed by the department
26 and approved by the state board under section 1278b, including
27 completion of at least 1 credit in United States history and

1 geography, 1 credit in world history and geography, 1/2 credit in
2 economics, and the civics course described in section 1166(2). The
3 1/2-credit economics requirement may be satisfied by completion of
4 at least a 1/2-credit course in personal economics that includes a
5 financial literacy component as described in section 1165, if that
6 course covers the subject area content expectations for economics
7 developed by the department and approved by the state board under
8 section 1278b.

9 (iii) At least 1 credit in subject matter that includes both
10 health and physical education aligned with guidelines developed by
11 the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b,
12 or at least 1/2 credit in health aligned with guidelines developed
13 by the department and approved by the state board under section
14 1278b and at least 1/2 credit awarded by the school district or
15 public school academy for approved participation in extracurricular
16 athletics or other extracurricular activities involving physical
17 activity.

18 (iv) At least ~~1 credit in visual arts, performing arts, or~~
19 ~~applied arts, as defined by the department, that is~~ **3 CREDITS IN**
20 **21ST CENTURY SKILLS**, aligned with guidelines developed by the
21 department and approved by the state board under section 1278b. **FOR**
22 **THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH, THE CREDITS IN 21ST CENTURY**
23 **SKILLS MAY BE SATISFIED BY SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING ANY COMBINATION**
24 **OF 3 CREDITS IN THE FOLLOWING:**

25 (A) A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION
26 (2).

27 (B) VISUAL ARTS, PERFORMING ARTS, OR APPLIED ARTS, AS DEFINED

1 **BY THE DEPARTMENT.** A school district or public school academy is
2 strongly encouraged to offer visual arts and performing arts
3 courses.

4 (C) **COMPUTER SCIENCE OR COMPUTER CODING, OR A COMBINATION OF**
5 **THESE.**

6 (D) **A DEPARTMENT-APPROVED FORMAL CAREER AND TECHNICAL**
7 **EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

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

9 (b) Meets the online course or learning experience requirement
10 of this subsection. A school district or public school academy
11 shall provide the basic level of technology and internet access
12 required by the state board to complete the online course or
13 learning experience. For a pupil to meet this requirement, the
14 pupil shall meet either of the following, as determined by the
15 school district or public school academy:

16 (i) Has successfully completed at least 1 course or learning
17 experience that is presented online, as defined by the department.

18 (ii) The pupil's school district or public school academy has
19 integrated an online experience throughout the high school
20 curriculum by ensuring that each teacher of each course that
21 provides the required credits of the Michigan merit curriculum has
22 integrated an online experience into the course.

23 ~~(2) In addition to the requirements under subsection (1),~~
24 ~~beginning with pupils entering grade 3 in 2006, the board of a~~
25 ~~school district or board of directors of a public school academy~~
26 ~~shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil~~
27 ~~has successfully completed during grades K to 12 at least 2~~ **A PUPIL**

House Bill No. 5463 as amended May 26, 2016

1 MAY COMPLETE 1 OR MORE CREDITS IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH

2 TOWARD FULFILLING THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (1) (A) (iv) BY

3 COMPLETING AT ANY TIME DURING GRADES K TO 12 ONE OR MORE credits

4 that are grade-appropriate in a language other than English or

5 course work or other learning experiences that are substantially

6 equivalent to 2-credits in a language other than English, based on

7 guidelines developed by the department. ~~[For pupils who graduate~~

8 ~~from high school in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, or 2021 only, a~~

9 ~~pupil may partially or fully fulfill 1 credit of this requirement~~

10 ~~by completing a department-~~

11 ~~approved formal career and technical education program or~~

12 ~~curriculum or by completing visual or performing arts instruction~~

13 ~~that is in addition to the requirements under subsection~~

14 ~~(1) (a) (iv).]~~ The board of a school district or board of directors of

15 a public school academy is strongly encouraged to ensure that all

16 pupils complete at least 1 credit in a language other than English

17 in grades K to 6. For the purposes of this subsection, all of the

18 following apply:

19 (a) American sign language is considered to be a language

20 other than English.

21 (b) The pupil may meet ~~SATISFY~~ all or part of ~~this requirement~~

22 **THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A CREDIT IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH** with

23 online course work.

24 (3) The requirements under this section and section 1278b for

25 a high school diploma are in addition to any local requirements

26 imposed by the board of a school district or board of directors of

27 a public school academy. The board of a school district or board of

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

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

8 (a) A pupil is considered to have completed a credit if the
9 pupil successfully completes the subject area content expectations
10 or guidelines developed by the department that apply to the credit.
11 For a career and technical education credit, a school district or
12 public school academy may supplement those content expectations and
13 guidelines with additional guidelines developed by the school
14 district or public school academy.

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

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

1 or the pupil earns a qualifying score, as determined by the school
2 district or public school academy, on 1 or more assessments
3 developed or selected by the school district or public school
4 academy that measure a pupil's understanding of the subject area
5 content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit.

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

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

24 (b) The high school uses a specialized, innovative, and
25 rigorous curriculum in such areas as performing arts, foreign
26 language, extensive use of internships, or other learning
27 innovations that conform to pioneering innovations among other

1 leading national or international high schools.

2 (6) A high school that is designated by the superintendent of
3 public instruction as a specialty school under subsection (5) is
4 only exempt from requirements as described under subsection (5) as
5 long as the superintendent of public instruction finds that the
6 high school continues to meet all of the following requirements:

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

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

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

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

1 (e) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the
2 mathematics credit requirements of subsection (1)(a)(i), with no
3 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5), and each
4 pupil is offered the curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

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

11 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
12 after the date it is enacted into law.