

Legislative Analysis



MICHIGAN MERIT EXAM

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4556 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Tom Kunse

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

House Bill 4557 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Matt Koleszar

Committee: Education and Workforce
Complete to 8-27-25

SUMMARY:

House Bills 4556 and 4557 would amend provisions relating to the Michigan Merit Exam (MME)¹ contained in the Revised School Code and the State School Aid Act. Among other things, the bills would consolidate the requirements now contained in both of those acts into a single section in the Revised School Code.

The MME is generally taken by students during their 11th grade year (though eligible 12th graders may also take it). The assessments used for the MME must be used by Michigan's colleges and universities for entrance and placement purposes. The MME has three components:

- The College Board SAT (for essay evidence-based reading and writing and math).
- The ACT's WorkKeys job skills assessment (for applied math, graphic literacy, and workplace documents).
- The Michigan Standardized Test for Educational Progress (M-STEP) (for science and social studies).

House Bill 4556 would amend section 1279g of the Revised School Code, which contains requirements for schools regarding the MME, by removing the following current requirements:

- That students complete a writing component as part of the MME.
- That each student's scaled score on each subject area component of the MME be included on their high school transcript.

The other changes proposed by the bill would add MME requirements to section 1279g of the Revised School Code that are presently contained in section 104b of the School Aid Act. These provisions address such things as when testing is conducted and the attribution of scores for consortium pupils and students in early middle college programs.

MCL 380.1279g

House Bill 4557 would repeal section 104b of the State School Aid Act and update references in sections 22p and 104c to reflect that repeal.

MCL 388.1622p and 388.1704c and MCL 388.1704b (repealed)

¹ <https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/student-assessment/michigan-merit-examination-mme>

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bills would have no impact on the state or on local school districts, public school academies, or intermediate school districts (ISDs).

Currently, both section 104b of the School Aid Act and section 1279g of the Revised School Code provide requirements for the MME. The bills would reconcile and consolidate both sections' requirements in section 1279g and repeal section 104b.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.