



**House  
Legislative  
Analysis  
Section**

Olds Plaza Building, 10th Floor  
Lansing, Michigan 48909  
Phone: 517/373-6466

**H.S. CREDIT THROUGH MASTERY**

**House Bill 4772**

**Sponsor: Rep. William R. Bryant, Jr.**

**Committee: Education**

**Complete to 5-9-96**

**A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4772 AS INTRODUCED 5-2-95**

The School Code currently requires a school board to grant high school credit in a course for any student who, although not enrolled in the course, exhibits a reasonable level of mastery of a subject by attaining a grade of at least C+ in a final exam in the course, or if there is no final exam, by exhibiting that mastery through the basic assessment used in the course, which could consist of a portfolio, performance, paper, project, or presentation. Credit is based on a "pass" grade and is not included in computation of grade point average. Credit earned in this way may or may not count toward graduation, as the local school board determines, but the board's determination must apply equally to all such credit for all pupils. Further, credit earned in this way is to be counted toward fulfillment of a requirement for a subject area course and is to be counted toward fulfillment of a requirement as to course sequence. House Bill 4722 would re-write this provision and limit its application.

The bill would not allow credit to be earned through a demonstration of mastery in a music course, a physical education course, or a course that a student is required by law to take or the passage of which fulfills a statutory high school graduation requirement, including, but not limited to, a civics or American history course.

Under the bill, the C+ grade would have to be earned in a "comprehensive" final examination, and if there was no such examination, mastery could be exhibited through the basic assessment used in the course, which could include "one or more tests, portfolios, performances, papers, projects, or presentations, or a combination of these." Currently, as noted above, the code says the course assessment can consist of "a portfolio, performance, paper, project, or presentation." The code now says that a student can take the final examination in any course in order to earn credit in this way. Under the bill, a student could take any comprehensive final examination or complete another required assessment in any course, except the courses excluded by the bill, as referred to above.

MCL 1279b

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