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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 403 (as introduced 4-18-07)

Sponsor: Senator Wayne Kuipers

Committee: Education

Date Completed: 4-25-07

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Revised School Code to permit the parent or legal guardian of a transfer student who had completed at least two years of high school credit out of State or at a nonpublic school to request additional modifications of the Michigan Merit Standard as part of his or her personal curriculum.

Under the Code, a pupil must complete specific credit requirements of the Michigan Merit Standard before receiving a high school diploma. The Code permits the parent or legal guardian of a pupil to request a personal curriculum that modifies some of those requirements under certain circumstances.

Under the bill, if a pupil transferred to a school district or public school academy from out of State or from a nonpublic school, his or her parent or legal guardian could request, as part of his or her personal curriculum, a modification of the Michigan Merit Standard requirements that would not otherwise be allowed, if the transfer pupil met all of the following:

- The pupil had completed successfully at least the equivalent of two years of high school credit out of State or at a nonpublic school.
- The personal curriculum incorporated as much of the subject area content expectations of the Michigan Merit Standard as was practicable for the student.
- The personal curriculum required the pupil, during his or her final year of high school enrollment, to complete successfully at least one math course, which would have to be at least Algebra I, if the pupil were enrolled in the school district or public school academy for at least one full school year.
- The personal curriculum included the civics course required under the Code.

The school district or public school academy could use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits, if any, the pupil had earned out of State or at a nonpublic school that could be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the Michigan Merit Standard and the bill's requirement that the pupil successfully completed the equivalent of two years of high school credit out of State or at a nonpublic school.

MCL 380.1278b

Legislative Analyst: Curtis Walker

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: Kirk Sanderson

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