

HOUSE BILL No. 4235

February 10, 2009, Introduced by Reps. Nathan, Tlaib and Liss and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled "The revised school code," by amending section 1278 (MCL 380.1278), as amended by 2004 PA 596, and by adding section 1164.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 **SEC. 1164. BEGINNING IN THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR, THE BOARD**
2 **OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL**
3 **ACADEMY SHALL ENSURE THAT ALL PUPILS IN GRADES K TO 12 ARE PROVIDED**
4 **WITH INSTRUCTION IN AT LEAST 1 FOREIGN LANGUAGE.**

5 Sec. 1278. (1) In addition to the requirements for
6 accreditation under section 1280 specified in that section, if the
7 board of a school district wants all of the schools of the school
8 district to be accredited under section 1280, the board shall

1 provide to all pupils attending public school in the district a
2 core academic curriculum in compliance with subsection (3) in each
3 of the curricular areas specified in the state board recommended
4 model core academic curriculum content standards developed under
5 subsection (2). The state board model core academic curriculum
6 content standards shall encompass academic and cognitive
7 instruction only. For purposes of this section, the state board
8 model core academic curriculum content standards shall not include
9 attitudes, beliefs, or value systems that are not essential in the
10 legal, economic, and social structure of our society and to the
11 personal and social responsibility of citizens of our society.

12 (2) Recommended model core academic curriculum content
13 standards shall be developed and periodically updated by the state
14 board, shall be in the form of knowledge and skill content
15 standards that are recommended as state standards for adoption by
16 public schools in local curriculum formulation and adoption, and
17 shall be distributed to each school district in the state. The
18 recommended model core academic curriculum content standards shall
19 set forth desired learning objectives in math, science, reading,
20 history, geography, economics, American government, ~~and~~ writing,
21 **AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE** for all children at each stage of schooling
22 and be based upon the "Michigan K-12 program standards of quality"
23 to ensure that high academic standards, academic skills, and
24 academic subject matters are built into the instructional goals of
25 all school districts for all children. The state board also shall
26 ensure that the Michigan educational assessment program and the
27 Michigan merit examination are based on the state recommended model

1 core curriculum content standards, are testing only for proficiency
2 in basic and advanced academic skills and academic subject matter,
3 and are not used to measure pupils' values or attitudes.

4 (3) The board of each school district, considering academic
5 curricular objectives defined and recommended pursuant to
6 subsection (2), shall do both of the following:

7 (a) Establish a core academic curriculum for its pupils at the
8 elementary, middle, and secondary school levels. The core academic
9 curriculum shall define academic objectives to be achieved by all
10 pupils and shall be based upon the school district's educational
11 mission, long-range pupil goals, and pupil performance objectives.
12 The core academic curriculum may vary from the model core academic
13 curriculum content standards recommended by the state board
14 pursuant to subsection (2).

15 (b) After consulting with teachers and school building
16 administrators, determine the aligned instructional program for
17 delivering the core academic curriculum and identify the courses
18 and programs in which the core academic curriculum will be taught.

19 (4) The board may supplement the core academic curriculum by
20 providing instruction through additional classes and programs.

21 (5) For all pupils, the subjects or courses, and the delivery
22 of those including special assistance, that constitute the
23 curriculum the pupils engage in shall assure the pupils have a
24 realistic opportunity to learn all subjects and courses required by
25 the district's core academic curriculum. A subject or course
26 required by the core academic curriculum pursuant to subsection (3)
27 shall be provided to all pupils in the school district by a school

1 district, a consortium of school districts, or a consortium of 1 or
2 more school districts and 1 or more intermediate school districts.

3 (6) To the extent practicable, the state board may adopt or
4 develop academic objective-oriented high standards for knowledge
5 and life skills, and a recommended core academic curriculum, for
6 special education pupils for whom it may not be realistic or
7 desirable to expect achievement of initial mastery of the state
8 board recommended model core academic content standards objectives
9 or of a high school diploma.

10 (7) The state board shall make available to all nonpublic
11 schools in this state, as a resource for their consideration, the
12 model core academic curriculum content standards developed for
13 public schools pursuant to subsection (2) for the purpose of
14 assisting the governing body of a nonpublic school in developing
15 its core academic curriculum.

16 (8) Excluding special education pupils, pupils having a
17 learning disability, and pupils with extenuating circumstances as
18 determined by school officials, a pupil who does not score
19 satisfactorily on the 4th or 7th grade Michigan educational
20 assessment program reading test shall be provided special
21 assistance reasonably expected to enable the pupil to bring his or
22 her reading skills to grade level within 12 months.

23 (9) Any course that would have been considered a nonessential
24 elective course under Snyder v Charlotte School Dist, 421 Mich 517
25 (1984), on April 13, 1990 shall continue to be offered to resident
26 pupils of nonpublic schools on a shared time basis.