

SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 423

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 sections 1167 and 1279h.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1        SEC. 1167. (1) THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF  
2        DIRECTORS OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY IS ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE  
3        INSTRUCTION THAT FOCUSES ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS DURING THE SCHOOL  
4        YEAR IN A GRADE- AND AGE-LEVEL APPROPRIATE MANNER FOR ALL OF ITS  
5        PUPILS IN GRADES K TO 12:

6        (A) THE CORE PRINCIPLES OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE,  
7        INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

8        (i) WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT, THAT ALL MEN ARE

1   CREATED EQUAL, THAT THEY ARE ENDOWED BY THEIR CREATOR WITH CERTAIN  
2   UNALIENABLE RIGHTS, THAT AMONG THESE ARE LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE  
3   PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.

4       (ii) THE PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT IS TO SECURE OUR UNALIENABLE  
5   RIGHTS.

6       (iii) GOVERNMENT DERIVES ITS JUST POWERS FROM THE CONSENT OF THE  
7   GOVERNED.

8       (B) THE CORE PRINCIPLES OF OUR UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION,  
9   INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

10      (i) OUR CONSTITUTION HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO ENSURE JUSTICE,  
11   ENSURE DOMESTIC TRANQUILITY, PROVIDE FOR THE COMMON DEFENSE,  
12   PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE, AND SECURE THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY  
13   FOR OURSELVES AND OUR POSTERITY.

14      (ii) ALL LEGISLATIVE POWERS ARE VESTED IN A CONGRESS OF THE  
15   UNITED STATES WHICH CONSISTS OF A SENATE AND A HOUSE OF  
16   REPRESENTATIVES.

17      (iii) THE LEGISLATIVE POWERS DELEGATED BY THE PEOPLE TO THE  
18   CONGRESS ARE LIMITED AND ENUMERATED IN ARTICLE I, SECTION 8 OF THE  
19   UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

20      (iv) THE EXECUTIVE POWER IS VESTED IN A PRESIDENT.

21      (v) THE POWERS DELEGATED BY THE PEOPLE TO THE PRESIDENT ARE  
22   LIMITED AND DELINEATED IN ARTICLE II, SECTION 2 OF THE UNITED  
23   STATES CONSTITUTION.

24      (vi) THE JUDICIAL POWERS SHALL BE VESTED IN 1 SUPREME COURT AND  
25   IN SUCH INFERIOR COURTS AS THE CONGRESS MAY FROM TIME TO TIME  
26   ORDAIN AND ESTABLISH.

27      (vii) THE POWERS DELEGATED BY THE PEOPLE TO THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

1 ARE LIMITED AND DELINEATED IN ARTICLE III, SECTION 2 OF THE UNITED  
2 STATES CONSTITUTION.

3 (viii) EVERY STATE IN THE UNION SHALL HAVE A REPUBLICAN FORM OF  
4 GOVERNMENT.

5 (ix) OUR CONSTITUTION CAN BE AMENDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
6 STIPULATIONS OF ARTICLE V OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

7 (x) CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF  
8 RELIGION OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE OF RELIGION.

9 (xi) CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF  
10 SPEECH.

11 (xii) CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF THE  
12 PRESS.

13 (xiii) CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW ABRIDGING THE RIGHT OF THE  
14 PEOPLE PEACEABLY TO ASSEMBLE.

15 (xiv) CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW ABRIDGING THE RIGHT OF THE  
16 PEOPLE TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES.

17 (xv) THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS SHALL NOT BE  
18 INFRINGED.

19 (xvi) THE POWERS NOT DELEGATED TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE  
20 CONSTITUTION OR PROHIBITED BY IT TO THE STATES ARE RESERVED TO THE  
21 STATES RESPECTIVELY, OR TO THE PEOPLE.

22 (C) THE CORE PRINCIPLES OF OUR STATE CONSTITUTION, INCLUDING,  
23 BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

24 (i) ALL POLITICAL POWER IS INHERENT IN THE PEOPLE.

25 (ii) GOVERNMENT IS INSTITUTED FOR EQUAL BENEFIT, SECURITY, AND  
26 PROTECTION OF THE PEOPLE.

27 (iii) NO PERSON SHALL BE DENIED THE EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAWS

1 BECAUSE OF RELIGION, RACE, COLOR, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN.

2 (iv) EVERY PERSON SHALL BE AT LIBERTY TO WORSHIP GOD ACCORDING  
3 TO THE DICTATES OF HIS OR HER OWN CONSCIENCE. A PERSON'S CIVIL AND  
4 POLITICAL RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES, AND CAPACITIES SHALL NOT BE  
5 DIMINISHED OR ENLARGED ON ACCOUNT OF HIS OR HER RELIGIOUS BELIEF.

6 (v) NO LAW IMPAIRING THE OBLIGATION OF CONTRACT SHALL BE  
7 ENACTED.

8 (vi) RELIGION, MORALITY, AND KNOWLEDGE BEING NECESSARY TO GOOD  
9 GOVERNMENT AND THE HAPPINESS OF MANKIND, SCHOOLS AND THE MEANS OF  
10 EDUCATION SHALL FOREVER BE ENCOURAGED.

11 (vii) THE LEGISLATURE SHALL MAINTAIN AND SUPPORT A SYSTEM OF  
12 FREE PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AS DEFINED BY LAW.

13 (viii) EVERY PERSON HAS A RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS FOR THE  
14 DEFENSE OF HIMSELF OR HERSELF AND THIS STATE.

15 (ix) THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE  
16 STATE ARE DECLARED TO BE MATTERS OF PRIMARY PUBLIC CONCERN. THE  
17 LEGISLATURE SHALL PASS SUITABLE LAWS FOR THE PROTECTION AND  
18 PROMOTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

19 (2) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY, AND ITS  
20 PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL PERSONNEL, MAY DEVELOP CURRICULA AND MATERIALS  
21 FOR THE INSTRUCTION DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION THAT ARE ALIGNED WITH  
22 THE STATE BOARD RECOMMENDED MODEL CORE ACADEMIC CURRICULUM CONTENT  
23 STANDARDS DEVELOPED UNDER SECTION 1278 AND ARE GRADE AND AGE-LEVEL  
24 APPROPRIATE.

25 Sec. 1278. (1) In addition to the requirements for  
26 accreditation under section 1280 specified in that section, if the  
27 board of a school district wants all of the schools of the school

1 district to be accredited under section 1280, the board shall  
2 provide to all pupils attending public school in the district a  
3 core academic curriculum in compliance with subsection (3) in each  
4 of the curricular areas specified in the state board recommended  
5 model core academic curriculum content standards developed under  
6 subsection (2). The state board model core academic curriculum  
7 content standards shall encompass academic and cognitive  
8 instruction only. For purposes of this section, the state board  
9 model core academic curriculum content standards shall not include  
10 attitudes, beliefs, or value systems that are not essential in the  
11 legal, economic, and social structure of our society and to the  
12 personal and social responsibility of citizens of our society.

13 (2) Recommended model core academic curriculum content  
14 standards shall be developed and periodically updated by the state  
15 board, shall be in the form of knowledge and skill content  
16 standards that are recommended as state standards for adoption by  
17 public schools in local curriculum formulation and adoption, and  
18 shall be distributed to each school district in the state. The  
19 recommended model core academic curriculum content standards shall  
20 set forth desired learning objectives in math, science, reading,  
21 history, geography, economics, American government, and writing for  
22 all children at each stage of schooling and be based upon the  
23 "Michigan K-12 program standards of quality" to ensure that high  
24 academic standards, academic skills, and academic subject matters  
25 are built into the instructional goals of all school districts for  
26 all children. **NOT LATER THAN MAY 1, 2014, FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL FOR**  
27 **WHICH THERE IS A STATE ASSESSMENT FOR SOCIAL STUDIES, THE STATE**

1 BOARD SHALL UPDATE THE STATE BOARD RECOMMENDED MODEL CORE ACADEMIC  
2 CURRICULUM CONTENT STANDARDS DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO  
3 ENSURE THAT THEY COVER THE INSTRUCTION DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1167.

4 The state board also shall ensure that the Michigan educational  
5 assessment program and the Michigan merit examination are based on  
6 the state recommended model core curriculum content standards, are  
7 testing only for proficiency in basic and advanced academic skills  
8 and academic subject matter, and are not used to measure pupils'  
9 values or attitudes.

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

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

21 (b) After consulting with teachers and school building  
22 administrators, determine the aligned instructional program for  
23 delivering the core academic curriculum and identify the courses  
24 and programs in which the core academic curriculum will be taught.

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

27 (5) For all pupils, the subjects or courses, and the delivery

1 of those including special assistance, that constitute the  
2 curriculum the pupils engage in shall assure the pupils have a  
3 realistic opportunity to learn all subjects and courses required by  
4 the district's core academic curriculum. A subject or course  
5 required by the core academic curriculum pursuant to subsection (3)  
6 shall be provided to all pupils in the school district by a school  
7 district, a consortium of school districts, or a consortium of 1 or  
8 more school districts and 1 or more intermediate school districts.

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

16 (7) The state board shall make available to all nonpublic  
17 schools in this state, as a resource for their consideration, the  
18 model core academic curriculum content standards developed for  
19 public schools pursuant to subsection (2) for the purpose of  
20 assisting the governing body of a nonpublic school in developing  
21 its core academic curriculum.

22 (8) Excluding special education pupils, pupils having a  
23 learning disability, and pupils with extenuating circumstances as  
24 determined by school officials, a pupil who does not score  
25 satisfactorily on the 4th or 7th grade Michigan educational  
26 assessment program reading test shall be provided special  
27 assistance reasonably expected to enable the pupil to bring his or

1 her reading skills to grade level within 12 months.

2 (9) Any course that would have been considered a nonessential  
3 elective course under Snyder v Charlotte School Dist, 421 Mich 517  
4 (1984), on April 13, 1990 shall continue to be offered to resident  
5 pupils of nonpublic schools on a shared time basis.

6 SEC. 1279H. BEGINNING WITH STATE ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED DURING  
7 THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR, FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL FOR WHICH THERE IS  
8 A STATE ASSESSMENT FOR SOCIAL STUDIES, THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC  
9 INSTRUCTION SHALL ENSURE THAT STATE ASSESSMENTS INCLUDE QUESTIONS  
10 RELATED TO THE INSTRUCTION DESCRIBED IN AND DOCUMENTS ENUMERATED IN  
11 SECTION 1167, INCLUDING AT LEAST THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE  
12 AND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.