



Senate Fiscal Agency
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House Bill 5777 (Substitute H-1 as discharged)
Sponsor: Representative Ben Frederick
House Committee: Families, Children, and Seniors
Senate Committee: Education and Career Readiness (discharged)

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Revised School Code to do the following:

- Require the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), by August 31, 2025, to develop a resource for parents or guardians of children who were deaf or hard of hearing and age five or under to monitor the child's expressive and receptive language acquisition and developmental states toward English literacy and prescribe requirements that the resource would have to meet.
- Require the MDE to adopt existing tools or assessment to be used by school districts, intermediate school districts (ISDs), public school academies (PSAs), and the Michigan School for the Deaf to assess the language and literacy development of applicable children and specify criteria that the tools or assessments would have to meet.
- Require each ISD to provide the tools or assessments, created by the MDE, to local school districts, PSAs located in the geographic boundaries of the ISD, and to the Michigan School of the Deaf.
- Require the MDE to provide the developed resource to parents and guardians and the adopted tools and assessments to ISDs, PSAs, and the Michigan School for the Deaf, to be used in the development and modifications of individualized family service plans (IFSPs) or individualized education programs (IEPs).
- Require school districts, ISDs, PSAs, and the Michigan School for the Deaf to implement the tools and assessments developed by the MDE by September 1, 2025.
- Require a school district, ISD, PSA, or the Michigan School for the Deaf to administer the tools and assessments developed by the MDE, or any other assessment used to assess the development of children with disabilities as required by Federal law.
- Require a child who was deaf or hard of hearing to be provided a learning environment that used the family's choice for the child's language.
- Prescribe a time schedule for the development of the resource for parents and guardians of applicable children.
- Require the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI), on January 1, 2025, to appoint 15 volunteer members to an advisory committee within the MDE, and prescribe the committee's duties
- Specify that the advisory committee would be dissolved and cease operations by December 31, 2025.
- Require the MDE to produce an annual report, using certain existing data, and make the report available on its website by July 1, 2026, and by July 1 of each year thereafter.
- Require the MDE's activities with respect to implementation of the bill to be consist with Federal law regarding the education of children with disabilities.
- Require the Legislature to appropriate sufficient funding for the bill's purposes.

Proposed MCL 380.1705

Legislative Analyst: Eleni Lionas

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact for the Department of Education and local school districts, ISDs, PSAs, and the Michigan School for the Deaf. The Department would experience additional costs to support the advisory committee, develop resources for parents, adopt tools and assessments to track language acquisition, and to produce an annual report. These costs likely would need to include additional staffing to support the parent resources and to provide information and training.

Local school districts, ISDs, PSAs, and the Michigan School for the Deaf could experience additional costs to implement the tools and assessments adopted by the Department and to track language acquisition and development for student who are deaf or hard of hearing. Additional costs could be incurred if a child fell behind his or her milestones. The costs would depend on the number of children who are deaf or hard of hearing, how they met their milestones, and if any requirements were beyond the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and therefore would be ineligible to receive Federal funding to support those activities.

The bill includes intent language that the Legislature appropriate sufficient funding to support the bill. The initial appropriation for the Department of Education for fiscal year 2022-23 includes \$1.0 million Gross and General Fund/General Purpose in ongoing appropriations to support the bill's implementation.

Date Completed: 12-7-22

Fiscal Analyst: Cory Savino, PhD

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.