

Legislative Analysis



EXEMPT CERTAIN DISTRICTS FROM MINIMUM INSTRUCTION HOURS REQUIREMENT

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House Bill 4345 (H-1) as passed by the House
Sponsor: Rep. Cam Cavitt
1st Committee: Education and Workforce
2nd Committee: Rules
Complete to 5-14-25

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

(Enacted as Public Act 5 of 2025)

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4345 would amend the State School Aid Act to exempt a district from meeting the minimum of 1,098 hours and 180 days of pupil instruction for the 2024-25 school year only, if that district meets all of the following:

- The district is located wholly or partially in a county covered by a state of emergency declared by the governor (see **Background**, below).
- A majority of the district's board votes to exempt the district from the required minimum hours and days of pupil instruction.
- The board's vote exempts the district from providing only the hours and days of pupil instruction actually missed due to the state of emergency.
- The board's vote exempts not more than 15 days. These days would be in addition to any other missed days of school due to other circumstances that schools are currently allowed to count toward meeting their hours and days of instruction requirements.

MCL 388.1701

BACKGROUND:

The bill is in response to an extensive severe winter ice storm that left tens of thousands of residents in northern Michigan without power, in addition to damaging homes, roads, and other buildings and infrastructure and having other impacts (such as fuel scarcity) on residents.¹

The governor issued two related executive orders declaring a state of emergency under the Emergency Management Act. The state of emergency applied to the Lower Peninsula counties of Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Crawford, Emmet, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego, and Presque Isle and the Upper Peninsula county of Mackinac.²

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state and would likely have an indeterminate, but minimal, impact on certain local school districts and public school academies (PSAs). The bill could create some savings for certain districts and PSAs by waiving days of instruction and the

¹ <https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2025/03/30/historic-ice-storm-cripples-northern-michigan-90000-without-power/82729902007/>

² EO 2025-2 (<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2025-2026/executiveorder/pdf/2025-EO-02.pdf>), which was amended by EO 2025-3 (<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2025-2026/executiveorder/pdf/2025-EO-03.pdf>).

corresponding number of hours of instruction that would have to be added at the end of the school year, thus eliminating the additional utility, food service, and transportation costs.

POSITIONS:

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

- Michigan Education Association (4-23-25)
- Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators (5-1-25)
- Michigan Association of School Boards (4-23-25)
- Michigan Association of Superintendents (5-1-25)

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