

HOUSE BILL NO. 4345

April 17, 2025, Introduced by Reps. Cavitt, Roth, Bohnak, Prestin, Borton, Markkanen, Johnsen, Neyer, Martin, Bierlein and Bruck and referred to Committee on Education and Workforce.

A bill to amend 1979 PA 94, entitled
"The state school aid act of 1979,"
by amending section 101 (MCL 388.1701), as amended by 2023 PA 103.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 101. (1) To be eligible to receive state aid under this
2 article, not later than the fifth Wednesday after the pupil
3 membership count day and not later than the fifth Wednesday after
4 the supplemental count day, each district superintendent shall
5 submit and certify to the center and the intermediate

1 superintendent, in the form and manner prescribed by the center,
2 the number of pupils enrolled and in regular daily attendance,
3 including identification of tuition-paying pupils, in the district
4 as of the pupil membership count day and as of the supplemental
5 count day, as applicable, for the current school year. In addition,
6 a district maintaining school during the entire year shall submit
7 and certify to the center and the intermediate superintendent, in
8 the form and manner prescribed by the center, the number of pupils
9 enrolled and in regular daily attendance in the district for the
10 current school year pursuant to rules promulgated by the
11 superintendent. Not later than the sixth Wednesday after the pupil
12 membership count day and not later than the sixth Wednesday after
13 the supplemental count day, the district shall resolve any pupil
14 membership conflicts with another district, correct any data
15 issues, and recertify the data in a form and manner prescribed by
16 the center and file the certified data with the intermediate
17 superintendent. If a district fails to submit and certify the
18 attendance data, as required under this subsection, the center
19 shall notify the department and the department shall withhold state
20 aid due to be distributed under this article from the defaulting
21 district immediately, beginning with the next payment after the
22 failure and continuing with each payment until the district
23 complies with this subsection. If a district does not comply with
24 this subsection by the end of the fiscal year, the district
25 forfeits the amount withheld. A person who willfully falsifies a
26 figure or statement in the certified and sworn copy of enrollment
27 is subject to penalty as prescribed by section 161.

28 (2) To be eligible to receive state aid under this article,
29 not later than the twenty-fourth Wednesday after the pupil

1 membership count day and not later than the twenty-fourth Wednesday
2 after the supplemental count day, an intermediate district shall
3 submit to the center, in a form and manner prescribed by the
4 center, the audited enrollment and attendance data as described in
5 subsection (1) for the pupils of its constituent districts and of
6 the intermediate district. If an intermediate district fails to
7 submit the audited data as required under this subsection, the
8 department shall withhold state aid due to be distributed under
9 this article from the defaulting intermediate district immediately,
10 beginning with the next payment after the failure and continuing
11 with each payment until the intermediate district complies with
12 this subsection. If an intermediate district does not comply with
13 this subsection by the end of the fiscal year, the intermediate
14 district forfeits the amount withheld.

15 (3) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (11) and (12)
16 all of the following apply to the provision of pupil instruction:

17 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, each
18 district shall provide at least 1,098 hours and 180 days of pupil
19 instruction. If a collective bargaining agreement that provides a
20 complete school calendar was in effect for employees of a district
21 as of June 24, 2014, and if that school calendar is not in
22 compliance with this subdivision, then this subdivision does not
23 apply to that district until after the expiration of that
24 collective bargaining agreement. A district may apply for a waiver
25 under subsection (9) from the requirements of this subdivision.

26 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this article, a district
27 failing to comply with the required minimum hours and days of pupil
28 instruction under this subsection forfeits from its total state aid
29 allocation an amount determined by applying a ratio of the number

1 of hours or days the district was in noncompliance in relation to
2 the required minimum number of hours and days under this
3 subsection. Not later than the first business day in August, the
4 board of each district shall either certify to the department that
5 the district was in full compliance with this section regarding the
6 number of hours and days of pupil instruction in the previous
7 school year, or report to the department, in a form and manner
8 prescribed by the center, each instance of noncompliance. If the
9 district did not provide at least the required minimum number of
10 hours and days of pupil instruction under this subsection, the
11 department shall make the deduction of state aid in the following
12 fiscal year from the first payment of state school aid. A district
13 is not subject to forfeiture of funds under this subsection for a
14 fiscal year in which a forfeiture was already imposed under
15 subsection (6).

16 (c) Hours or days lost because of strikes or teachers'
17 conferences are not counted as hours or days of pupil instruction.

18 (d) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (e) and (f),
19 if a district does not have at least 75% of the district's
20 membership in attendance on any day of pupil instruction, the
21 department shall pay the district state aid in that proportion of
22 1/180 that the actual percent of attendance bears to 75%.

23 (e) If a district adds 1 or more days of pupil instruction to
24 the end of its instructional calendar for a school year to comply
25 with subdivision (a) because the district otherwise would fail to
26 provide the required minimum number of days of pupil instruction
27 even after the operation of subsection (4) due to conditions not
28 within the control of school authorities, then subdivision (d) does
29 not apply for any day of pupil instruction that is added to the end

1 of the instructional calendar. Instead, for any of those days, if
2 the district does not have at least 60% of the district's
3 membership in attendance on that day, the department shall pay the
4 district state aid in that proportion of 1/180 that the actual
5 percentage of attendance bears to 60%. For any day of pupil
6 instruction added to the instructional calendar as described in
7 this subdivision, the district shall report to the department the
8 percentage of the district's membership that is in attendance, in
9 the form and manner prescribed by the department.

10 (f) At the request of a district that operates a department-
11 approved alternative education program and that does not provide
12 instruction for pupils in all of grades K to 12, the superintendent
13 shall grant a waiver from the requirements of subdivision (d). The
14 waiver must provide that an eligible district is subject to the
15 proration provisions of subdivision (d) only if the district does
16 not have at least 50% of the district's membership in attendance on
17 any day of pupil instruction. In order to be eligible for this
18 waiver, a district must maintain records to substantiate its
19 compliance with the following requirements:

20 (i) The district offers the minimum hours of pupil instruction
21 as required under this section.

22 (ii) For each enrolled pupil, the district uses appropriate
23 academic assessments to develop an individual education plan that
24 leads to a high school diploma.

25 (iii) The district tests each pupil to determine academic
26 progress at regular intervals and records the results of those
27 tests in that pupil's individual education plan.

28 (g) All of the following apply to a waiver granted under
29 subdivision (f):

(i) If the waiver is for a blended model of delivery, a waiver that is granted for the 2011-2012 fiscal year or a subsequent fiscal year remains in effect unless it is revoked by the superintendent.

(ii) If the waiver is for a 100% online model of delivery and the educational program for which the waiver is granted makes educational services available to pupils for a minimum of at least 1,098 hours during a school year and ensures that each pupil participates in the educational program for at least 1,098 hours during a school year, a waiver that is granted for the 2011-2012 fiscal year or a subsequent fiscal year remains in effect unless it is revoked by the superintendent.

(iii) A waiver that is not a waiver described in subparagraph (i) or (ii) is valid for 3 fiscal years, unless it is revoked by the superintendent, and must be renewed at the end of the 3-year period to remain in effect.

(h) For the 2024-2025 school year only, a district does not need to meet the minimum number of hours and days of pupil instruction requirement under subdivision (a) if that district meets the following requirements:

(i) The district is located wholly or partially in a county that is covered by a state of emergency declared by the governor.

(ii) A majority of the board of the district votes to exempt the district from the minimum number of hours and days of pupil instruction requirement under subdivision (a).

(iii) The vote by the district board under subparagraph (ii) exempts the district from providing only the hours and days of pupil instruction actually missed due to the state of emergency.

(i) ~~(h)~~—The superintendent shall promulgate rules for the

1 implementation of this subsection.

2 (4) All of the following apply to the counting of days and
3 hours of pupil instruction under this section:

4 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the first
5 6 days or the equivalent number of hours for which pupil
6 instruction is not provided because of conditions not within the
7 control of school authorities, such as severe storms, fires,
8 epidemics, utility power unavailability, water or sewer failure, or
9 health conditions as defined by the city, county, or state health
10 authorities, are counted as hours and days of pupil instruction.

11 (b) With the approval of the superintendent of public
12 instruction, the department shall count as hours and days of pupil
13 instruction for a fiscal year not more than 3 additional days or
14 the equivalent number of additional hours for which pupil
15 instruction is not provided in a district due to unusual and
16 extenuating occurrences resulting from conditions not within the
17 control of school authorities such as those conditions described in
18 this subsection.

19 (c) A district that counts hours or days of professional
20 development for teachers as hours or days of pupil instruction, as
21 provided under subsection (10), is eligible to have additional
22 hours or days counted as hours and days of pupil instruction as
23 provided under subdivision (b) to the same extent as a district
24 that does not count hours or days of professional development for
25 teachers as hours or days of pupil instruction.

26 (d) In deciding whether ~~or not~~ to approve the counting of
27 additional hours or days of pupil instruction under subdivision (b)
28 for a district, the superintendent of public instruction shall not
29 take into account whether ~~or not~~ the district counts hours or days

1 of professional development for teachers as hours or days of pupil
2 instruction, as provided under subsection (10).

3 (e) Subsequent hours or days beyond those described in
4 subdivisions (a) and (b) are not counted as hours or days of pupil
5 instruction.

6 (5) A district does not forfeit part of its state aid
7 appropriation because it adopts or has in existence an alternative
8 scheduling program for pupils in kindergarten if the program
9 provides at least the number of hours required under subsection (3)
10 for a full-time equated membership for a pupil in kindergarten as
11 provided under section 6(4).

12 (6) In addition to any other penalty or forfeiture under this
13 section, if at any time the department determines that 1 or more of
14 the following have occurred in a district, the district forfeits in
15 the current fiscal year beginning in the next payment to be
16 calculated by the department a proportion of the funds due to the
17 district under this article that is equal to the proportion below
18 the required minimum number of hours and days of pupil instruction
19 under subsection (3), as specified in the following:

20 (a) The district fails to operate its schools for at least the
21 required minimum number of hours and days of pupil instruction
22 under subsection (3) in a school year, including hours and days
23 counted under subsection (4).

24 (b) The board of the district takes formal action not to
25 operate its schools for at least the required minimum number of
26 hours and days of pupil instruction under subsection (3) in a
27 school year, including hours and days counted under subsection (4).

28 (7) In providing the minimum number of hours and days of pupil
29 instruction required under subsection (3), a district shall use the

1 following guidelines, and a district shall maintain records to
2 substantiate its compliance with the following guidelines:

3 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a pupil
4 must be scheduled for at least the required minimum number of hours
5 of instruction, excluding study halls, or at least the sum of 90
6 hours plus the required minimum number of hours of instruction,
7 including up to 2 study halls.

8 (b) The time a pupil is assigned to any tutorial activity in a
9 block schedule may be considered instructional time, unless that
10 time is determined in an audit to be a study hall period.

11 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, a pupil
12 in grades 9 to 12 for whom a reduced schedule is determined to be
13 in the individual pupil's best educational interest must be
14 scheduled for a number of hours equal to at least 80% of the
15 required minimum number of hours of pupil instruction to be
16 considered a full-time equivalent pupil. A pupil in grades 9 to 12
17 who is scheduled in a 4-block schedule may receive a reduced
18 schedule under this subsection if the pupil is scheduled for a
19 number of hours equal to at least 75% of the required minimum
20 number of hours of pupil instruction to be considered a full-time
21 equivalent pupil.

22 (d) If a pupil in grades 9 to 12 who is enrolled in a
23 cooperative education program or a special education pupil cannot
24 receive the required minimum number of hours of pupil instruction
25 solely because of travel time between instructional sites during
26 the school day, that travel time, up to a maximum of 3 hours per
27 school week, is considered to be pupil instruction time for the
28 purpose of determining whether the pupil is receiving the required
29 minimum number of hours of pupil instruction. However, if a

1 district demonstrates to the satisfaction of the department that
2 the travel time limitation under this subdivision would create
3 undue costs or hardship to the district, the department may
4 consider more travel time to be pupil instruction time for this
5 purpose.

6 (e) In grades 7 through 12, instructional time that is part of
7 a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program is
8 considered to be pupil instruction time regardless of whether the
9 instructor is a certificated teacher if all of the following are
10 met:

11 (i) The instructor has met all of the requirements established
12 by the United States Department of Defense and the applicable
13 branch of the armed services for serving as an instructor in the
14 Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program.

15 (ii) The board of the district or intermediate district
16 employing or assigning the instructor complies with the
17 requirements of sections 1230 and 1230a of the revised school code,
18 MCL 380.1230 and 380.1230a, with respect to the instructor to the
19 same extent as if employing the instructor as a regular classroom
20 teacher.

21 (8) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (11) and (12),
22 the department shall apply the guidelines under subsection (7) in
23 calculating the full-time equivalency of pupils.

24 (9) Upon application by the district for a particular fiscal
25 year, the superintendent shall waive for a district the minimum
26 number of hours and days of pupil instruction requirement of
27 subsection (3) for a department-approved alternative education
28 program or another innovative program approved by the department,
29 including a 4-day school week. If a district applies for and

1 receives a waiver under this subsection and complies with the terms
2 of the waiver, the district is not subject to forfeiture under this
3 section for the specific program covered by the waiver. If the
4 district does not comply with the terms of the waiver, the amount
5 of the forfeiture is calculated based upon a comparison of the
6 number of hours and days of pupil instruction actually provided to
7 the minimum number of hours and days of pupil instruction required
8 under subsection (3). A district shall report pupils enrolled in a
9 department-approved alternative education program under this
10 subsection to the center in a form and manner determined by the
11 center. All of the following apply to a waiver granted under this
12 subsection:

13 (a) If the waiver is for a blended model of delivery, a waiver
14 that is granted for the 2011-2012 fiscal year or a subsequent
15 fiscal year remains in effect unless it is revoked by the
16 superintendent.

17 (b) If the waiver is for a 100% online model of delivery and
18 the educational program for which the waiver is granted makes
19 educational services available to pupils for a minimum of at least
20 1,098 hours during a school year and ensures that each pupil is on
21 track for course completion at proficiency level, a waiver that is
22 granted for the 2011-2012 fiscal year or a subsequent fiscal year
23 remains in effect unless it is revoked by the superintendent.

24 (c) A waiver that is not a waiver described in subdivision (a)
25 or (b) is valid for 3 fiscal years, unless it is revoked by the
26 superintendent, and must be renewed at the end of the 3-year period
27 to remain in effect.

28 (10) A district may count up to 38 hours of professional
29 development for teachers as hours of pupil instruction. All of the

1 following apply to the counting of professional development as
2 pupil instruction under this subsection:

3 (a) If the professional development exceeds 5 hours in a
4 single day, that day may be counted as a day of pupil instruction.

5 (b) At least 8 hours of the professional development counted
6 as hours of pupil instruction under this subsection must be
7 recommended by a districtwide professional development advisory
8 committee appointed by the district board. The advisory committee
9 must be composed of teachers employed by the district who represent
10 a variety of grades and subject matter specializations, including
11 special education; nonteaching staff; parents; and administrators.
12 The majority membership of the committee must be composed of
13 teaching staff.

14 (c) Professional development provided online is allowable and
15 encouraged, as long as the instruction has been approved by the
16 district. The department shall issue a list of approved online
17 professional development providers that must include the Michigan
18 Virtual School.

19 (d) Professional development may only be counted as hours of
20 pupil instruction under this subsection for the pupils of those
21 teachers scheduled to participate in the professional development.

22 (e) The professional development must meet all of the
23 following to be counted as pupil instruction under this subsection:

24 (i) Be aligned to the school or district improvement plan for
25 the school or district in which the professional development is
26 being provided.

27 (ii) Be linked to 1 or more criteria in the evaluation tool
28 developed or adopted by the district or intermediate district under
29 section 1249 of the revised school code, MCL 380.1249.

1 (iii) Has been approved by the department as counting for state
2 continuing education clock hours. The number of hours of
3 professional development counted as hours of pupil instruction
4 under this subsection may not exceed the number of state continuing
5 education clock hours for which the professional development was
6 approved.

7 (iv) Not more than a combined total of 10 hours of the
8 professional development takes place before the first scheduled day
9 of school for the school year ending in the fiscal year and after
10 the last scheduled day of school for that school year.

11 (v) Not more than 10 hours of the professional development
12 takes place in a single month.

13 (vi) At least 75% of teachers scheduled to participate in the
14 professional development are in attendance.

15 (11) Subsections (3) and (8) do not apply to a school of
16 excellence that is a cyber school, as that term is defined in
17 section 551 of the revised school code, MCL 380.551, and is in
18 compliance with section 553a of the revised school code, MCL
19 380.553a. Beginning July 1, 2021, this subsection is subject to
20 section 8c. It is the intent of the legislature that the
21 immediately preceding sentence apply retroactively and is effective
22 July 1, 2021.

23 (12) Subsections (3) and (8) do not apply to eligible pupils
24 enrolled in a dropout recovery program that meets the requirements
25 of section 23a. As used in this subsection, "eligible pupil" means
26 that term as defined in section 23a.

27 (13) At least every 2 years the superintendent shall review
28 the waiver standards set forth in the pupil accounting and auditing
29 manuals to ensure that the waiver standards and waiver process

- 1 continue to be appropriate and responsive to changing trends in
- 2 online learning. The superintendent shall solicit and consider
- 3 input from stakeholders as part of this review.