

Act No. 227
Public Acts of 2004
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**STATE OF MICHIGAN
92ND LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2004**

Introduced by Senators Basham, Clark-Coleman, Bishop and Allen

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 599

AN ACT to amend 1979 PA 94, entitled "An act to make appropriations to aid in the support of the public schools and the intermediate school districts of the state; to make appropriations for certain other purposes relating to education; to provide for the disbursement of the appropriations; to supplement the school aid fund by the levy and collection of certain taxes; to authorize the issuance of certain bonds and provide for the security of those bonds; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state departments, the state board of education, and certain other boards and officials; to create certain funds and provide for their expenditure; to prescribe penalties; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," by amending section 6 (MCL 388.1606), as amended by 2003 PA 158.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 6. (1) "Center program" means a program operated by a district or intermediate district for special education pupils from several districts in programs for the autistically impaired, trainable mentally impaired, severely mentally impaired, severely multiply impaired, hearing impaired, physically and otherwise health impaired, and visually impaired. Programs for emotionally impaired pupils housed in buildings that do not serve regular education pupils also qualify. Unless otherwise approved by the department, a center program either shall serve all constituent districts within an intermediate district or shall serve several districts with less than 50% of the pupils residing in the operating district. In addition, special education center program pupils placed part-time in noncenter programs to comply with the least restrictive environment provisions of section 612 of part B of the individuals with disabilities education act, title VI of Public Law 91-230, 20 U.S.C. 1412, may be considered center program pupils for pupil accounting purposes for the time scheduled in either a center program or a noncenter program.

(2) "District and high school graduation rate" means the annual completion and pupil dropout rate that is calculated by the center pursuant to nationally recognized standards.

(3) "District and high school graduation report" means a report of the number of pupils, excluding migrant and adult, in the district for the immediately preceding school year, adjusted for those pupils who have transferred into or out of the district or transferred to alternative programs, who leave high school with a diploma or other credential.

(4) "Membership", except as otherwise provided in this act, means for a district, public school academy, university school, or intermediate district the sum of the product of .8 times the number of full-time equated pupils in grades K to 12 actually enrolled and in regular daily attendance on the pupil membership count day for the current school year, plus the product of .2 times the final audited count from the supplemental count day for the immediately preceding school year. All pupil counts used in this subsection are as determined by the department and calculated by adding the number of pupils registered for attendance plus pupils received by transfer and minus pupils lost as defined by rules promulgated by the superintendent, and as corrected by a subsequent department audit. The amount of the foundation allowance for a pupil in membership is determined under section 20. In making the calculation of membership, all of the following, as applicable, apply to determining the membership of a district, public school academy, university school, or intermediate district:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, and pursuant to subsection (6), a pupil shall be counted in membership in the pupil's educating district or districts. An individual pupil shall not be counted for more than a total of 1.0 full-time equated membership.

(b) If a pupil is educated in a district other than the pupil's district of residence, if the pupil is not being educated as part of a cooperative education program, if the pupil's district of residence does not give the educating district its approval to count the pupil in membership in the educating district, and if the pupil is not covered by an exception specified in subsection (6) to the requirement that the educating district must have the approval of the pupil's district of residence to count the pupil in membership, the pupil shall not be counted in membership in any district.

(c) A special education pupil educated by the intermediate district shall be counted in membership in the intermediate district.

(d) A pupil placed by a court or state agency in an on-grounds program of a juvenile detention facility, a child caring institution, or a mental health institution, or a pupil funded under section 53a, shall be counted in membership in the district or intermediate district approved by the department to operate the program.

(e) A pupil enrolled in the Michigan schools for the deaf and blind shall be counted in membership in the pupil's intermediate district of residence.

(f) A pupil enrolled in a vocational education program supported by a millage levied over an area larger than a single district or in an area vocational-technical education program established pursuant to section 690 of the revised school code, MCL 380.690, shall be counted only in the pupil's district of residence.

(g) A pupil enrolled in a university school shall be counted in membership in the university school.

(h) A pupil enrolled in a public school academy shall be counted in membership in the public school academy.

(i) For a new district, university school, or public school academy beginning its operation after December 31, 1994, membership for the first 2 full or partial fiscal years of operation shall be determined as follows:

(i) If operations begin before the pupil membership count day for the fiscal year, membership is the average number of full-time equated pupils in grades K to 12 actually enrolled and in regular daily attendance on the pupil membership count day for the current school year and on the supplemental count day for the current school year, as determined by the department and calculated by adding the number of pupils registered for attendance on the pupil membership count day plus pupils received by transfer and minus pupils lost as defined by rules promulgated by the superintendent, and as corrected by a subsequent department audit, plus the final audited count from the supplemental count day for the current school year, and dividing that sum by 2.

(ii) If operations begin after the pupil membership count day for the fiscal year and not later than the supplemental count day for the fiscal year, membership is the final audited count of the number of full-time equated pupils in grades K to 12 actually enrolled and in regular daily attendance on the supplemental count day for the current school year.

(j) If a district is the authorizing body for a public school academy, then, in the first school year in which pupils are counted in membership on the pupil membership count day in the public school academy, the determination of the district's membership shall exclude from the district's pupil count for the immediately preceding supplemental count day any pupils who are counted in the public school academy on that first pupil membership count day who were also counted in the district on the immediately preceding supplemental count day.

(k) In a district, public school academy, university school, or intermediate district operating an extended school year program approved by the superintendent, a pupil enrolled, but not scheduled to be in regular daily attendance on a pupil membership count day, shall be counted.

(l) Pupils to be counted in membership shall be not less than 5 years of age on December 1 and less than 20 years of age on September 1 of the school year except a special education pupil who is enrolled and receiving instruction in a special education program or service approved by the department and not having a high school diploma who is less than 26 years of age as of September 1 of the current school year shall be counted in membership.

(m) An individual who has obtained a high school diploma shall not be counted in membership. An individual who has obtained a general education development (G.E.D.) certificate shall not be counted in membership. An individual participating in a job training program funded under former section 107a or a jobs program funded under former section 107b, administered by the Michigan strategic fund or the department of career development, or participating in any successor of either of those 2 programs, shall not be counted in membership.

(n) If a pupil counted in membership in a public school academy is also educated by a district or intermediate district as part of a cooperative education program, the pupil shall be counted in membership only in the public school academy, and the instructional time scheduled for the pupil in the district or intermediate district shall be included in the full-time equated membership determination under subdivision (q). However, for pupils receiving instruction in both a public school academy and in a district or intermediate district but not as a part of a cooperative education program, the following apply:

(i) If the public school academy provides instruction for at least 1/2 of the class hours specified in subdivision (q), the public school academy shall receive as its prorated share of the full-time equated membership for each of those pupils an amount equal to 1 times the product of the hours of instruction the public school academy provides divided by the number of hours specified in subdivision (q) for full-time equivalency, and the remainder of the full-time membership

for each of those pupils shall be allocated to the district or intermediate district providing the remainder of the hours of instruction.

(ii) If the public school academy provides instruction for less than 1/2 of the class hours specified in subdivision (q), the district or intermediate district providing the remainder of the hours of instruction shall receive as its prorated share of the full-time equated membership for each of those pupils an amount equal to 1 times the product of the hours of instruction the district or intermediate district provides divided by the number of hours specified in subdivision (q) for full-time equivalency, and the remainder of the full-time membership for each of those pupils shall be allocated to the public school academy.

(o) An individual less than 16 years of age as of September 1 of the current school year who is being educated in an alternative education program shall not be counted in membership if there are also adult education participants being educated in the same program or classroom.

(p) The department shall give a uniform interpretation of full-time and part-time memberships.

(q) The number of class hours used to calculate full-time equated memberships shall be consistent with section 101(3). In determining full-time equated memberships for pupils who are enrolled in a postsecondary institution, a pupil shall not be considered to be less than a full-time equated pupil solely because of the effect of his or her postsecondary enrollment, including necessary travel time, on the number of class hours provided by the district to the pupil.

(r) Full-time equated memberships for pupils in kindergarten shall be determined by dividing the number of class hours scheduled and provided per year per kindergarten pupil by a number equal to 1/2 the number used for determining full-time equated memberships for pupils in grades 1 to 12.

(s) For a district, university school, or public school academy that has pupils enrolled in a grade level that was not offered by the district, university school, or public school academy in the immediately preceding school year, the number of pupils enrolled in that grade level to be counted in membership is the average of the number of those pupils enrolled and in regular daily attendance on the pupil membership count day and the supplemental count day of the current school year, as determined by the department. Membership shall be calculated by adding the number of pupils registered for attendance in that grade level on the pupil membership count day plus pupils received by transfer and minus pupils lost as defined by rules promulgated by the superintendent, and as corrected by subsequent department audit, plus the final audited count from the supplemental count day for the current school year, and dividing that sum by 2.

(t) A pupil enrolled in a cooperative education program may be counted in membership in the pupil's district of residence with the written approval of all parties to the cooperative agreement.

(u) If, as a result of a disciplinary action, a district determines through the district's alternative or disciplinary education program that the best instructional placement for a pupil is in the pupil's home, if that placement is authorized in writing by the district superintendent and district alternative or disciplinary education supervisor, and if the district provides appropriate instruction as described in this subdivision to the pupil at the pupil's home, the district may count the pupil in membership on a pro rata basis, with the proration based on the number of hours of instruction the district actually provides to the pupil divided by the number of hours specified in subdivision (q) for full-time equivalency. For the purposes of this subdivision, a district shall be considered to be providing appropriate instruction if all of the following are met:

(i) The district provides at least 2 nonconsecutive hours of instruction per week to the pupil at the pupil's home under the supervision of a certificated teacher.

(ii) The district provides instructional materials, resources, and supplies, except computers, that are comparable to those otherwise provided in the district's alternative education program.

(iii) Course content is comparable to that in the district's alternative education program.

(iv) Credit earned is awarded to the pupil and placed on the pupil's transcript.

(v) A pupil enrolled in an alternative or disciplinary education program described in section 25 shall be counted in membership in the district or public school academy that expelled the pupil.

(w) If a pupil was enrolled in a public school academy on the pupil membership count day, if the public school academy's contract with its authorizing body is revoked, and if the pupil enrolls in a district within 45 days after the pupil membership count day, the department shall adjust the district's pupil count for the pupil membership count day to include the pupil in the count.

(x) For a public school academy that has been in operation for at least 2 years and that suspended operations for at least 1 semester and is resuming operations, membership is the sum of the product of .8 times the number of full-time equated pupils in grades K to 12 actually enrolled and in regular daily attendance on the first pupil membership count day or supplemental count day, whichever is first, occurring after operations resume, plus the product of .2 times the final audited count from the most recent pupil membership count day or supplemental count day that occurred before suspending operations, as determined by the superintendent.

(y) If a district's membership for a particular fiscal year, as otherwise calculated under this subsection, would be less than 1,550 pupils and the district has 4.5 or fewer pupils per square mile, as determined by the department, the district's

membership shall be considered to be the membership figure calculated under this subdivision. If a district educates and counts in its membership pupils in grades 9 to 12 who reside in a contiguous district that does not operate grades 9 to 12 and if 1 or both of the affected districts request the department to use the determination allowed under this sentence, the department shall include the square mileage of both districts in determining the number of pupils per square mile for each of the districts for the purposes of this subdivision. The membership figure calculated under this subdivision is the greater of the following:

(i) The average of the district's membership for the 3-fiscal-year period ending with that fiscal year, calculated by adding the district's actual membership for each of those 3 fiscal years, as otherwise calculated under this subsection, and dividing the sum of those 3 membership figures by 3.

(ii) The district's actual membership for that fiscal year as otherwise calculated under this subsection.

(z) If a public school academy that is not in its first or second year of operation closes at the end of a school year and does not reopen for the next school year, the department shall adjust the membership count of the district in which a former pupil of the public school academy enrolls and is in regular daily attendance for the next school year to ensure that the district receives the same amount of membership aid for the pupil as if the pupil were counted in the district on the supplemental count day of the preceding school year.

(5) "Public school academy" means a public school academy, urban high school academy, or strict discipline academy operating under the revised school code.

(6) "Pupil" means a person in membership in a public school. A district must have the approval of the pupil's district of residence to count the pupil in membership, except approval by the pupil's district of residence is not required for any of the following:

(a) A nonpublic part-time pupil enrolled in grades 1 to 12 in accordance with section 166b.

(b) A pupil receiving 1/2 or less of his or her instruction in a district other than the pupil's district of residence.

(c) A pupil enrolled in a public school academy or university school.

(d) A pupil enrolled in a district other than the pupil's district of residence under an intermediate district schools of choice pilot program as described in section 91a or former section 91 if the intermediate district and its constituent districts have been exempted from section 105.

(e) A pupil enrolled in a district other than the pupil's district of residence but within the same intermediate district if the educating district enrolls nonresident pupils in accordance with section 105.

(f) A pupil enrolled in a district other than the pupil's district of residence if the pupil has been continuously enrolled in the educating district since a school year in which the pupil enrolled in the educating district under section 105 or 105c and in which the educating district enrolled nonresident pupils in accordance with section 105 or 105c.

(g) A pupil who has made an official written complaint or whose parent or legal guardian has made an official written complaint to law enforcement officials and to school officials of the pupil's district of residence that the pupil has been the victim of a criminal sexual assault or other serious assault, if the official complaint either indicates that the assault occurred at school or that the assault was committed by 1 or more other pupils enrolled in the school the pupil would otherwise attend in the district of residence or by an employee of the district of residence. A person who intentionally makes a false report of a crime to law enforcement officials for the purposes of this subdivision is subject to section 411a of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.411a, which provides criminal penalties for that conduct. As used in this subdivision:

(i) "At school" means in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises.

(ii) "Serious assault" means an act that constitutes a felony violation of chapter XI of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.81 to 750.90g, or that constitutes an assault and infliction of serious or aggravated injury under section 81a of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.81a.

(h) A pupil enrolled in a district located in a contiguous intermediate district, as described in section 105c, if the educating district enrolls those nonresident pupils in accordance with section 105c.

(i) A pupil whose district of residence changed after the pupil membership count day and before the supplemental count day and who continues to be enrolled on the supplemental count day as a nonresident in the district in which he or she was enrolled as a resident on the pupil membership count day of the same school year.

(j) A pupil enrolled in an alternative education program operated by a district other than his or her district of residence who meets 1 or more of the following:

(i) The pupil has been suspended or expelled from his or her district of residence for any reason, including, but not limited to, a suspension or expulsion under section 1310, 1311, or 1311a of the revised school code, MCL 380.1310, 380.1311, and 380.1311a.

(ii) The pupil had previously dropped out of school.

(iii) The pupil is pregnant or is a parent.

(iv) The pupil has been referred to the program by a court.

(k) A pupil enrolled in the Michigan virtual high school, for the pupil's enrollment in the Michigan virtual high school.

(l) A pupil who is the child of a person who is employed by the district. As used in this subdivision, "child" includes an adopted child or legal ward.

However, if a district that is not a first class district educates pupils who reside in a first class district and if the primary instructional site for those pupils is located within the boundaries of the first class district, the educating district must have the approval of the first class district to count those pupils in membership. As used in this subsection, "first class district" means a district organized as a school district of the first class under the revised school code.

(7) "Pupil membership count day" of a district or intermediate district means:

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the fourth Wednesday in September each school year.

(b) For a district or intermediate district maintaining school during the entire school year, the following days:

(i) Fourth Wednesday in July.

(ii) Fourth Wednesday in September.

(iii) Second Wednesday in February.

(iv) Fourth Wednesday in April.

(8) "Pupils in grades K to 12 actually enrolled and in regular daily attendance" means pupils in grades K to 12 in attendance and receiving instruction in all classes for which they are enrolled on the pupil membership count day or the supplemental count day, as applicable. A pupil who is absent from any of the classes in which the pupil is enrolled on the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day and who does not attend each of those classes during the 10 consecutive school days immediately following the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day, except for a pupil who has been excused by the district, shall not be counted as 1.0 full-time equated membership. In addition, a pupil who is excused from attendance on the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day and who fails to attend each of the classes in which the pupil is enrolled within 30 calendar days after the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day shall not be counted as 1.0 full-time equated membership. Pupils not counted as 1.0 full-time equated membership due to an absence from a class shall be counted as a prorated membership for the classes the pupil attended. For purposes of this subsection, "class" means a period of time in 1 day when pupils and a certificated teacher or legally qualified substitute teacher are together and instruction is taking place.

(9) "Rule" means a rule promulgated pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(10) "The revised school code" means 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1 to 380.1852.

(11) "School fiscal year" means a fiscal year that commences July 1 and continues through June 30.

(12) "State board" means the state board of education.

(13) "Superintendent", unless the context clearly refers to a district or intermediate district superintendent, means the superintendent of public instruction described in section 3 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963.

(14) "Supplemental count day" means the day on which the supplemental pupil count is conducted under section 6a.

(15) "Tuition pupil" means a pupil of school age attending school in a district other than the pupil's district of residence for whom tuition may be charged. Tuition pupil does not include a pupil who is a special education pupil or a pupil described in subsection (6)(d) to (l). A pupil's district of residence shall not require a high school tuition pupil, as provided under section 111, to attend another school district after the pupil has been assigned to a school district.

(16) "State school aid fund" means the state school aid fund established in section 11 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963.

(17) "Taxable value" means the taxable value of property as determined under section 27a of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.27a.

(18) "Textbook" means a book that is selected and approved by the governing board of a district and that contains a presentation of principles of a subject, or that is a literary work relevant to the study of a subject required for the use of classroom pupils, or another type of course material that forms the basis of classroom instruction.

(19) "Total state aid" or "total state school aid" means the total combined amount of all funds due to a district, intermediate district, or other entity under all of the provisions of this act.

(20) "University school" means an instructional program operated by a public university under section 23 that meets the requirements of section 23.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Carol Morey Viventi

Secretary of the Senate

Jay E. Randall

Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved

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Governor