

# SENATE BILL No. 1021

February 1, 2006, Introduced by Senators CLARK-COLEMAN, BASHAM, SWITALSKI, CLARKE, THOMAS, JACOBS, LELAND, SCOTT, BRATER, OLSHOVE, CHERRY, SCHAUER, BARCIA and EMERSON and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled  
"The revised school code,"  
(MCL 380.1 to 380.1852) by adding section 1278a.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1           SEC. 1278A. (1) BEGINNING WITH PUPILS SCHEDULED TO GRADUATE  
2 FROM HIGH SCHOOL IN 2010, AND SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (3), THE BOARD  
3 OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL  
4 ACADEMY SHALL NOT AWARD A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA TO A PUPIL UNLESS THE  
5 PUPIL MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

6           (A) HAS COMPLETED ALL SUBJECT AREA ASSESSMENTS UNDER SECTION  
7 1279 OR THE MICHIGAN MERIT EXAMINATION UNDER SECTION 1279G, AS  
8 APPLICABLE TO THE PUPIL UNDER SECTION 1279G, OR HAS PARTICIPATED IN  
9 THE ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENTS OR ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED FOR UNDER  
10 SECTION 1279(9) OR 1279G(10), AS APPLICABLE, FOR PUPILS NEEDING

1 SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES.

2 (B) HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE COURSE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS  
3 OF THE MICHIGAN MERIT CURRICULUM, AS DEVELOPED THROUGH COURSE  
4 CONTENT REQUIREMENTS APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD, AS PART OF HIS OR  
5 HER HIGH SCHOOL COURSE WORK. THE COURSE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS OF THE  
6 MICHIGAN MERIT CURRICULUM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

7 (i) AT LEAST 4 CREDITS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS.

8 (ii) AT LEAST 4 CREDITS IN MATHEMATICS, INCLUDING COMPLETION OF  
9 AT LEAST 2 ALGEBRA COURSES, GEOMETRY, AND AN ADDITIONAL COURSE FROM  
10 AMONG COURSES APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL  
11 ACADEMY. IF A PUPIL COMPLETED 1 OR MORE OF THESE SPECIFIED  
12 MATHEMATICS COURSES BEFORE BEGINNING HIGH SCHOOL, THE PUPIL MAY  
13 SUBSTITUTE ANOTHER MATHEMATICS COURSE FOR EACH OF THESE COURSES HE  
14 OR SHE COMPLETED BEFORE HIGH SCHOOL.

15 (iii) AT LEAST 3 CREDITS IN SCIENCE, INCLUDING COMPLETION OF AT  
16 LEAST BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY OR PHYSICS, AND AN ADDITIONAL COURSE FROM  
17 AMONG COURSES APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL  
18 ACADEMY.

19 (iv) AT LEAST 3 CREDITS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE, INCLUDING COMPLETION  
20 OF AT LEAST UNITED STATES HISTORY, WORLD HISTORY, ECONOMICS, AND  
21 THE CIVICS OR GOVERNMENT COURSE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1166(2). THE  
22 HISTORY COURSES SHALL INCLUDE GEOGRAPHY.

23 (v) AT LEAST 2 CREDITS IN A WORLD LANGUAGE FROM AMONG COURSES  
24 APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY.

25 (vi) AT LEAST 1 CREDIT IN HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION FROM  
26 AMONG COURSES APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL  
27 ACADEMY.

1           (vii) AT LEAST 1 CREDIT IN FINE ARTS OR MUSIC FROM AMONG  
2 COURSES APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY.

3           (C) HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ELECTIVE COURSES DEVELOPED AND  
4 OFFERED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY. THESE  
5 ELECTIVE COURSES SHALL BE ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING 21ST CENTURY  
6 SKILLS:

7           (i) GLOBAL LITERACY.

8           (ii) CIVIC LITERACY.

9           (iii) FINANCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND ENTREPRENEURIAL LITERACY.

10          (iv) INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY LITERACY.

11          (v) TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY LEARNING SKILLS, FOCUSED ON WORK-  
12 BASED INSTRUCTION.

13          (vi) ACCELERATED LEARNING.

14          (D) HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED AT LEAST 1 COURSE OR LEARNING  
15 EXPERIENCE THAT IS PRESENTED ONLINE. THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS  
16 SUBDIVISION MAY BE MET BY COMPLETING AN ACCREDITED ONLINE COURSE,  
17 CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION WITH ONLINE TEXTBOOKS, AN ONLINE CAREER  
18 EXPLORATION COURSE, AN ONLINE PREPARATION COURSE FOR AN ADVANCED  
19 PLACEMENT TEST OR THE ACT OR SAT TEST, OR A CAREER AND TECHNICAL  
20 PREPARATION ONLINE COURSE.

21          (2) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DO  
22 ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

23          (A) DEVELOP CONTENT EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL PARTS OF THE MICHIGAN  
24 MERIT CURRICULUM REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (1).

25          (B) PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOL  
26 ACADEMIES REGARDING ELECTIVE COURSES AND THE 21ST CENTURY SKILLS  
27 LISTED IN SUBSECTION (1) (C).

1 (C) DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY  
2 METHODS AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (4) AND A PROCESS FOR APPROVAL  
3 OF THESE ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY METHODS.

4 (3) THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (1) ARE SUBJECT TO BOTH OF  
5 THE FOLLOWING:

6 (A) A PUPIL WHO IS IN AT LEAST GRADE 11 AND WHO HAS COMPLETED  
7 AT LEAST 3 YEARS OF THE MICHIGAN MERIT CURRICULUM MAY REQUEST A  
8 MODIFICATION OF HIS OR HER INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION  
9 REQUIREMENTS. IF A PUPIL REQUESTS MODIFICATION UNDER THIS  
10 SUBDIVISION, THE PUPIL'S SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY  
11 SHALL WORK WITH THE PUPIL'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN TO DEVELOP AN  
12 INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING PLAN FOR THE PUPIL. THE PUPIL MAY THEN  
13 COMPLETE A CURRICULUM DESIGNED THROUGH THIS PROCESS AND SPECIFIED  
14 IN THE INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING PLAN EVEN IF IT DOES NOT MEET THE  
15 REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (1).

16 (B) IF A PUPIL RECEIVES SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES, THE  
17 PUPIL'S INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN SUPERSEDES THE REQUIREMENTS  
18 OF SUBSECTION (1).

19 (4) A SCHOOL DISTRICT, INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR PUBLIC  
20 SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL ENSURE THAT THE CONTENT EXPECTATIONS FOR THE  
21 CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (1) ARE MET BY PROVIDING THE  
22 COURSE WORK SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (1) OR BY USING ALTERNATIVE  
23 INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY METHODS SUCH AS ALTERNATIVE COURSE WORK,  
24 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION, OR HUMANITIES COURSE SEQUENCES, IF  
25 THESE ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY METHODS ARE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

26 (5) IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY IS UNABLE TO  
27 IMPLEMENT ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION FOR PUPILS

1 SCHEDULED TO GRADUATE IN 2010, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL  
2 ACADEMY MAY APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR PERMISSION TO PHASE IN THE  
3 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION. TO APPLY, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR  
4 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL SUBMIT A PROPOSED PHASE-IN PLAN TO THE  
5 DEPARTMENT. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL APPROVE A PHASE-IN PLAN IF THE  
6 DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE PLAN WILL RESULT IN THE SCHOOL  
7 DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY MAKING SATISFACTORY PROGRESS  
8 TOWARD FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION. IF  
9 THE DEPARTMENT DISAPPROVES A PROPOSED PHASE-IN PLAN, THE DEPARTMENT  
10 SHALL WORK WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY TO  
11 DEVELOP A SATISFACTORY PLAN THAT MAY BE APPROVED.

12 (6) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, A PUPIL IS CONSIDERED TO  
13 HAVE COMPLETED A 1-CREDIT COURSE IF THE PUPIL SUCCESSFULLY  
14 COMPLETES ALL OF THE COURSE CONTENT EXPECTATIONS FOR THE COURSE AS  
15 APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD.