

# Legislative Analysis



## MICHIGAN MERIT EXAMINATION

Phone: (517) 373-8080  
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**House Bill 4810 (proposed substitute H-1)**  
**Sponsor: Rep. David W. Martin**

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

**House Bill 4811 (proposed substitute H-1)**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Brad Paquette**

**Committee: Education**  
**Complete to 3-7-22**

### SUMMARY:

Taken together, the bills would eliminate provisions that now require that the Michigan Merit Examination (MME) include a writing component and require a school district or public school academy (PSA, or charter school) to include on a student's high school transcript the student's scaled score on each subject area component of the MME.

House Bill 4810 would amend the Revised School Code to make the changes described above.

House Bill 4811 would repeal a section of the State School Aid Act that largely duplicates the Revised School Code section that HB 4810 would amend. However, the School Aid Act contains additional provisions that are not now included in the Revised School Code. In addition to the changes described above, HB 4810 would add these provisions to the Revised School Code (see, e.g., subsections (1), (5), (6), (10), (14), and (15) in HB 4810). Although they appear in HB 4810 as changes being made to the law (i.e., with strikes and bold), they are in fact current law, but in the School Aid Act instead of the Revised School Code.

Currently, the MME must be administered to students in 11th grade (or 12th grade, if the student did not complete the MME in 11th grade) and must include the following:

- Assessments that measure English language arts, math, reading, and science, and are used by colleges and universities for entrance or placement purposes. (The Revised School Code states that this *must* include a writing component in which the student produces an extended writing sample and that the MME must not require any other extended writing sample, and the School Aid Act states that it *may* include one or more writing components. [The bills would eliminate the writing component requirements.]
- At least one test that assesses a student's reading and math skills in a way that employers can use in making employment decisions. The Department of Technology, Management, and Budget and superintendent of public instruction must ensure that the test can be used to secure the results of a nationally recognized evaluation of workforce readiness. (Currently fulfilled by the ACT WorkKeys assessment.)
- A social studies component.
- Any other component necessary to ensure that the MME complies with the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act and Every Student Succeeds Act.

HB 4810: MCL 380.1279g  
HB 4811: MCL 388.1704b (repealed)

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The bills would have no fiscal impact on the state and could result in a cost savings for districts and PSAs.

MDE has indicated that removing the SAT essay component could jeopardize federal funding under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Therefore, it is likely that the state would continue to administer the SAT with the essay component to fulfill federal requirements.

A district or PSA could realize a cost savings related to the removal of the requirement that a district or PSA include a high school graduate's scaled score on each subject area component of the MME on the graduate's high school transcript.

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