

# Legislative Analysis



## AMEND HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**House Bill 5735 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Carol Glanville**  
**Committee: Education**  
**Revised 12-3-24**

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

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 5735 would amend the Revised School Code to remove references to specific courses a student must complete to meet the Michigan Merit Curriculum's high school graduation requirements. This would affect courses listed for mathematics, social science, and science.

Under current law, as part of the credit requirements for mathematics, students can complete algebra I, geometry, and algebra II for three of the four required math credits, and then an additional math credit in one of the following:

- Trigonometry.
- Statistics.
- Precalculus.
- Calculus.
- Applied math.
- Accounting.
- Business math.
- A retake of algebra II.
- For students who entered the eighth grade before 2023, a course in financial literacy.

A student can also fulfill all, or some, of their algebra II requirement by completing a formal career and technical education (CTE) program or curriculum approved by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), such as one in electronics, machining, construction, welding, engineering, computer science, or renewable energy, as long as that course meets the same content benchmarks as the algebra II course, as determined by MDE. Current law also allows students to meet the credit requirement by taking an integrated sequence of this course content. All courses must be aligned to state standards.

House Bill 5735 would change this by removing references to specific courses. Under the bill, three of the math courses would have to be aligned with the subject area content expectations established in the state mathematics standards, with an additional credit determined by the board of the school district or public school academy. Courses are already required to be aligned with the subject area content expectations established by MDE and approved by the State Board of Education.<sup>1</sup> These changes would have the effect of allowing students to continue taking algebra I and II and geometry for the first three math credits if they wish, as long as those courses are properly aligned with state standards.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/Literacy/Content-Standards/Math\\_Standards.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/mde/Literacy/Content-Standards/Math_Standards.pdf)

The bill would make similar changes relating to completing the credits in the other subjects by removing specific course names and retaining provisions requiring content be aligned to state standards. However, this would not mean that those courses presently named in law could no longer count toward meeting the credit requirement if successfully completed by a student, as long as they are properly aligned to standards.

MCL 380.1278a and 380.1278b

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the state or on local school districts, intermediate school districts (ISDs), or public school academies (PSAs).

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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.