

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 463

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

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1278e. (1) Beginning with students entering grade 8 in
2 2023, in addition to the requirements under sections 1278a and
3 1278b, the board of a school district or board of directors of a
4 public school academy shall not award a high school diploma to a
5 student unless 1 of the following applies to the student:

6 (a) The student has submitted the FAFSA to the federal
7 government.

8 (b) The student's parent or legal guardian, or the student if
9 the student is 18 years of age or older, is an emancipated minor,



1 or is an unaccompanied youth, has submitted a parental waiver to
2 the school district or public school academy exempting the student
3 from the requirement under subdivision (a). The department shall
4 create a model form of the parental waiver described in this
5 subdivision. A school district or public school academy may create
6 its own parental waiver form. However, the school district's or
7 public school academy's parental waiver form must include all of
8 the information included on the model parental waiver form created
9 by the department. The waiver form described in this subdivision
10 must include an acknowledgment from the parent, legal guardian,
11 emancipated minor, or unaccompanied youth that the individual
12 received and read the informational packet described in subsection
13 (2) and does not want to submit the FAFSA.

14 (c) An administrative waiver has been issued in accordance
15 with this subdivision. An administrative waiver for a student must
16 not be issued before the 4 weeks before the student is scheduled to
17 graduate high school. To issue the administrative waiver, the
18 school district or public school academy shall make at least 2
19 reasonable attempts to contact the student, and the student's
20 parent or legal guardian and the parent or legal guardian must
21 refuse, be unresponsive, or be unable to sign the parental waiver
22 described in subdivision (b). An administrative waiver under this
23 subdivision may be granted to a group of students. The department
24 shall create a model form of the administrative waiver described in
25 this subdivision. The model form must include a space for a school
26 district or public school academy to list or indicate the methods
27 used to contact a student and the student's parent or legal
28 guardian before issuing the administrative waiver. A school
29 district or public school academy may create its own administrative



1 waiver form. However, the school district's or public school
2 academy's administrative waiver form must include all of the
3 information included on the model administrative waiver form
4 created by the department.

5 (2) The department of lifelong education, advancement, and
6 potential shall create an informational packet that contains
7 information regarding all of the following and shall provide the
8 informational packet to school districts and public school
9 academies in the form and manner determined by the department of
10 lifelong education, advancement, and potential:

11 (a) The importance of completing the FAFSA for accessing
12 federal, state, institutional, and community-based financial aid to
13 access and complete a college degree or postsecondary certificate.

14 (b) A list of state-based financial aid made available through
15 the FAFSA.

16 (c) How to properly complete and submit the FAFSA, including a
17 breakdown of the information and documentation required for the
18 completion and submission of the FAFSA, with particular attention
19 given to the ability of unaccompanied youth and youth who were in
20 foster care after the age of 13 to complete the FAFSA as
21 independent students to the extent allowable under federal law.

22 (d) Information regarding the parental waiver described under
23 subsection (1)(b).

24 (e) The FAFSA timeline and submission deadline.

25 (f) Definitions of terminology used in the FAFSA.

26 (g) Submission of the FAFSA directly to schools or scholarship
27 programs.

28 (h) The process required for properly completing the FAFSA
29 verification process.



1 (3) Each school district and public school academy shall
2 distribute the informational packet described in subsection (2) to
3 each student enrolled in a school district or public school academy
4 at least once before beginning grade 12.

5 (4) Each school district and public school academy shall take
6 reasonable steps to provide meaningful language access to students
7 and parents or legal guardians with limited English proficiency
8 throughout the FAFSA submission and opt-out process.

9 (5) By August 15, 2026 and each August 15 thereafter, the
10 department of lifelong education, advancement, and potential, in
11 consultation with the department, shall include all of the
12 following on its website:

13 (a) The percentage of students who submitted the FAFSA.

14 (b) The percentage of students who completed the FAFSA.

15 (c) The percentage of students who were exempted under
16 subsection (1)(b) and (c) from the requirement under subsection
17 (1)(a) to submit the FAFSA to the United States Department of
18 Education.

19 (6) Each school district and public school academy that
20 operates a high school shall include on its transparency webpage a
21 link to the information required to be included on the department
22 of lifelong education, advancement, and potential's website under
23 subsection (5).

24 (7) Subject to federal and state privacy laws, the department
25 of lifelong education, advancement, and potential shall maintain
26 the MiSSG data management system that must include uploaded
27 student-level FAFSA data, including, at a minimum, data points of
28 the completed, submitted, or not submitted status; submission date;
29 verification label; missing student signature label; missing parent



1 signature label; and processed date. Before accessing the MiSSG
2 data management system, the board of a school district or the board
3 of directors of a public school academy shall ensure that both of
4 the following are met:

5 (a) A school administrator shall submit a data user agreement
6 to the department of lifelong education, advancement, and potential
7 and shall annually resubmit a data user agreement to maintain
8 access to the system.

9 (b) A school administrator shall designate at least 1
10 authorized high school user to access the system.

11 (8) As used in this section:

12 (a) "FAFSA" means the Free Application for Federal Student
13 Aid.

14 (b) "Meaningful language access" means the ability to receive
15 information and to participate in and benefit from services offered
16 by a public school.

17 (c) "MiSSG data management system" means the department of
18 lifelong education, advancement, and potential's Michigan student
19 scholarships and grants data management system designed for access
20 by students, authorized high school users, and financial aid
21 administrators.

22 (d) "Unaccompanied youth" means that term as defined in 42 USC
23 11434a.

