



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

Olds Plaza Building, 10th Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: 517/373-6466

STUDENT RIGHT TO KNOW ACT

House Bill 4264

Sponsor: Rep. John Llewellyn

Committee: Higher Education

Complete to 6-20-95

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4264 AS INTRODUCED 2-1-95

The bill would create the Michigan Student Right to Know Act. It would require institutions of higher education that receive appropriations from the state or enroll students who receive financial aid from the state to maintain and make available information about the institution's academic performance. The institution would be required to provide this information to applicants for admission to the institution at the time the application was received, and annually to each student enrolled at the university. The institutions would also be required to provide this information annually in their catalogs.

Each institution of higher learning would have to collect and analyze the data necessary to provide complete and accurate information regarding the academic performance of the institution's students. The academic performance information required would differ depending upon the type of institution. All institutions would have to provide the number of undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at the institution.

In addition, undergraduate schools or colleges that award baccalaureate degrees would be required to provide the number and percentage of students who, during the preceding five years, enrolled at the university as freshmen and graduated with a baccalaureate degree within four and within five years after their initial enrollment. Undergraduate schools would also have to provide figures indicating the percentage of graduates from the preceding five years who enrolled in a program for a higher degree in a graduate school within six months of their graduation. Both graduate and undergraduate schools would have to provide figures indicating the percentage of students who were employed within six months of their graduation in an occupation directly related to their field of study and the percentage of students who became employed in an unrelated occupation within six months of graduation.

An undergraduate institution would also have to provide information on the average number of academic years, rounded to the nearest half year, for students of the institution to complete the degree requirements for a baccalaureate degree. Graduate schools would have to provide information on the number and percentage of students who, during the preceding five years, received their graduate degrees within the normal time period for the particular degree. In all of these statistics, both undergraduate and graduate institutions would have to provide not only the statistics for the university as a whole, but would also be required to provide statistics for each undergraduate or graduate school or college within the institution, as well as each distinct academic program within the graduate or undergraduate school or college.

House Bill 4264 (6-20-95)

Community or junior colleges, or universities that offer one or more associate degree programs, would have to provide similar information concerning the average number of terms or semesters it takes a student to complete the requirements for an associate's degree for each distinct academic program within the graduate or undergraduate school or college. A community college would also have to provide information on the number of students, within the preceding five years, who enrolled as freshmen and completed the degree requirements for an associate's degree, or completed the requirements to transfer to a four-year institution as a junior, within three years after enrollment, or who, within two years after their enrollment, completed the requirements for an associate's degree and the requirements to transfer to a four-year institution as a junior. As with four-year universities, these institutions would have to provide these statistics not only for the institution as a whole but also for each distinct two-year program offered by that institution.