

HOUSE BILL No. 6135

May 21, 2008, Introduced by Reps. Agema, Amos, Garfield, Palmer, Knollenberg, Meltzer, Moss, Hune, Rick Jones, Steil, Stahl, Moore, Stakoe, Calley, LaJoy, Meekhof, Opsommer, David Law, Nitz, Caul and Marleau and referred to the Committee on Oversight and Investigations.

A bill to amend 1999 PA 94, entitled
"Michigan merit award scholarship act,"
by amending section 7b (MCL 390.1457b), as amended by 2006 PA 478.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 7b. (1) In addition to the requirements set forth in
2 section 7(2) or section 7a(1), to be eligible for the award of a
3 Michigan merit award scholarship under this act, the board must
4 find that a student satisfies all of the following:

5 (a) The student has graduated from high school or passed the
6 general educational development (GED) test or other graduate
7 equivalency examination approved by the state board.

8 (b) The student graduated from high school or passed the
9 general educational development (GED) test or other graduate

1 equivalency examination approved by the state board within 1 of the
2 following time periods:

3 (i) If the student graduated from high school or passed the
4 test or examination before March 1, 2002, within the 7-year period
5 preceding the student's application to receive his or her Michigan
6 merit award scholarship money.

7 (ii) If the student graduated from high school on or after
8 March 1, 2002 and before the 2006-2007 school year, within the 4-
9 year period preceding the date of the student's application to
10 receive his or her Michigan merit award scholarship money, or if
11 the student becomes a member of the United States armed forces or
12 peace corps during this 4-year period and serves for 4 years or
13 less, the 4-year period is extended by a period equal to the number
14 of days the student served as a member of the United States armed
15 forces or peace corps. The board may also extend the 4-year period
16 if the board determines that an extension is warranted because of
17 an illness or disability of the student or in the student's
18 immediate family or another family emergency.

19 (c) The student is enrolled in an approved postsecondary
20 educational institution. For students who qualify under section
21 7(2)(c), the student is enrolled in a vocational or technical
22 education program at an approved postsecondary educational
23 institution.

24 (d) The student has not been convicted of a felony involving
25 an assault, physical injury, or death.

26 **(E) THE STUDENT IS A UNITED STATES CITIZEN OR ANY OTHER**
27 **STUDENT DESCRIBED AS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE TITLE IV, HEA PROGRAM**

1 **ASSISTANCE UNDER 34 CFR 668.33.**

2 (F) ~~(e)~~—The student satisfies any additional eligibility
3 requirements established by the board.

4 (2) For a middle school assessment test or high school
5 assessment test administered after January 1, 2000, the board shall
6 not use that assessment test to determine eligibility for a
7 Michigan merit award scholarship under this section for a
8 particular year unless the board has reviewed and approved that
9 assessment test before it was administered for that year.

10 (3) The board shall provide each pupil written notice of
11 whether or not the pupil is eligible for the award of 1 or more
12 Michigan merit award scholarships described in this act. If the
13 pupil is eligible, the written notice shall also contain the
14 Michigan merit award scholarship amount for which the pupil is
15 eligible, how the pupil applies for payment of Michigan merit award
16 scholarship, and any other information the board considers
17 necessary regarding qualification requirements or conditions
18 relating to the use of the Michigan merit award scholarship.

19 (4) It is the intent of the legislature that the level of
20 pupil performance required to achieve qualifying results in a
21 subject area of an assessment test remains approximately the same,
22 and that the board not reduce the required level of pupil
23 performance as a means of increasing the number of Michigan merit
24 award scholarships awarded.

25 (5) A pupil who does not initially receive qualifying results
26 shall be extended an opportunity to achieve the requisite
27 qualifying results by taking a subsequent assessment test.

1 (6) A nonpublic school pupil or home school pupil may take,
2 and the board shall administer if requested, an assessment test at
3 a site designated by the board.