



An affiliate of the
American Federation
of Teachers, AFL-CIO

Teachers
PSRP
Higher Education

To: Members of the Senate Committee on Education, Sen. Phil Pavlov, Chair

From: Julie Rowe, AFT Michigan Legislative Mobilization Coordinator

Date: September 29, 2015

Re: Support of HB 4059

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AFT Michigan is in support of HB 4059, which will help alleviate the problems faced by school districts in filling positions for instructional coaches, substitutes, and teachers in disciplines for which there is a critical shortage. By eliminating the sunset of the agreement reached by the Legislature in 2012, school districts will be able to fill these vitally important vacant positions with highly-trained and experienced educators.

David Hecker
PRESIDENT
AFT VICE PRESIDENT

As passed by the House, HB 4059 would allow for retirees to return to the classroom while requiring the school district to continue to pay into the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPSERS). This will ensure that retirees are not favored over educators who have not reached retirement while protecting the solvency of MPSERS.

Edna Reaves
SECRETARY-TREASURER

While concerns have been raised that this bill would allow for retiree "double-dipping" into MPSERS, this bill does not allow retirees to draw two retirement payments. Educators would continue to receive the pension they have earned as deferred compensation for years of dedicated service to Michigan's students and be compensated for the additional work they would provide to schools during their retirement.

AFT VICE PRESIDENTS
Keith Johnson
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We urge you to support this bill so positions Michigan schools need to fill and students deserve can be filled by experienced, talented educators.

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