

HB 4822

State Representative Amanda Price

Senate Education Committee
March 8, 2016

Why Third Grade Reading Proficiency Matters

- Children learn to read
- Then they read to learn
- At 4th Grade, the instruction shifts from learning to read to reading to learn. At this point, children use their skills to gain more information in subjects such as math and science to solve problems to think critically and act upon and share that knowledge in the world around them.
- Up to half of the printed 4th grade curriculum is incomprehensible to students who read below that grade level
- If this key skill is not present, children can fall farther behind in their ability to read and comprehend what they are learning

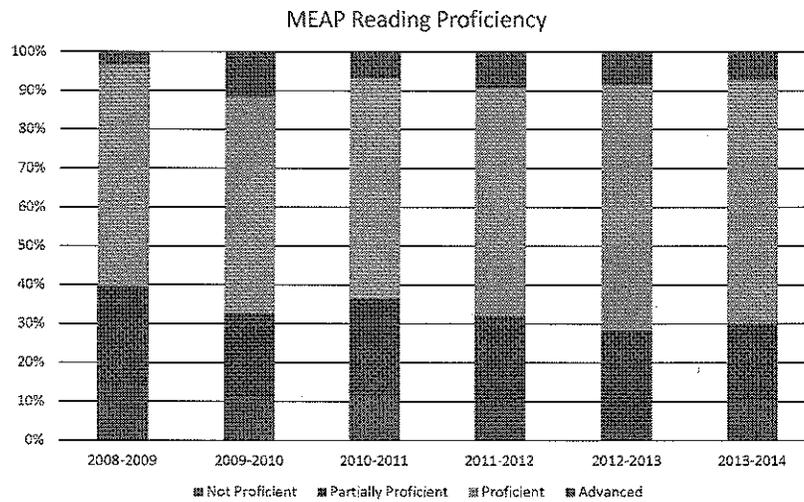
Why Third Grade Reading Proficiency Matters

- Children who are not reading proficiently in 3rd grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school.
- Black and Hispanic students were eight times more likely than proficient readers to drop out of high school.
- In total, 9 out of 10 high school drop outs were struggling readers in third grade.

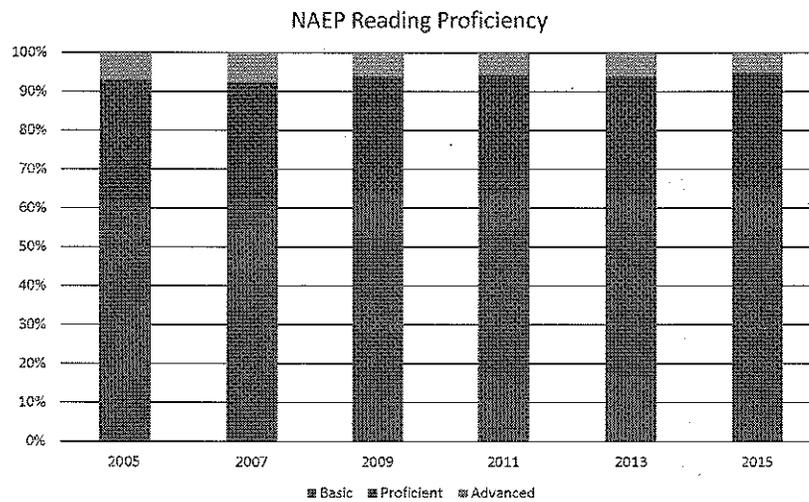
Current Law

- "a pupil who does not score satisfactorily on the 4th or 7th grade Michigan educational assessment program reading test shall be provided special assistance reasonably expected to enable the pupil to bring his or her reading skills to grade level within 12 months." Act 451, Sec. 380.1278 (8)

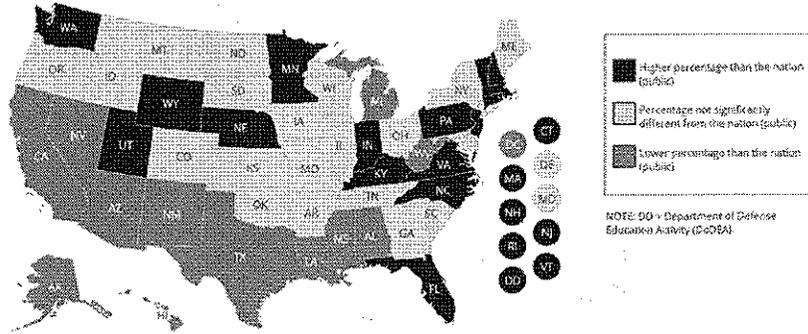
MI Assessment of Academic Progress Proficiency Rates



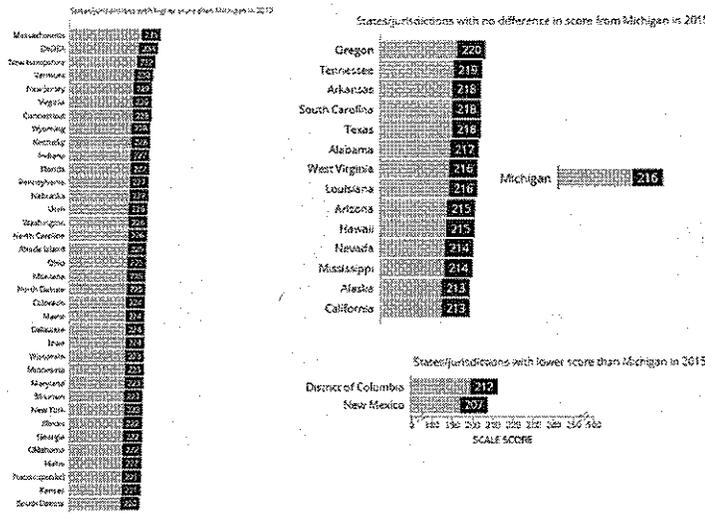
National Assessment of Educational Progress



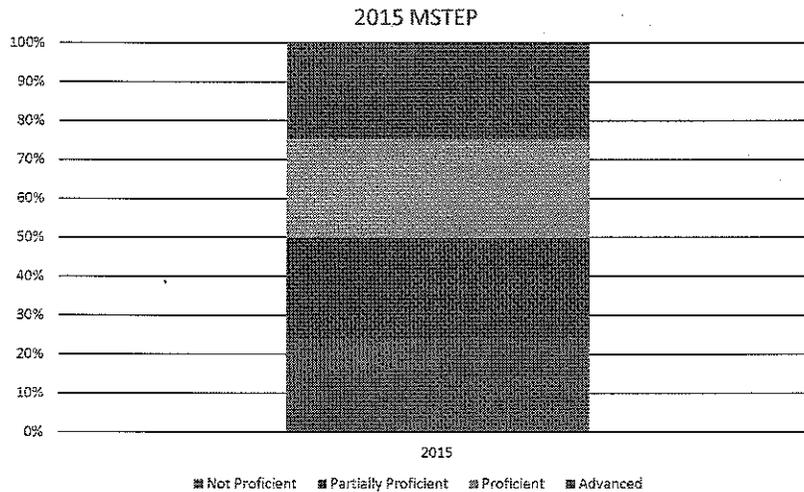
Michigan is Falling Behind Nationally



Michigan is Falling Behind Nationally



50% of 3rd Graders Proficient on Michigan Student Test of Education Progress Progress



Michigan Proficiency Rates Are Stagnant

- Only 70% of 4th Graders proficient 2013-14 MEAP
 - Little growth in proficiency over the last several years.
- Only 29% of 4th Graders proficient on 2015 NAEP.
 - MI ranked 41st nationally in reading.
 - MI was one of only a few states to drop in rank.
 - Detroit was the lowest performing city in the country.
- Only 50% of 3rd Graders proficient in ELA on 2014-15 MSTEP.

Gov. Snyder's Early Literacy Taskforce

- Governor called for an increase in the reading proficiency of Michigan's children in his 2015 State of the State.
- A bi-partisan, bi-Cameral task force including Senators Phil Pavlov, Geoff Hansen, Hun-Yun Hopgood, and Representatives Amanda Price, Tim Kelly and Adam Zemke were appointed to the task force.
- Chaired by John Kennedy, Grand Rapids Business Owner, Vice-Chair of Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees.
- Task force met weekly for several months in spring of 2015.
- Heard testimony and feedback from educators, stakeholder groups, and policymakers.
- Produced a report containing policy recommendations.

Taskforce Recommendations

1. Give every student the research-supported diagnostic and screening instruments, instruction, and interventions necessary for success.
2. Provide every educator with training to use diagnostic-driven methods with knowledge and fidelity.
3. Give every parent the information and support needed to develop early literacy skills, to parent effectively, and to provide adequate home-supports for students.
4. Implement K-3 Smart Promotion to ensure struggling students succeed.
5. Provide Michigan with accurate data about how our students and schools are performing in growth and proficiency compared to other states, and an annual report on our progress towards the highest early reading proficiency in the nation.

HB 4822

Introduced on August 15, 2015

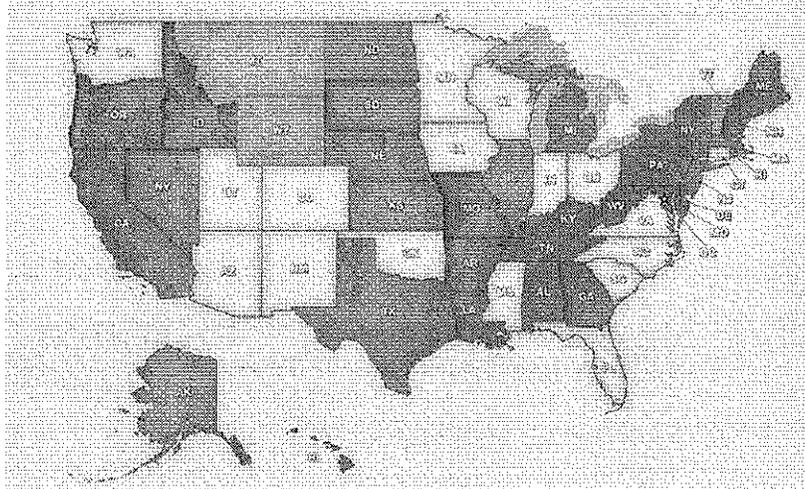
Includes:

- Early screening and identification of struggling readers.
- Provides interventions for students.
- Literacy coaches assist teachers in utilizing effective methods.
- A "Smart Promotion" policy for students significantly behind.
 - Allows for multiple measures of proficiency.
- Passed by the House on October 15, 2015

Michigan Initiatives

- Money was appropriated specifically to improve Third Grade reading proficiency.
 - \$26.4 million
- Increased at risk funding.
 - \$70 million
- Funding for hiring literacy coaches.
 - \$3 million

States With Comprehensive Literacy Plans



Source: Foundation for Excellence in Education

Lessons From Other States

- Early Identification and interventions are critical to success.
- Better professional development can help teachers better identify and help struggling students.
- A "Smart Promotion" policy creates a sense of urgency to implement interventions effectively.
- Good-cause exemptions and alternative measures of proficiency are effective in screening and promoting students when appropriate.
- Retained students in other states see increased growth and confidence.
- Strong leadership at the building level is crucial.



Support for HB 4822

- Council of Michigan Foundations
- Foundation for Excellence in Education
- Great Lakes Education Project
- Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce
- Grand Rapids Public Schools
- Michigan Association of Public School Academies
- Michigan League for Public Policy
- Student's First

Questions?