



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 29, 2015
TO: State Board of Education
FROM: Brian J. Whiston, Chairman 
SUBJECT: Presentation on the Educator Preparation Institution Moratorium

On August 9, 2005, the State Board of Education (SBE) implemented a moratorium on approving new Educator Preparation Institutions (EPIs) in Michigan. The SBE extended the moratorium in August 2008 and June 2012. The most recent extension expired on August 1, 2015.

The original moratorium was enacted with the intent to reduce a perceived over-supply of teachers in the State. Although EPIs report lower enrollment in programs, only 42% of teachers recommended for certification in 2012-13 were reported as employed in Michigan in 2014. Although the moratorium does not yet appear to have addressed the over-supply issue, the data continue to indicate that there isn't a need for new EPIs in Michigan. Further, maintaining a small number of approved EPIs allows the Michigan Department of Education to provide intensive technical assistance that will lead to high quality programs.

Since the moratorium was introduced, three EPIs have closed (Hillsdale College, Kalamazoo College and Finlandia University) and one closing is pending (Olivet College).

It is recommended that the State Board of Education extend the moratorium on new Educator Preparation Institution approvals for three years (October 13, 2015 – October 13, 2018), as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated September 29, 2015.

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