



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 11, 2020
TO: State Board of Education
FROM: Michael F. Rice, Ph.D., Chairperson *Michael Rice*
SUBJECT: Discussion/Action on Resolution Regarding Funding to Preserve Educational Services for Children

The State Board of Education will discuss the attached draft Resolution Regarding Funding to Preserve Educational Services for Children at its meeting on May 12, 2020.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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**DRAFT MAY 12, 2020 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION REGARDING FUNDING TO PRESERVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
FOR CHILDREN**

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in 4,081,970 confirmed cases and 281,399 deaths worldwide, as of Sunday, May 10;

WHEREAS the pandemic has resulted in 1,323,028 confirmed cases and 79,124 deaths nationwide, as of Sunday, May 10;

WHEREAS the pandemic has resulted in 47,138 confirmed cases and 4,551 deaths in Michigan, as of Sunday, May 10;

WHEREAS Michigan's first positive COVID-19 cases were on March 10, 2020;

WHEREAS, in response, the governor announced school closures two days later on March 12, and a stay home, stay safe order on March 23, among many other efforts to address this public health emergency;

WHEREAS the public health emergency has had adverse economic and educational impacts on states across the country and on countries across the world, especially on those states and countries with significant numbers of individuals who have gotten sick from and/or died from the virus;

WHEREAS no state with significant numbers of individuals who have gotten sick from and/or died from the virus can address the attendant effects without federal support;

WHEREAS Congress has acknowledged this fact with the passage of coronavirus relief bills in the last two months;

WHEREAS these bills, now law, while helpful and appreciated, are insufficient to shield our children and families from profound harm;

AND WHEREAS no child asked to grow up in a pandemic and to the absolute extent possible no child should be harmed in his or her education by the fact that he or she did grow up in part during a pandemic;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the State Board of Education does hereby urge the Michigan State Legislature and the Michigan Congressional delegation to support—actively, individually, and collectively—a bill to preserve educational services to Michigan school children that have been threatened as a result of this pandemic; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Education urges members of the state education community to share their related thoughts with members of the Michigan State Legislature and with members of the Michigan Congressional delegation and to urge their national associations to share similarly with members of Congress.