



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT  
ON HOUSE BILLS 5111 AND 5144**

Members of the State Board of Education respect the intent of House Bills 5111 and 5144, and agree with the Legislature's urgency to accelerate 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading success. However, the Board is neutral on the bills as written.

We believe that every child can learn, and support the goal of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade literacy. But too many schools retain students without a more effective approach, and the legislation suggests – rather than requires – improved classroom instruction. Being held back with little hope of learning can damage young learners and lacks educational purpose.

Adopted June 17, 2014

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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