STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

GLENN M. MALEYKO, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 29, 2026

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Lohren Carter-Nzoma, M. Ed., Deputy Superintendent
Division of Educator Excellence, Career and Technical Education, Special Education, and Administrative Law

SUBJECT: Waiver Requests When an ISD Plan Includes an R 340.1832(e) Alternative Program

This memo highlights that when an Intermediate School District Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services, or ISD Plan, includes an alternative program under R 340.1832(e) to address changing caseloads, a waiver from Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education is not needed.

A district cannot request a waiver when the ISD Plan includes an R 340.1832(e) alternative program for adjusting caseloads and class sizes because a district is required to follow the approved ISD Plan in accordance with MCL 380.1751(1)

The Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education encourages districts and ISDs to review their ISD Plan for the Delivery of Special Education Programs and Services before submitting a waiver application for caseload or class sizes to ensure there are no duplications or conflicts with the ISD Plan.

If you need assistance interpreting the caseload rules or your ISD Plan, please contact the Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education Information Line at 1-888-320-8384 or via email at MDE-OSE@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments

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