



November 2023

**Call to Action:  
Ask Your State Senator to Quickly Pass HB 4676, 4677, 4678 to  
Improve High School Graduation Rates for Youth Experiencing Foster Care**

The state legislative session adjourned for this year and we can celebrate the passage of HB 4676-4678 in the House, but more needs to be done to get these bills across the finish line. On 11/9 they were referred to the Senate Committee on Housing and Human Services, so your state Senator needs to hear from you to push for quick passage in the Senate.

**HB 4676-4678 would help improve high school graduation outcomes for students who are experiencing foster care.** For Michigan students who experienced foster care in the high school class of 2020, the four-year graduation rate was just 39.7%. After two additional years to achieve a diploma, that number still did not reach 60%, well below the four-year statewide graduation rate of 81% for all students. These rates are the lowest of any group of students in Michigan. Efforts to solve this problem have begun with a package of bills that would codify Michigan's expectation for a quality education for all students experiencing foster care:

- HB 4676 would expand the Children's Assurance of Foster Care Quality Act to explicitly reflect a child's right to a credit-bearing education.
- HB 4677 and 4678 would require both new reporting of educational outcomes and audits of whether the educational arrangements at each Child Caring Institution (the licensing name for residential foster care institutions) are following all applicable education laws and regulations.

**Current Status for HB 4676-4678: The House passed these bills and sent them to the Senate for a committee hearing and their approval.**

**We need your voice to ensure that these bills move ahead with urgency. [Urge your state Senator as well as Senate leader Winnie Brinks to pass HB 4676, 4677, and 4678 when they return in January 2024.](#)**