



# *News Release*

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## **Michigan Department of Education Resumes Work on Implementing State Standards and Assessments**

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LANSING – State Superintendent Mike Flanagan has directed staff at the Michigan Department of Education to resume all activities helping local school districts implement the Common Core State Standards and statewide assessments, following an “affirmative action” today by the Michigan Senate.

The Senate adopted its substitute version of House Concurrent Resolution 11, which was adopted by the House in September.

The state legislature had inserted language in the Michigan Department of Education’s Fiscal Year 2013-14 budget prohibiting the department from using any funds on the implementation of the Common Core State Standards and Smarter Balanced Assessments “unless an affirmative action of the legislature authorizing implementation of said standards or assessments is provided.”

“I’d like to thank House Speaker Jase Bolger and Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville for getting us to the point where we can continue to move forward,” Flanagan said. “To help all our students succeed, our collective work needs to be focused on having rigorous standards; effective and valuable assessments aligned to those standards; and high quality and effective educators.”

The State Board of Education adopted the Common Core State Standards as Michigan’s state standards in 2010 and local school districts have been in the process of developing their own curricula to align with those state standards since then.

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