

Critical Shortage:

Michigan schools have struggled to hire and retain qualified special education staff for over twenty years. According to the US Department of Education (USDOE), this is not just a Michigan problem. There is a long-standing nationwide shortage of personnel qualified to perform specialized instructional services in schools. This is a chronic problem and there is every indication that it will get worse. Michigan's children deserve better.

Focus:







State

MAASE recommends that Critical Shortage legislation be passed.



There are many factors driving this tightening of supply including the approximately 13% of special education teachers that choose to leave the field annually and request that their special education endorsement be removed from their certificates. Addressing this will require both long term and short term solutions.

According to the State of Michigan there were 208,798 special education students enrolled in the state for the 2013-2014 school year. This is 12.9% of the total student population. Each one of these students has unique needs that require individual planning and specialized services in order to benefit from their education. Without adequate staffing, access to a quality education suffers.

			
Legislation Tied to This:	Data:	Supported By:	MAASE Contact Point:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HB 4059 	http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/attachment/101210623/Testimony%20Summary%20of%20Michigan%20Association%20of%20Administrators%20of%20Special%20Education%202015.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAASE MAISA 	<p>Eric Hoppstock: 269-471-7725</p> <p>Rachel Fuerer: 906-632-3373 ext. 103 or rfuerer@eup.k12.mi.us</p>