The Michigan Science Education Leadership Association Position on House Bill 4192

Along side MSTA, The Michigan Science Education Leadership Association firmly opposes Michigan House Bill 4192.

Michigan citizens drafted, publically discussed, and created the current Michigan Science Standards. House Bill 4192 proposes to replace these standards with decade old Massachusetts's standards. As Michigan science leaders, we believe this a detriment to students throughout the state.

Our organization's mission is "to stimulate, and to aid in, the development of efficient and effective instructional practices for the improvement of science education…[and] to take action on matters of common interest and concern." With that mission, we fully support the current Michigan Science Standards. They are based upon an accumulation of the past 30 years of research-based best practice on how students best learn science. Supporting research such as _Taking Science to School_, _Ready, Set, Science_, and _American's Lab Report_ helped to create the document, _The K-12 Framework for Science Education_, the backbone of the Michigan Science Standards. With the vision of the Framework at the heart of the standards, Michigan developed engineering and local, place-based, standards that cover the unique geologic and hydrologic systems that help to identify our great state. Students have the opportunity to learn how Michigan is different from a science perspective. This will be a missed opportunity if HB 4192 is not stopped.

Not only is local science important, for the past year, teachers have been in professional development to improve instructional practices in science to better aid students in becoming literate problem solvers, that are college and career ready. It is our concern that the Michigan Science Standards will be replaced by outdated, no longer used, non-localized standards based on the National Science Standards from 1996. It is our belief that House Bill 4192 is detrimental to students' science education here in Michigan.