

HB 1536 -- STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY

SPONSOR: Spencer

This bill repeals the provision that prohibits the establishment of a test as a condition for high school graduation or a state-approved high school diploma and establishes the Student Accountability Act which, beginning with school year 2017-18, requires that:

- (1) A student must score proficient or higher on at least one assessment after eighth grade in each core area of mathematics, communication arts, social sciences, and science in order to receive a high school academic diploma from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Accredited districts may use assessments they have developed; provisionally accredited districts must use the statewide assessments;
- (2) A student receiving special education services whose education plan specifies that the student scores at least one standard deviation below average on a generally accepted intelligence test may be awarded a diploma of local achievement;
- (3) A student that does not qualify under either of the above options must not be awarded any high school diploma; and
- (4) Every public higher education institution must recognize the academic diploma as sufficient for placement in the first college-level course for mathematics and English composition.