

HB 43 -- STATEWIDE STUDENT ASSESSMENT

SPONSOR: Wood

This bill specifies that, after June 30, 2017, all business relating to the development and implementation of a statewide assessment must be conducted at a university in the state that has an education department and the capacity to administer a statewide assessment for public schools.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the university implementing the assessment must develop a process to create a question database for each Missouri grade-level standard from suggestions submitted by certificated Missouri teachers and a process to solicit submissions and review the questions for appropriateness and grade level.

Until every school has the capacity to administer statewide assessments on-line, the department must ensure that an alternative assessment is available. The number of courses requiring end-of-course assessments must not be expanded beyond the number in existence during the 2014-15 school year for use in the determination of a district or school annual performance report or accreditation status. Student data collected during the assessment process cannot exceed the amount or scope of student data collected during the 2013-14 school year.

Prior to October 1, 2016, the department must form a committee to study the feasibility of implementing competency-based instruction and promotion. The committee must issue a report of its findings to the State Board of Education within the department and prepare a final report together with its recommendations for any legislative action deemed necessary for submission to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tem of the Senate by June 1, 2016.

The bill repeals a provision specifying that the statewide assessment system must only permit the academic performance of students in each school in the state to be tracked against prior academic performance in the same school.