

HB 2147 -- STUDENT ASSESSMENT

SPONSOR: Henderson

This bill modifies language relating to the statewide assessment system by requiring that the State Board of Education (SBE) make the system student-centered and use assessments across the school year that support teaching, learning, and program improvement, so that a summative profile is developed of the student's learning.

The bill requires the SBE to select an assessment that meets the federal requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the assessment may only be used to ensure compliance. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is also required to apply for a waiver of the (ESSA) testing requirements.

The requirements for the assessment are described in the bill and include that it show student skill evolution, measure growth during and across years, and provide multiple opportunities for students to show proficiency.

The bill also requires the SBE to adopt a statewide accountability system for public schools including virtual schools that will annually measure academic achievement, progress in elementary schools, graduation rate for high schools and school quality or student success. The current school accountability report card will be transitioned to an accountability dashboard beginning in the 2024-25 school year.

Beginning in the 2025-26 school year and in each subsequent year the school accountability report card must provide each student's grade-level equivalence as measured on the statewide assessment.

Data relating to the grade-level equivalence must be searchable on a building-by-building, school-by-school, district-by-district, and statewide level. Such data must display a percentage of students that are at grade level or above for each level, provided that no data will disclose personal identification of any student except to a student's parent.

The bill requires the SBE to identify and recognize by July 1, 2025, a minimum of two national school accreditation agencies and beginning in the 2027-28 school year allow for districts that have an accreditation from either of the national agencies to be considered fully accredited for state purposes.

The bill modifies provisions of the School Turnaround Program to reflect updates to the state accountability system and to provide

comprehensive support and improvement schools or targeted support and improvement schools with assistance.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 49 (2023).