

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 542

2015 Regular Session

Schroder

(KEYWORD, SUMMARY, AND DIGEST as amended by Senate committee amendments)

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT: Provides relative to contracts by the state Dept. of Education for English language arts and math assessments for the 2015-2016 school year

DIGEST

HB 542 Reengrossed

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Present law provides for the La. Competency-Based Education Program, including the implementation of statewide standards for required subjects and the La. Educational Assessment Program (LEAP). Requires standards-based assessments for required subjects (English language arts, math, science, and social studies) to be implemented by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and administered in at least grades 3-11. Provides that such assessments be based on state content standards and rigorous student achievement standards comparable to national student achievement levels. Further requires that the rigor of such assessments shall at least compare to that of national achievement tests. Requires BESE to establish adequate test scores for determining successful student performance on the tests. Specifies that beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, the standards-based assessments in English language arts and math shall be based on nationally recognized content standards.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally provides with respect to assessments to be administered during the 2015-2016 school year as follows:

- (1) Requires the department to enter into a one-year contract, in accordance with the Louisiana Procurement Code, for assessments to be used in grades three through eight in English language arts and mathematics.
- (2) Provides that not more than 49.9 percent of the questions included in the selected assessments shall be based upon a blueprint or intellectual property developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers consortium, or any other federally funded consortium of states.
- (3) Provides that no question included in the selected assessments shall be based upon a blueprint or intellectual property developed by a consortium of states predominantly funded by organizations primarily dedicated to political advocacy.
- (4) Requires the commissioner of administration to ensure that any contractor is in full compliance with the provisions of proposed law.
- (5) Requires the commissioner of administration to ensure that a copy of any subcontract entered into by the selected contractor shall be submitted to the division of administration within ten calendar days of finalization of the contract.
- (6) Requires the state chief procurement officer, in accordance with applicable state law, to make a final determination regarding the department's request for proposals to solicit a vendor for the 2015-2016 assessments, not later than July 15, 2015, provided all requirements of the state procurement code have been met.
- (7) Requires the state chief procurement officer, in accordance with applicable state law, to make a final determination regarding the department's contract for the 2015-2016 assessments, not later than October 15, 2015, provided all requirements of the state procurement code have been met.

Provides that the provisions of proposed law shall become null and void on July 1, 2016.

Provides that proposed law is effective if House Bill No. 373 and Senate Bill No. 43 of the 2015 R.S. become effective.

(Amends R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(a); Adds R.S. 17:24.4(F)(2))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Prohibit the state Dept. of Education from contracting with the PARCC consortium for assessments for the 2015-2016 school year and require the department to contract with another vendor, in accordance with the La. Procurement Code, for assessments for grades 3-10 in English language arts and math for the 2015-2016 school year.
2. Limit the number of assessment questions that can be based on the blueprint developed through the PARCC process or processes conducted by a federally funded consortium of states.
3. Delete proposed law prohibition on implementation of PARCC and Smarter Balanced and other similar assessments. Retain present law requiring that assessments be based on nationally recognized content standards and requiring that student achievement standards be based on national test scores.
4. Delete proposed law requirement for a parent's or guardian's approval of administration of an alternate assessment to a student with disabilities.
5. Make proposed law effective if and when House Bill No. 373 and Senate Bill No. 43 of the 2015 R.S. become effective.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Limit the number of assessment questions that can be based on the blueprint developed through processes conducted by a consortium of states funded by organizations primarily dedicated to political advocacy.

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the reengrossed bill

1. Specifies that proposed law applies only to assessments for the 2015-2016 school year.
2. Requires DOE to enter into a one-year contract, in accordance with the La. Procurement Code, for assessments to be used in grades 3 - 8 in English language arts and mathematics.
3. Requires the commissioner of administration to ensure that the assessment contractor complies with proposed law.
4. Requires the commissioner of administration to ensure that the assessment contractor submits a copy of any subcontracts entered into to the division of administration within 10 days of finalizing the contract.
5. Requires the state chief procurement officer to make a final determination regarding DOE's request for proposals for a vendor for the 2015-2016 school year

by 7/15/2015, provided all requirements of state law and the state procurement code are met.

6. Requires the state chief procurement officer to make a final determination regarding DOE's contract for the 2015-2016 school year, not later than 10/15/2015, provided all requirements of state law and the state procurement code are met.
7. Provides that proposed law is null and void on 7/1/2016.