To amend and reenact R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(a) and to enact R.S. 17:24.4(F)(2), relative to standards-based assessments; to provide relative to requirements for contracts for certain assessments; to provide for limitations with regard to the content of such assessments; to provide for the responsibilities of the commissioner of administration and the state chief procurement officer; to provide for time lines; to provide relative to end-of-course assessments; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1.  R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:24.4(F)(2) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§24.4.  Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish or city school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers

F.(1)(a)  The Department of Education shall implement the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program with the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

(2) For assessments to be administered during the 2015 - 2016 school year:

(a) The department shall enter into a one-year contract, in accordance with the Louisiana Procurement Code, for the assessments to be used in grades three through eight in English language arts and mathematics.
(b) Not more than forty-nine and nine-tenths 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.

(c) 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.

(d) The commissioner of administration shall ensure that any contractor is in full compliance with the provisions of this Paragraph.

(e) The commissioner of administration shall 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.

(f) The state chief procurement officer, in accordance with applicable state law, shall 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 Louisiana Procurement Code have been met.

(g) The state chief procurement officer, in accordance with applicable state law, shall 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 Louisiana Procurement Code have been met.

(h) The questions included in the end-of-course assessments administered in grades nine through eleven shall be developed using the same methodology utilized for such assessments for the 2014-2015 school year.

(i) The provisions of this Paragraph shall become null and void on July 1, 2016.

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Section 2. This Act shall take effect and become operative if the Acts which originated as House Bill No. 373 and as Senate Bill No. 43 of this 2015 Regular Session of the Legislature are enacted and become effective.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: ______________________