

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 818

BY REPRESENTATIVE RISER

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT: Provides relative to student assessments

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:24.4(F)(6) and (7)(a)(introductory paragraph) and to enact  
3 R.S. 17:24.4(F)(7)(a)(v) and (c) through (g) and (8) through (10) and 406.9(B)(15),  
4 relative to student assessments; to provide for annual review; to provide for posting  
5 of certain schedules; to provide for required schedule content; to provide for  
6 reporting of certain information to the Department of Education; to provide for  
7 waivers; to provide relative to the Parent's Bill of Rights for Public Schools; to  
8 provide for rules; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:24.4(F)(6) and (7)(a)(introductory paragraph) are hereby amended  
11 and reenacted and R.S. 17:24.4(F)(7)(a)(v) and (c) through (g) and (8) through (10) and  
12 406.9(B)(15) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §24.4. Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for  
14 required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish or city  
15 school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers

16 \* \* \*

17 F.

18 \* \* \*

19 (6)(a) Beginning in the 2027-2028 school year and for each school year  
20 thereafter, the ~~The~~ amount of time public school students spend taking standards-

1 based assessments and any other assessments required by federal law, state law, rules  
2 of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, or a public school  
3 governing authority, including but not limited to benchmarks and interim  
4 assessments subject to Paragraph (7) of this Subsection, per school year shall not  
5 exceed two percent of the minimum number of instructional minutes per year as  
6 required in R.S. 17:154.1(A)(1).

7 (b) This time limitation shall not affect in any way the accommodations  
8 provided to a student with an exceptionality as defined in R.S. 17:1942 or a student  
9 who has been determined to be eligible for services under Section 504 of the  
10 Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and has an Individual Accommodation Plan and any extra  
11 time provided to such students shall not be factored into the two percent limitation.

12 (c) ~~Not shall this~~ This time limitation shall not apply to college entrance and  
13 college credit exams, Advanced Placement exams, International Baccalaureate  
14 exams, and industry-based credential exams.

15 (d) Time devoted to teacher-selected classroom quizzes, tests, examinations,  
16 and to portfolio reviews or performance assessments that are selected and  
17 administered by the classroom teacher in the exercise of professional discretion as  
18 part of routine instruction and grading, shall not be counted toward the two-percent  
19 limitation established in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph.

20 (7)(a) Each public school governing authority shall review all benchmarks  
21 and interim assessments ~~on a regular basis~~ annually to ensure that all of the  
22 following are met:

23 \* \* \*

24 (v) Any testing requirements, benchmark, interim assessment, screener, or  
25 progress-monitoring assessment that is not mandated by federal law or state law shall  
26 be administered only at the professional discretion of the classroom teacher based  
27 on instructional value and developmental appropriateness.

28 \* \* \*

1           (c)(i) Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and for each school year  
2           thereafter, no later than August first of each year, the department shall post on its  
3           website a statewide mandated assessments schedule for administration during the  
4           upcoming school year.

5           (ii) The schedule shall include only those assessments and screeners required  
6           by federal law, state law, or rules of the state board and shall exclude assessments  
7           required solely by a public school governing authority.

8           (iii) The schedule shall not require a login, password, or other restricted  
9           access to view. The department shall also post the schedule in a portable document  
10          format.

11          (iv) The department shall use a uniform template for the schedule, including  
12          plain-language labels for delivery method. For each assessment listed on the  
13          schedule, the department shall include, at a minimum, the assessment name and, if  
14          applicable, vendor or publisher; the grade level assessed; the subject or content area;  
15          the delivery method; the administration date or administration window, and any  
16          make-up window; the number of administrators required per school year; the  
17          estimated minutes per student administration; the estimated total minutes per student  
18          per school year for the assessment; an authority field identifying whether the  
19          assessment is required by federal law, state law, or rules of the state board; and a  
20          citation field.

21          (v) The schedule shall be maintained on the website throughout the school  
22          year and shall be updated no later than ten business days after any change to  
23          statewide assessment requirements, administration dates or windows, frequency, or  
24          duration estimates.

25          (vi) Information posted pursuant to this Subparagraph shall not include  
26          personally identifiable student information or student-level assessment results.

27          (d)(i) Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and for each year thereafter,  
28          no later than August first of each year, each public school governing authority shall

1 maintain on its website the assessment scheduling information as provided by this  
2 Subparagraph.

3 (ii) No later than ten business days after the department post or updates the  
4 schedule pursuant to Subparagraph (c) of this Paragraph, each public school  
5 governing authority shall post on the website the following:

6 (aa) A direct hyperlink to the most recent statewide mandated assessments  
7 schedule as posted on the department's website.

8 (bb) A portable document format copy of the most recent statewide  
9 mandated assessment schedule, which shall be the portable document format made  
10 available by the department or a portable document format that is identical in  
11 content.

12 (iii) Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and for each school year  
13 thereafter, no later than November first of each school year, each public school  
14 governing authority shall post on the same website pursuant to Item (i) of this  
15 Subparagraph a schedule of local benchmarks and interim assessments adopted by  
16 the governing authority for administration during that school year.

17 (iv) This schedule shall include all locally adopted benchmarks and interim  
18 assessments that are not required by federal law, state law, or rules of the state board.

19 (v) The website and any schedules posted pursuant to this Subparagraph  
20 shall not require a login, password, or other restricted access to view and shall be  
21 maintained on the website throughout the school year.

22 (vi) Nothing in this Subparagraph shall be construed to limit the professional  
23 discretion of a classroom teacher as provided in Subparagraph (a)(v) of this  
24 Paragraph.

25 (e)(i) The department shall prescribe a uniform template for the schedule as  
26 provided by Subparagraph (d) of this Paragraph, including plain-language labels for  
27 delivery method.

28 (ii) For each benchmark and interim assessment listed on the schedule, the  
29 governing authority shall include, at a minimum, the assessment name and, if

1 applicable, vendor or publisher; the grade level assessed; the delivery method; the  
2 administration date or administration window; the number of administrators required  
3 per school year; the estimated minutes per student per administration; and the  
4 estimated total minutes per student per school year for the benchmark or interim  
5 assessment.

6 (iii) For purposes of this Paragraph, "administration window" means a range  
7 of school days during which an assessment may be administered, and the days within  
8 the range are not required to be consecutive.

9 (f)(i) Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year and for each school year  
10 thereafter, no later than November first of each school year, each public school  
11 governing authority shall submit to the department, in the form and manner  
12 prescribed by the department, the information required to be posted as provided by  
13 Subparagraphs (d) and (e) of this Paragraph, including the internet address where the  
14 schedule is posted.

15 (ii) No later than December twentieth of each year, the department shall  
16 compile the submissions received pursuant to this Subparagraph and shall transmit  
17 the compilation to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on  
18 Education.

19 (g) Information posted and submitted pursuant to this Paragraph shall not  
20 include personally identifiable student information or student-level assessment  
21 results.

22 (8) No educator shall be subject to reprisal, adverse evaluation, disciplinary  
23 action, or other adverse employment action for choosing not to administer, score,  
24 assign, or utilize a district or school-mandated assessment that exceeds state or  
25 federal requirements or that, in the teacher's professional judgement, lacks  
26 instructional value, consistent with Paragraph (7) of this Subsection.

27 (9)(a) The state board shall promulgate rules in accordance with the  
28 Administrative Procedure Act providing for monitoring and enforcement of the

1 provisions of Paragraphs (6) and (7) of this Subsection, including the following at  
2 a minimum:

3 (i) Annual reporting by each public school governing authority of required  
4 assessments administered which shall include, at a minimum, the information as  
5 provided by Paragraph (7)(f) of this Subsection.

6 (ii) A complaint process and corrective action process for alleged violations.

7 (b)(i) The state board may grant a waiver to a public school governing  
8 authority for the limited purpose of allowing time for the governing authority to  
9 fulfill obligations under an unexpired multi-year contract for assessments, screeners,  
10 interim assessments, or benchmark assessments, provided the contract was executed  
11 prior to August 1, 2026.

12 (ii) A waiver shall be approved in one-year increments and may be renewed  
13 annually upon application and a showing of continued eligibility but shall not extend  
14 beyond the remainder of the unexpired term of the contract. The waiver shall  
15 terminate automatically upon completion, expiration, or earlier termination of the  
16 contract, whichever occurs first.

17 (iii) A public school governing authority shall not enter into, renew, extend,  
18 amend, or exercise an option to renew or extend any contract for assessment,  
19 screeners, interim assessments, or benchmark assessments on or after August first  
20 unless the assessments to be administered pursuant to the contract comply with the  
21 limitations in Paragraph (6) of this Subsection. No waiver shall be granted for any  
22 contract entered into, renewed, extended, amended, or renewed by option on or after  
23 August 1, 2026.

24 (iv) For the purposes of this Paragraph, "amend" shall mean any material  
25 amendment, modification, change order, addendum, side letter, or other change in  
26 contract scope or obligations, "Material amendment" includes, but is not limited to,  
27 any change that does any of the following:

28 (aa) Extends the contract term or otherwise delays the contract end date.

1           (bb) Adds, exercises, or modifies any renewal, extension, or automatic-  
2           renewal provision.

3           (cc) Adds schools, grade levels, student groups, or course sections covered  
4           by the contract.

5           (dd) Increases the number of administrators, testing windows, make-up  
6           windows, or required sessions.

7           (ee) Adds new assessment components, subtests, platforms, modules,  
8           reporting requirements, or additional vendor-delivered services that increase testing  
9           time, administration burden, or instructional disruption.

10          (ff) Substitutes a different assessment, screener, interim assessment,  
11          benchmark, or delivery method in a manner that increases testing time,  
12          administration burden, or instructional disruption.

13          (v) An application for a waiver shall include, at a minimum, all of the  
14          following:

15           (aa) A copy of the executed contract and the contract term, including any  
16           renewal or extension options.

17           (bb) Identification of the assessments covered by the contract and the  
18           estimated instructional minutes attributable to those assessments.

19           (cc) Documentation demonstrating that termination of the contract prior to  
20           expiration would result in a substantial financial penalty or other material adverse  
21           consequence to the governing authority.

22           (dd) Documentation of stakeholder input, including documented opportunity  
23           for input from affected educators and parents or legal guardians.

24           (ee) A transition plan and time line demonstrating how the governing  
25           authority will come into compliance with Paragraph (6) of this Subsection no later  
26           than the end of the contract term.

27           (vi) Any waiver shall specify the scope, and justification for the waiver and  
28           shall be subject to renewal only upon a renewed showing in accordance with  
29           Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph.



---

**DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

HB 818 Original

2026 Regular Session

Riser

**Abstract:** Provides relative to student assessments.

Present law provides for student assessments. Provides that the time students spend taking standards-based assessments shall not exceed two percent of the minimum number of instructional minutes required per school year. Proposed law additionally includes other assessments required by federal law, state law, State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) rules, and public school governing authorities, including but not limited to benchmarks and interim assessments, in this limitation. Excludes teacher-selected routine classroom quizzes, tests, and exams from this limitation.

Present law requires public school governing authorities to review all benchmarks and interim assessments on a regular basis. Proposed law requires this on an annual basis and provides that any testing requirement that is not mandated by federal law or present law shall be administered only at the professional discretion of the teacher.

Proposed law requires the state Dept. of Education (DOE) to post a statewide mandated assessment schedule on its website. Requires public school governing authorities to post this on their websites, along with a local benchmarks and interim assessments schedule, and requires them to submit the local schedule information to DOE. Requires DOE to submit the local schedule information to the House and Senate education committees.

Proposed law requires BESE to adopt rules for the enforcement of the above proposed law relative to such review, non-mandated test administration, and schedules, including a complaint process and corrective action process for violations. Allows BESE to grant waivers and provides relative to assessment contracts.

Proposed law provides that no teacher shall be subject to reprisal or any adverse employment action for choosing not to administer, score, assign, or use a district- or school-mandated assessment that exceeds state or federal requirements or, in the teacher's professional judgment, lacks instructional value.

Proposed law requires DOE to review and consolidate assessment mandates and publish annually a consolidated inventory of assessments required by federal law, present law, and BESE rules.

Present law provides for the Parents' Bill of Rights for Public Schools. Proposed law adds to this list of rights the receipt of the proposed law schedules.

(Amends R.S. 17:24.4(F)(6) and (7)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 17:24.4(7)(a)(v) and (c)-(g) and (8)-(10) and 407.9(B)(15))

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.