
DIGEST

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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.