

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2025 Regular Session

Substitute Bill proposed by Senate Committee on Education to Original Senate Bill No. 105
by Senator Abraham

This document reflects the content of a substitute bill but is not in a bill form; page numbers in this document DO NOT correspond to page numbers in the substitute bill itself.

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(a) and (c) and (4)(a), relative to student assessments; to provide with respect to the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; to provide with respect to standards-based assessments in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(a) and (c) and (4)(a) are hereby amended and reenacted 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

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F.(1)(a) The Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no later than the school year 2027-2028, the state Department of Education shall implement the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program in compliance with this Subsection. The school grade level in which each assessment is given in Subparagraph (c)(ii) of this Subsection shall be determined with the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

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(c)(i) Standards-based assessments in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies based on state content standards and rigorous student achievement standards set with reference to test scores of students of the same grade level nationally shall be implemented by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Such tests in English language arts shall be administered; at ~~a minimum~~; in grades three through eight and at least twice in grades nine through eleven. Such tests in mathematics shall be administered in grades three through eight and at least twice in grades nine through eleven.

(ii) Such tests in science and social studies shall be administered in not more than four grade levels each. The science test shall not be given in the same grade levels as the social studies test. Nothing herein shall prohibit a student from retesting.

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(4)(a) In addition to the other requirements of this Subsection, the state Department of Education shall establish, subject to the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the level of achievement on certain tests or on certain portions of the tests given as required in this Subsection ~~in fourth and eighth grades~~ as definitive of the level of the student's proficiency in mathematics, English language arts, science, and social studies. Fourth and eighth grade students shall be required to demonstrate proficiency on such tests in English language arts and mathematics in order to advance to grades five and nine, pursuant to rules adopted by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. Such proficiency levels shall be set with reference to test scores of students of the same grade level nationally. The department shall establish, subject to the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the nature and application of various intervention options in the case of a failure to demonstrate proficiency, which may include remediation, retention in grade, an alternative placement in succeeding grades, or any other option which will support a student's achieving the required proficiency level.

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Section 2. The state Department of Education shall investigate whether a nationally normed assessment or a criterion-referenced assessment may be used to satisfy federal

1 requirements for assessments used for the school and district accountability system and other
2 ways to ensure comparability to rigorous expectations of other states. The department shall
3 also investigate and compile a list of the tests available which satisfy the federal
4 requirements. Not later than February 6, 2026, the state Department of Education shall
5 submit a report to the Senate and House committees on education regarding the findings of
6 such investigation and any recommendations regarding which nationally normed assessment
7 or criterion-referenced assessment is recommended for implementation. Nothing in the
8 report shall require the disclosure of any procurement information that would violate any
9 provision of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

10 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature of the governor or, if not
11 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
12 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
13 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
14 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services.
The keyword, summary, 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)]

	DIGEST	
SB 105 Original	2025 Regular Session	Education

Present law requires the state Dept. of Education to implement the La. Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) with the approval of the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). Provides for the administration of LEAP tests based on state content standards in English language arts, math, science, and social studies to students, at a minimum, in grades three through eleven. Requires BESE to determine by rule the adequate test score to determine successful performance on LEAP tests. Factors measurements of growth in student achievement on LEAP tests into school and district performance scores assigned pursuant to the school and district accountability system and into the evaluation of teachers and administrators.

Present law provides that standards-based assessments in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies are to be based on state content standards and rigorous student achievement standards set with reference to test scores of students of the same grade level nationally.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that, no later than school year 2027-2028, the state Dept. of Education is to test in English language arts in grades three through eight and at least twice in grades nine through 11. Provides that the mathematics test is to be administered in grades three through eight and at least twice in grades nine through 11. Provides that the science test and social studies test are to be administered in not more than four grade levels each and the science test is not to be given in the same grade levels as the social studies test.

Proposed law provides that the state Dept. of Education is to investigate whether a nationally normed assessment or a criterion-referenced assessment may be used to satisfy federal requirements for assessments used for the school and district accountability system and other ways to ensure comparability to rigorous expectations of other states. The state Dept. of Education is to investigate and compile a list of the tests available which satisfy the federal requirements. Not later than February 6, 2026, the state Dept. of Education is to submit a report to the Senate and House committees on education regarding the findings of such investigation and any recommendations regarding which nationally normed assessment or criterion-referenced assessment is recommended for implementation. Provides that nothing in the report shall require the disclosure of any procurement information that would violate any provision of the La. Procurement Code.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(a) and (c) and (4)(a))