

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 163

BY REPRESENTATIVE HENRY BURNS

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT: Prohibits administration of Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers assessments and provides for continuation of La. Educational Assessment Program tests and the standards on which such tests are based

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(a), (c), (d), and (e), relative to education standards
3 and related assessments; to prohibit the administration of certain standards-based
4 assessments; to remove the requirement that standards-based assessments for certain
5 subjects be based on nationally recognized content standards; to provide for the
6 continued administration of Louisiana Educational Assessment Program tests and the
7 standards on which such tests are based; to provide for periodic review and revision
8 of the tests by the state Department of Education; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(a), (c), (d), and (e) are hereby amended and reenacted
11 to read as follows:

12 §24.4. Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for
13 required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish or city
14 school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers

15 * * *

16 F.(1)(a) The state Department of Education shall ~~begin implementation of~~
17 ~~a implement the~~ Louisiana Educational Assessment Program with the approval of the
18 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

19 * * *

1 (c) Standards-based assessments in English language arts, mathematics,
 2 science, and social studies shall be based on state content standards that represent the
 3 knowledge and skills needed for students to successfully transition to postsecondary
 4 education and the workplace and rigorous student achievement standards set with
 5 reference to test scores of students of the same grade level nationally. The
 6 assessments shall be implemented by the ~~State Board of Elementary and Secondary~~
 7 ~~Education. Such tests~~ state Department of Education and shall be administered, at
 8 a minimum, in grades three through eleven.

9 (d) ~~Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, standards-based assessments~~
 10 ~~implemented by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in English~~
 11 ~~language arts and mathematics shall be based on nationally recognized content~~
 12 ~~standards that represent the knowledge and skills needed for students to successfully~~
 13 ~~transition to postsecondary education and the workplace. Rigorous student~~
 14 ~~achievement standards shall be set with reference to test scores of the same grade~~
 15 ~~levels nationally. The state Department of Education or the State Board of~~
 16 Elementary and Secondary Education shall not implement or administer any
 17 standards-based assessment proposed or developed by the Partnership for
 18 Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers, the Smarter Balanced Assessment
 19 Consortium, or any other equivalent national group or consortium.

20 (e) The rigor of each standards-based assessment, at a minimum, shall be
 21 comparable to national achievement tests, including but not limited to the National
 22 Assessment of Education Progress. The department shall periodically review the
 23 rigor of such assessments for compliance with this Subparagraph and Subparagraph
 24 (c) of this Paragraph and shall revise the assessments as may be necessary to ensure
 25 such compliance.

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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)]

Henry Burns

HB No. 163

Abstract: Prohibits administration of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments and any other similar assessments and provides for continued administration of La. Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) tests based on rigorous standards comparable to student achievement levels nationally.

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 through 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. 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. Requires BESE to establish the adequate test scores for determining successful student performance on the tests. Proposed law retains present law provisions with regard to implementation of LEAP tests.

Proposed law deletes present law requirement that the standards-based assessments in English language arts and math be based on nationally recognized content standards and prohibits implementation of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and Smarter Balanced assessments and any other similar assessments.

Proposed law provides for implementation of the standards-based assessments by the department instead of BESE and requires the department to periodically review and revise the rigor of such assessments as necessary.

(Amends R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(a), (c), (d), and (e))