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## DIGEST

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HB 1051 Original

2016 Regular Session

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**Abstract:** Provides relative to state Dept. of Education (DOE) contracts for assessments in English language arts and math.

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 Bd. 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 the standards-based assessments in English language arts and math shall be based on nationally recognized content standards. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides the following with respect to assessments:

- (1) Requires DOE to procure through a competitive bidding process, in accordance with the La. Procurement Code, unique La. assessments to be used in grades 3-8 in English language arts and mathematics that contain items selected by the provider or developed by DOE to measure the state's learning expectations for students; requires DOE to ensure alignment and academic appropriateness through reviews by La. public school educators.
- (2) Requires the chief procurement officer, in accordance with present law, to make a final determination regarding any contracts entered into by DOE for such assessments. Requires the commissioner of administration to ensure that any contractor is in full compliance with proposed law.

Present law, which shall be null and void on July 1, 2016, provides with respect to assessments administered during the 2015-16 school year as follows:

- (1) Requires the state Dept. of Education (DOE) to enter into a one-year contract, in accordance with the La. Procurement Code, for assessments to be used in grades 3-8 in English language arts and math.
- (2) Provides that not more than 49.9% of the questions included in the selected assessments shall be based on 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.

- (3) Provides that no question included in the selected assessments shall be based on a blueprint or intellectual property developed by a consortium of states predominantly funded by organizations primarily dedicated to political advocacy.
- (4) Requires the commissioner of administration to ensure that any contractor is in full compliance with present law.
- (5) Requires the commissioner of administration to ensure that a copy of any subcontract entered into by the selected contractor be submitted to the division of administration within 10 calendar days of finalization of the contract.
- (6) Requires the state chief procurement officer, in accordance with applicable state law, to make a final determination regarding the department's request for proposals to have solicit a vendor for the assessments, by July 15, 2015, provided all requirements of the state procurement code have been met.
- (7) Requires the state chief procurement officer, in accordance with applicable state law, to make a final determination regarding the department's contract for the assessments, not later than Oct. 15, 2015, provided all requirements of the state procurement code have been met.

Proposed law retains present law.

Effective July 1, 2016.

(Adds R.S. 17:24.4(F)(5))