
DIGEST

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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

HB 616

2017 Regular Session

Thomas

Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT: Provides relative to time requirements and responsibilities of public school governing authorities with regard to student assessments

Report adopts Senate amendments to:

1. Make technical changes.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Provide that proposed law time limitations on standards-based assessments do not include college entrance and college credit exams, Advanced Placement exams, International Baccalaureate exams, and industry-based credential exams.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law (R.S. 17:154.1(A)(1)) provides that the minimum school day for public school grades one through 12 shall consist of 360 minutes of instructional time and the minimum school year shall consist of 177 days of instruction. Present law authorizes public school governing authorities to modify the total number of instructional minutes per day and instructional days per year under certain conditions, provided the same minimum total instructional minutes for the year is not changed.

Proposed law limits testing time on standards-based assessments for public school students per school year to not more than 2% of the minimum number of instructional minutes per year as required in present law. Provides that the 2% limitation shall not affect the accommodations provided to a student with an exceptionality as defined in present law or to a student who has been determined to be eligible for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and who has an Individual Accommodation Plan. Extra time provided to such students shall not be factored into the 2% limitation. Also excludes college entrance and college credit exams, Advanced Placement exams, International Baccalaureate exams, and industry-based credential exams from proposed law.

Proposed law requires public school governing authorities to review all benchmarks and interim assessments on a regular basis to ensure that: they are aligned with state content standards, the assessment results are used to improve instruction and are made available to a parent upon request, and testing time is minimized. Defines "interim assessments" as assessments required by the public school governing authority to measure student learning throughout the school year.

(Adds R.S. 17:24.4(F)(6) and (7))