

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 522

BY REPRESENTATIVE JEFFERSON

STUDENTS: Requires that an opportunity to take certain assessments be given to certain public school students

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact the heading of Chapter 41 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised
3 Statutes of 1950 and R.S. 17:3951(G)(3) and (9) and (H) and to enact R.S.
4 17:3951(G)(10) and (11) and 3952, relative to college and career readiness; to
5 provide for the responsibilities and duties of the College and Career Readiness
6 Commission; to require the state Department of Education to fund the administration
7 of certain assessments to certain students; to authorize the State Board of Elementary
8 and Secondary Education promulgate rules and regulations; to provide for
9 effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. The heading of Chapter 41 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes
12 of 1950 and R.S. 17:3951(G)(3) and (9) and (H) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
13 17:3951(G)(10) and (11) and 3952 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

14 CHAPTER 41.

15 COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS ~~COMMISSION~~

16 §3951. College and Career Readiness Commission; creation; purpose; duties and
17 responsibilities; membership; vacancies; compensation; reporting

18 * * *

1 G. In making its recommendations pursuant to Subsection A of this Section,
2 the commission shall consider the following:

3 * * *

4 (3) Strategies for better integration of the WorkKeys job skill assessment
5 system into high school preparation programs and initiatives, including but not
6 limited to strategies to provide every high school student with the opportunity to earn
7 an ACT National Readiness Certificate.

8 * * *

9 (9) Strategies to strengthen the state's talent pipeline by connecting
10 graduating high school students with ACT Work Ready Communities in order to
11 help them secure employment at competitive wages.

12 (10) Strategies to attract employers and economic developers to the state
13 through certification of the state's workforce readiness and the provision of job
14 profiling services to employers throughout the state.

15 ~~(9)~~ (11) Any other strategies or initiatives that the commission deems
16 important and necessary in carrying out its duties and responsibilities pursuant to this
17 Chapter.

18 * * *

19 H.(1) The commission annually shall submit a written report of its findings
20 and recommendations to the governor, the House Committee on Education, the
21 Senate Committee on Education, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
22 Education, and the Board of Regents by not later than January thirty-first.

23 (2) Beginning with report submitted in 2025, the commission shall include
24 data regarding high school students who have earned an ACT National Career
25 Readiness Certificate. The commission shall disaggregate the data by school or
26 school district, race, and gender.

27 §3952. ACT National Career Readiness Certificate

28 A. It is the intent of the legislature that comprehensive career and technical
29 assessment and certification be made available to address the current and future

economic needs of the state and to promote student success in high school and in life beyond secondary school.

B. The state Department of Education shall allocate funding to provide an opportunity to every high school student in grade eleven or twelve to take the assessments that lead to an ACT National Career Readiness Certificate. The assessments shall meet all of the following criteria:

(1) Be a standardized, criterion-referenced measure of broadly relevant foundational workplace skills.

(2) Assess and document student readiness for a wide range of jobs.

(3) Measure skills in certain areas including but not limited to the following:

(a) Applied mathematics.

(b) Workplace documents.

(c) Graphic literacy.

(4) Align with research-based skill requirement profiles for specific industries and occupations.

(5) Lead to the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate for participants who meet the minimum proficiency requirements on the component assessments.

(6) Be available in both paper and digital formats.

(7) Used as a metric for ACT Work Ready Communities to document the skills of the merging, transitioning, and incumbent labor market at the parish level.

(8) Aligned to self-paced, modular skills curricula to allow for skill remediation.

C. In accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education may promulgate rules and regulations for the implementation of this Section, including but not limited to the establishment of how students' scores shall be accounted for within the school and district accountability system as provided for in R.S. 17:10.1 et seq.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature

- 1 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
2 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
3 effective on the day following such approval.
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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)]

HB 522 Original

2022 Regular Session

Jefferson

Abstract: Requires public school students in grades 11 and 12 to have the opportunity to take certain assessments at least once.

Present law creates the College and Career Readiness Commission to make recommendations for the development of statewide policies, guiding principles, and programs that address the current and future economic needs of the state and to promote student success in high school and in life beyond secondary education. Proposed law retains present law.

Further requires commission to make recommendations relative to strategies to:

- (1) Provide every high school student with the opportunity to earn an ACT National Readiness Certificate.
- (2) Connect graduating high school students with ACT Work Ready Communities in order to help them secure employment at competitive wages.
- (3) Attract employers and economic developers to the state through certification of the state's workforce readiness and the provision of job profiling services to employers throughout the state.

Proposed law requires the state Dept. of Education to provide funding for public high school junior and seniors to have the opportunity to take the assessments that lead to an ACT National Career Readiness Certificate.

Proposed law authorizes the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education to promulgate rules and regulations for the administration of certain assessments to certain students, including how students' scores will fit into the school and district accountability system provided for in present law.

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

(Amends the heading of Chapter 41 of Title 17 and R.S. 17:3951(G)(3) and (9) and (H); Adds R.S. 17:3951(G)(10) and (11) and 3952)