
DIGEST

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Schroder

HB No. 996

Abstract: Prohibits implementation of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments and provides for the continuation of La. Educational Assessment Program tests.

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. Provides for an alternate assessment to be administered to students with disabilities who meet criteria developed by the state Dept. of Education. Further requires the department to develop modified achievement standards and use alternative assessments for certain students with persistent academic disabilities.

Proposed law retains present law except deletes present law requirement that the standards-based assessments in English language arts and math be based on nationally recognized content standards. Prohibits implementation of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and Smarter Balanced assessments and any other similar assessments. Specifies that this prohibition shall not apply to a college entrance examination, a high school equivalency examination, or an industry-based certification examination. Relative to the administration of alternate assessments to a student with disabilities, proposed law provides that such administration be upon the parent's or guardian's approval.

(Amends R.S. 17:24.4(F)(1)(a) and (d) and (3)(a) and (b)(ii))