

By: Grusendorf

H.B. No. 521

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to state assessment of public school students in social studies in the fifth grade and in science in the eighth grade.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 39.023(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The agency shall adopt or develop appropriate criterion-referenced assessment instruments designed to assess essential knowledge and skills in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, and science. All students, except students assessed under Subsection (b) or (1) or exempted under Section 39.027, shall be assessed in:

(1) mathematics, annually in grades three through seven without the aid of technology and in grades eight through 11 with the aid of technology on any assessment instruments that include algebra;

(2) reading, annually in grades three through nine;

(3) writing, including spelling and grammar, in grades four and seven;

(4) English language arts, in grade 10;

(5) social studies, in grades five, eight, and 10; and

(6) science, in grades five, eight, and 10.

SECTION 2. The commissioner of education shall adopt rules for the implementation of Sections 39.023(a)(5) and (6), Education

1 Code, as amended by this Act. The commissioner's rules must provide
2 that:

3 (1) except as provided by Subdivision (3) of this
4 section, not later than the 2006-2007 school year, the State Board
5 of Education shall administer:

6 (A) a social studies assessment instrument to
7 students in the fifth grade as provided by Section 39.023(a)(5),
8 Education Code, as amended by this Act; and

9 (B) a science assessment instrument to students
10 in the eighth grade as provided by Section 39.023(a)(6), Education
11 Code, as amended by this Act;

12 (2) except as provided by Subdivision (4) of this
13 section, not later than the 2008-2009 school year, the Texas
14 Education Agency, in evaluating the performance of school
15 districts, campuses, and open-enrollment charter schools under
16 Subchapter D, Chapter 39, Education Code, shall include the results
17 of student performance on:

18 (A) the fifth grade social studies assessment
19 instrument required by Section 39.023(a)(5), Education Code, as
20 amended by this Act; and

21 (B) the eighth grade science assessment
22 instrument required by Section 39.023(a)(6), Education Code, as
23 amended by this Act;

24 (3) not later than the 2008-2009 school year, the
25 State Board of Education shall administer assessment instruments
26 under Section 39.023(b), Education Code, that correspond to:

27 (A) the fifth grade social studies assessment

1 instrument required by Section 39.023(a)(5), Education Code, as
2 amended by this Act; and

3 (B) the eighth grade science assessment
4 instrument required by Section 39.023(a)(6), Education Code, as
5 amended by this Act; and

6 (4) not later than the 2010-2011 school year, the
7 Texas Education Agency shall include the results of student
8 performance on the assessment instruments described by Subdivision
9 (3) of this section in evaluating the performance of school
10 districts, campuses, and open-enrollment charter schools under
11 Subchapter D, Chapter 39, Education Code.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.