By: Eissler H.B. No. 525

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain standards for group-administered achievement tests used by school districts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 39.032, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(a) A company or organization may not distribute to, sell to, or grade for the same school district the same form of an assessment instrument for more than eight [~~three~~] school years. A school district may not use the same form of an assessment instrument for more than eight [~~three~~] years. This subsection does not apply if another form of a particular assessment instrument does not exist.

(c) State and national norms of averages shall be computed using data that:

(1) are not more than eight [~~six~~] years old at the time the assessment instrument is administered, unless only data older than eight years old are available; and

(2) [~~that~~] are representative of the group of students to whom the assessment instrument is administered.

(c-1) The standardization norms computed under Subsection (c) shall be based on a national probability sample that meets accepted standards for educational and psychological testing and,

using proven psychometric procedures approved by the State Board of Education, shall be updated at least every eight [~~six~~] years, unless sufficient data to update the sample are not available [~~using proven psychometric procedures approved by the State Board of Education~~].

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.