

By: Huberty

H.B. No. 742

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to eliminating certain state-required assessment
3 instruments and certain end-of-course assessment instruments
4 administered to public school students in certain grades.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 39.023(a), Education Code, as effective
7 until on or before September 1, 2015, is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The agency shall adopt or develop appropriate
9 criterion-referenced assessment instruments designed to assess
10 essential knowledge and skills in reading, [~~writing,~~ mathematics,
11 [~~social studies,~~] and science. Except as provided by Subsection
12 (a-2), all students, other than students assessed under Subsection
13 (b) or (1) or exempted under Section 39.027, shall be assessed in:

14 (1) mathematics, annually in grades three through
15 seven without the aid of technology and in grade eight with the aid
16 of technology on any assessment instrument that includes algebra;

17 (2) reading, annually in grades three through eight;

18 (3) [~~writing, including spelling and grammar, in~~
19 ~~grades four and seven,~~

20 [~~(4) social studies, in grade eight,~~

21 [~~(5)] science, in grades five and eight; and~~

22 (4) [~~(6)] any other subject and grade required by~~
23 federal law.

24 SECTION 2. Section 39.023(a), Education Code, as effective

1 on or before September 1, 2015, is amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The agency shall adopt or develop appropriate
3 criterion-referenced assessment instruments designed to assess
4 essential knowledge and skills in reading, [~~writing,~~] mathematics,
5 [~~social studies,~~] and science. Except as provided by Subsection
6 (a-2), all students, other than students assessed under Subsection
7 (b) or (1) or exempted under Section 39.027, shall be assessed in:

8 (1) mathematics, in grades three and five without the
9 aid of technology and in grade eight with the aid of technology on
10 any assessment instrument that includes algebra;

11 (2) reading, in grades three, five, and eight; and

12 (3) [~~writing, including spelling and grammar, in~~
13 ~~grades four and seven,~~

14 [~~(4) social studies, in grade eight, and~~

15 [~~(5)~~] science, in grades five and eight.

16 SECTION 3. Section 39.023(a), Education Code, as effective
17 September 1, 2017, is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) The agency shall adopt or develop appropriate
19 criterion-referenced assessment instruments designed to assess
20 essential knowledge and skills in reading, [~~writing,~~] mathematics,
21 [~~social studies,~~] and science. Except as provided by Subsection
22 (a-2), all students, other than students assessed under Subsection
23 (b) or (1) or exempted under Section 39.027, shall be assessed in:

24 (1) mathematics, annually in grades three through
25 seven without the aid of technology and in grade eight with the aid
26 of technology on any assessment instrument that includes algebra;

27 (2) reading, annually in grades three through eight;

1 (3) [~~writing, including spelling and grammar, in~~
2 ~~grades four and seven;~~
3 ~~[(4) social studies, in grade eight,~~
4 ~~[(5)]~~ science, in grades five and eight; and
5 (4) ~~[(6)]~~ any other subject and grade required by
6 federal law.

7 SECTION 4. Section 39.023(c), Education Code, is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 (c) The agency shall also adopt end-of-course assessment
10 instruments for secondary-level courses in Algebra I, biology,
11 English I, and English II [~~, and United States history~~]. The Algebra
12 I end-of-course assessment instrument must be administered with the
13 aid of technology. The English I and English II end-of-course
14 assessment instruments must each assess essential knowledge and
15 skills in both reading and writing in the same assessment
16 instrument and must provide a single score. A school district shall
17 comply with State Board of Education rules regarding administration
18 of the assessment instruments listed in this subsection. If a
19 student is in a special education program under Subchapter A,
20 Chapter 29, the student's admission, review, and dismissal
21 committee shall determine whether any allowable modification is
22 necessary in administering to the student an assessment instrument
23 required under this subsection. The State Board of Education shall
24 administer the assessment instruments. The State Board of
25 Education shall adopt a schedule for the administration of
26 end-of-course assessment instruments that complies with the
27 requirements of Subsection (c-3).

1 SECTION 5. Section 39.203(c), Education Code, is amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (c) In addition to the distinction designations described
4 by Subsections (a) and (b), a campus that satisfies the criteria
5 developed under Section 39.204 shall be awarded a distinction
6 designation by the commissioner for outstanding performance in
7 academic achievement in English language arts, mathematics, or
8 science[~~, or social studies~~].

9 SECTION 6. This Act applies beginning with the 2015-2016
10 school year.

11 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.