

By: Taylor of Galveston

S.B. No. 1200

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a committee to recommend a new system for student assessment and public school accountability.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 39, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter N to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER N. TEXAS COMMISSION ON NEXT GENERATION ASSESSMENTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Sec. 39.501. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "commission" means the Texas Commission on Next Generation Assessments and Accountability.

Sec. 39.502. TEXAS COMMISSION ON NEXT GENERATION ASSESSMENTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY. (a) The Texas Commission on Next Generation Assessments and Accountability is established to develop and make recommendations for new systems of student assessment and public school accountability.

(b) The commission is composed of:

(1) seven members appointed by the governor;

(2) four members appointed by the lieutenant governor;

and

(3) four members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(c) In making appointments under this section, at least one person must be appointed to represent each of the following groups:

- 1           (1) a parent or person standing in parental relation  
2 to a student enrolled in the public school system;
- 3           (2) an educator in the public school system;
- 4           (3) a member of the business community;
- 5           (4) a member of the civic community;
- 6           (5) a leader in student assessment development and  
7 use; and
- 8           (6) a leader in research concerning student assessment  
9 and education outcomes.

10           Sec. 39.503. PRESIDING OFFICER. The governor shall  
11 designate the presiding officer of the commission.

12           Sec. 39.504. COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT. A member of  
13 the commission is not entitled to compensation for service on the  
14 commission but is entitled to reimbursement for actual and  
15 necessary expenses incurred in performing commission duties.

16           Sec. 39.505. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND FUNDING. (a)  
17 Staff members of the agency shall provide administrative support  
18 for the commission.

19           (b) Funding for the administrative and operational expenses  
20 of the commission shall be provided by appropriation to the agency  
21 for that purpose.

22           Sec. 39.506. RECOMMENDATIONS. The commission shall develop  
23 recommendations under this subchapter to address:

24           (1) the purpose of a state accountability system and  
25 the role of student assessment in that system;

26           (2) opportunities to assess students that:  
27               (A) provide actionable information for a parent

1 or person standing in parental relation to a student, an educator,  
2 and the public;

3 (B) support learning activities;

4 (C) recognize application of skills and  
5 knowledge;

6 (D) measure student educational growth toward  
7 mastery; and

8 (E) value critical thinking;

9 (3) alignment of state performance standards with  
10 college and career readiness requirements in collaboration with the  
11 Texas Workforce Commission and Texas Higher Education Coordinating  
12 Board; and

13 (4) policy changes necessary to enable a student to  
14 progress through subject matter and grade levels on demonstration  
15 of mastery.

16 Sec. 39.507. REPORT. The commission shall prepare and  
17 deliver a report to the governor and the legislature that  
18 recommends statutory changes to improve systems of student  
19 assessment and public school accountability not later than December  
20 1, 2016.

21 Sec. 39.508. PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION. (a)  
22 The commission may hold public meetings as needed to fulfill its  
23 duties under this subchapter.

24 (b) The commission is subject to Chapters 551 and 552,  
25 Government Code.

26 Sec. 39.509. COMMISSION ABOLISHED; EXPIRATION OF  
27 SUBCHAPTER. (a) The commission is abolished January 1, 2017.

1        (b) This subchapter expires January 1, 2017.

2        SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
6 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.