86R2440 MM-D

By:  Powell S.B. No. 1275

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring school districts to administer college readiness assessment instruments to certain students at state cost.

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

SECTION 1.  Sections 39.0261(a) and (e), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a)  In addition to the assessment instruments otherwise authorized or required by this subchapter:

(1)  each school year and at state cost, a school district may administer to students in the spring of the eighth grade an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument for the purpose of diagnosing the academic strengths and deficiencies of students before entrance into high school;

(2)  each school year and at state cost, a school district may administer to students in the 10th grade an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument for the purpose of measuring a student's progress toward readiness for college and the workplace; [~~and~~]

(3)  each school year and at state cost, a school district shall administer to students in a grade level determined by the commissioner who have been administered the Algebra I end-of-course assessment or English I and English II end-of-course assessments as described by Section 39.023(a-2)(2) one of the valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessment instruments used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions processes for the purpose of fulfilling federal requirements regarding assessment at the high school level; and

(4)  high school students in the spring of the 11th grade or during the 12th grade, other than students administered an assessment instrument under Subdivision (3), may select and take once, at state cost, one of the valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessment instruments used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions processes.

(e)  Subsection (a)(4) [~~(a)(3)~~] does not prohibit a high school student in the [~~spring of the~~] 11th grade or during the 12th grade from selecting and taking, at the student's own expense, one of the valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessment instruments used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions processes [~~more than once~~].

SECTION 2.  This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

SECTION 3.  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, 2019.