

By: White

H.B. No. 1687

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to eliminating certain state-required assessment
3 instruments and certain end-of-course assessment instruments not
4 required by federal law.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 39.023, Education Code, is amended by
7 amending Subsections (a), (c), (c-2), and (c-3) and adding
8 Subsection (r) to read as follows:

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

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

18 (2) reading, annually in grades three through eight;
19 and

20 (3) ~~[writing, including spelling and grammar, in~~
21 ~~grades four and seven,~~

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

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

24 ~~[(6) any other subject and grade required by federal~~

1 law].

2 (c) The agency shall also adopt end-of-course assessment
3 instruments for secondary-level courses in reading, mathematics,
4 and science only as necessary to comply with the Every Student
5 Succeeds Act (20 U.S.C. Section 6301 et seq.) to be administered
6 only as necessary to meet the minimum requirements of that Act
7 ~~[Algebra I, biology, English I, English II, and United States~~
8 ~~history. The Algebra I end-of-course assessment instrument must be~~
9 ~~administered with the aid of technology. The English I and English~~
10 ~~II end-of-course assessment instruments must each assess essential~~
11 ~~knowledge and skills in both reading and writing in the same~~
12 ~~assessment instrument and must provide a single score]. A school~~
13 district shall comply with State Board of Education rules regarding
14 administration of the assessment instruments adopted under ~~[listed~~
15 ~~in]~~ this subsection. If a student is in a special education program
16 under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, the student's admission, review,
17 and dismissal committee shall determine whether any allowable
18 modification is necessary in administering to the student an
19 assessment instrument required under this subsection. The State
20 Board of Education shall administer the assessment instruments.
21 ~~[The State Board of Education shall adopt a schedule for the~~
22 ~~administration of end-of-course assessment instruments that~~
23 ~~complies with the requirements of Subsection (c-3).]~~

24 (c-2) The agency may adopt end-of-course assessment
25 instruments for courses for which end-of-course assessment
26 instruments are not adopted under ~~[not listed in]~~ Subsection
27 (c). A student's performance on an end-of-course assessment

1 instrument adopted under this subsection is not subject to the
2 performance requirements established under Subsection (c) or
3 Section 39.025.

4 (c-3) The State Board of Education, with input from school
5 districts, shall adopt [In—adopting] a schedule for the
6 administration of assessment instruments under this section that
7 minimizes the disruption of classroom instruction [the State
8 Board of Education shall require.

9 [~~(1) assessment instruments administered under~~
10 ~~Subsection (a) to be administered on a schedule so that the first~~
11 ~~assessment instrument is administered at least two weeks later than~~
12 ~~the date on which the first assessment instrument was administered~~
13 ~~under Subsection (a) during the 2006-2007 school year; and~~

14 [~~(2) the spring administration of end-of-course~~
15 ~~assessment instruments under Subsection (c) to occur in each school~~
16 ~~district not earlier than the first full week in May, except that~~
17 ~~the spring administration of the end-of-course assessment~~
18 ~~instruments in English I and English II must be permitted to occur~~
19 ~~at an earlier date].~~

20 (r) Notwithstanding any provision of this section or other
21 law, if changes made to the Every Student Succeeds Act (20 U.S.C.
22 Section 6301 et seq.) reduce the number or frequency of assessment
23 instruments required to be administered to students, the State
24 Board of Education shall adopt rules reducing the number or
25 frequency of assessment instruments administered to students under
26 state law, and the commissioner shall ensure that students are not
27 assessed in subject areas or in grades that are no longer required

1 to meet the minimum requirements of that Act.

2 SECTION 2. Section 39.025(a-1), Education Code, is amended
3 to read as follows:

4 (a-1) A student enrolled in a college preparatory
5 mathematics or English language arts course under Section 28.014
6 who satisfies the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) college readiness
7 benchmarks prescribed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
8 Board under Section 51.334 on an assessment instrument designated
9 by the coordinating board under that section administered at the
10 end of the college preparatory mathematics or English language arts
11 course satisfies the requirements concerning and is exempt from the
12 administration of the mathematics or reading [~~Algebra I or the~~
13 ~~English I and English II~~] end-of-course assessment instrument
14 adopted under Section 39.023(c) [~~instruments~~], as applicable, [~~as~~
15 ~~prescribed by Section 39.023(c),~~] even if the student did not
16 perform satisfactorily on a previous administration of the
17 applicable end-of-course assessment instrument. A student who
18 fails to perform satisfactorily on the assessment instrument
19 designated by the coordinating board under Section 51.334
20 administered as provided by this subsection may retake that
21 assessment instrument for purposes of this subsection or may take
22 the appropriate end-of-course assessment instrument.

23 SECTION 3. Section 39.203(c), Education Code, is amended to
24 read as follows:

25 (c) In addition to the distinction designations described
26 by Subsections (a) and (b), a campus that satisfies the criteria
27 developed under Section 39.204 shall be awarded a distinction

1 designation by the commissioner for outstanding performance in
2 academic achievement in reading [~~English language arts~~],
3 mathematics, or science [~~, or social studies~~].

4 SECTION 4. This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020
5 school year.

6 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.