By: Krause

H.B. No. 2113

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1 AN ACT 2 relating to the academic assessment of public school students. 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: 4 SECTION 1. Section 18.006(b), Education Code, is amended to 5 read as follows: In addition to other factors determined 6 (b) to be 7 appropriate by the commissioner, the accountability system must include consideration of: 8 9 (1)student performance on the [end-of-course] assessment instruments administered under [required by] Section 10 11 39.023(c); and 12 (2) dropout rates, including dropout rates and diploma program completion rates for the grade levels served by the diploma 13 14 program. Section 25.005(b), Education Code, is amended to SECTION 2. 15 read as follows: 16 A reciprocity agreement must: 17 (b) 18 (1) address procedures for: transferring student records; 19 (A) awarding credit for completed course work; 20 (B) 21 and 22 (C) permitting a student to satisfy the 23 requirements of Section 39.025 through successful performance on comparable [end-of-course or other exit-level] 24 assessment

1 instruments administered in another state; and

2 (2) include appropriate criteria developed by the3 agency.

4 SECTION 3. Section 28.014(a), Education Code, is amended to 5 read as follows:

6 (a) Each school district shall partner with at least one 7 institution of higher education to develop and provide courses in 8 college preparatory mathematics and English language arts. The 9 courses must be designed:

10 (1) for students at the 12th grade level whose 11 performance on:

12 (A) an [end-of-course] assessment instrument 13 <u>administered</u> [required] under Section 39.023(c) does not meet 14 college readiness standards; or

(B) coursework, a college entrance examination, or an assessment instrument designated under Section 51.334 indicates that the student is not ready to perform entry-level college coursework; and

19 (2) to prepare students for success in entry-level20 college courses.

21 SECTION 4. Section 28.0211(o), Education Code, is amended 22 to read as follows:

(o) This section does not require the administration of a fifth [or eighth] grade assessment instrument in a subject under Section 39.023(a) to a student enrolled in the fifth [or eighth] grade[, as applicable,] if the student[+

27 [<del>(1)</del>] is enrolled in a course in the subject intended

1 for students above the student's grade level and will be 2 administered an assessment instrument adopted or developed under 3 Section 39.023(a) that aligns with the curriculum for the course in 4 which the student is enrolled[<del>; or</del>

5 [(2) is enrolled in a course in the subject for which 6 the student will receive high school academic credit and will be 7 administered an end-of-course assessment instrument adopted under 8 Section 39.023(c) for the course].

9 SECTION 5. Section 28.023(c), Education Code, is amended to 10 read as follows:

(c) A school district shall give a student in grade level 11 12 six or above credit for a subject on the basis of an examination for credit in the subject approved by the board of trustees under 13 14 Subsection (a) if the student scores in the 80th percentile or above 15 on the examination or if the student achieves a score as provided by Subsection (c-1). If a student is given credit in a subject on the 16 basis of an examination, the district shall enter the examination 17 18 score on the student's transcript [and the student is not required 19 to take an end-of-course assessment instrument adopted under Section 39.023(c) for that subject]. 20

21 SECTION 6. Section 28.025(b-4), Education Code, is amended 22 to read as follows:

(b-4) A school district may offer the curriculum described in Subsections (b-1)(1) through (4) in an applied manner. Courses delivered in an applied manner must cover the essential knowledge and skills[, and the student shall be administered the applicable end-of-course assessment instrument as provided by Sections

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2 SECTION 7. Section 28.0255, Education Code, is amended by 3 amending Subsections (g) and (h) and adding Subsection (g-1) to 4 read as follows:

5 (g) A student <u>entering the ninth grade for the first time</u> 6 <u>beginning with the 2019-2020 school year</u> is entitled to a high 7 school diploma if the student:

8 (1) successfully complies with the curriculum 9 requirements specified under Subsection (e); and

10 (2) performs satisfactorily, as determined by the 11 commissioner under Subsection (h), on <u>each</u> [end-of-course] 12 assessment <u>instrument selected</u> [instruments listed] under Section 13 39.023(c) by the school district [for courses] in which the student 14 <u>is</u> [was] enrolled.

# 15 (g-1) A student other than a student described by Subsection 16 (g) is entitled to a high school diploma if the student:

17 (1) successfully complies with the curriculum 18 requirements specified <u>under Subsection (e); and</u>

19 (2) performs satisfactorily, as determined by the 20 <u>commissioner under Subsection (h), on:</u>

21 (A) each assessment instrument selected under 22 Section 39.023(c) by the school district in which the student is 23 enrolled; or

(B) assessment instruments listed under Section
39.023(c), as that section existed before amendment by \_.B. \_\_\_\_,
Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, for courses in
which the student was enrolled.

(h) For purposes of <u>Subsections</u> [Subsection] (g)(2) and
 (g-1)(2), the commissioner shall determine the level of
 satisfactory performance on applicable [end-of-course] assessment
 instruments administered to a student.

5 SECTION 8. Sections 29.081(b) and (b-1), Education Code, 6 are amended to read as follows:

7 (b) Each district shall provide accelerated instruction to 8 a student enrolled in the district who has taken an [end-of-course] 9 assessment instrument administered under Section 39.023(c) and has 10 not performed satisfactorily on the assessment instrument or who is 11 at risk of dropping out of school.

12 (b-1) Each school district shall offer before the next 13 scheduled administration of the assessment instrument, without 14 cost to the student, additional accelerated instruction to each 15 student in any subject in which the student failed to perform 16 satisfactorily on an [end-of-course] assessment instrument 17 required for graduation.

SECTION 9. Section 29.087(f), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(f) A student participating in a program authorized by this 20 section, other than a student ordered to participate under 21 Subsection (d)(1), must have taken 22 any [the] appropriate 23 [end-of-course] assessment instrument [instruments] specified by 24 Section 39.023(c) that is administered before the student enters [entering] the program and must take <u>any</u> [each] appropriate 25 26 [end-of-course] assessment instrument that is administered during the period in which the student is enrolled in the program. Except 27

1 for a student ordered to participate under Subsection (d)(1), a 2 student participating in the program may not take the high school 3 equivalency examination unless the student has taken the assessment 4 instruments required by this subsection.

5 SECTION 10. Section 29.402(b), Education Code, is amended 6 to read as follows:

7 (b) A person who is under 26 years of age is eligible to 8 enroll in a dropout recovery program under this subchapter if the 9 person:

10 (1) must complete not more than three course credits 11 to complete the curriculum requirements for the foundation high 12 school program for high school graduation; or

13 (2) has failed to perform satisfactorily on<u>, as</u> 14 <u>applicable:</u>

15 <u>(A)</u> an [<del>end-of-course</del>] assessment instrument 16 administered under Section 39.023(c);

17 (B) an assessment instrument administered under 18 Section 39.023(c) as that section existed before amendment by \_.B. 19 \_\_\_\_, Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019; or

20 (C) an assessment instrument administered under 21 Section 39.023(c) as that section existed before amendment by 22 Chapter 1312 (S.B. 1031), Acts of the 80th Legislature, Regular 23 Session, 2007.

SECTION 11. Section 39.023, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (a-2), (c), (c-3), (c-5), (e), (g), (h), (i), and (p) and adding Subsections (h-1) and (q) to read as follows:

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

H.B. No. 2113

8 seven without the aid of technology and in grade eight with the aid
9 of technology on any assessment instrument that includes algebra;

10 (2) reading, annually in grades three through eight;
 11 (3) [writing, including spelling and grammar, in
 12 grades four and seven;

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### [<del>(4) social studies, in grade eight;</del>

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### [<del>(5)</del>] science, in grades five and eight; and

15 <u>(4)</u> [<del>(6)</del>] any other subject and grade required by 16 federal law.

17 (a-2) Except as required by federal law, a student is not 18 required to be assessed in a subject otherwise assessed at the 19 student's grade level under Subsection (a) if the student[+

[(1)] is enrolled in a course in the subject intended for students above the student's grade level and will be administered an assessment instrument adopted or developed under Subsection (a) that aligns with the curriculum for the course in which the student is enrolled[<del>; or</del>

25 [(2) is enrolled in a course in the subject for which 26 the student will receive high school academic credit and will be 27 administered an end-of-course assessment instrument adopted under

Subsection (c) for the course]. 1 The agency shall also provide for [adopt end-of-course] 2 (c) 3 assessment instruments for each federally required secondary-level subject, including English language arts, mathematics, and 4 science. The commissioner shall identify a procedure for a school 5 district to select for the assessment of students under this 6 subsection the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) diagnostic 7 8 assessment or the SAT, the ACT, the PSAT, or the ACT-Plan or any other nationally recognized, norm-referenced secondary-level 9 10 assessment instrument designated by the commissioner. Each school district shall select one or more assessment instruments for 11 12 purposes of this subsection. A school district that selects more than one assessment instrument must administer uniformly to 13 students in the district the same assessment instrument to satisfy 14 the requirement for the same subject [courses in Algebra I, 15 biology, English I, English II, and United States history. The 16 17 Algebra I end-of-course assessment instrument must be administered with the aid of technology]. An [The English I and English II 18 19 end-of-course] assessment instrument designated under this section 20 [instruments] must [each] assess essential knowledge and skills in the appropriate subject [both reading and writing in the same 21 assessment instrument and must provide a single score]. A school 22 23 district shall comply with State Board of Education rules regarding 24 administration of the assessment instruments under [listed in] this subsection. If a student is in a special education program under 25 26 Subchapter A, Chapter 29, the student's admission, review, and dismissal committee shall determine whether any 27 allowable

1 modification is necessary in administering to the student an
2 assessment instrument required under this subsection. [The State
3 Board of Education shall administer the assessment instruments.
4 The State Board of Education shall adopt a schedule for the
5 administration of end-of-course assessment instruments that
6 complies with the requirements of Subsection (c=3).]

7 (c-3) In adopting a schedule for the administration of 8 assessment instruments under this section, the State Board of 9 Education shall require[+

10 [(1)] assessment instruments administered under 11 Subsection (a) to be administered on a schedule so that the first 12 assessment instrument is administered at least two weeks later than 13 the date on which the first assessment instrument was administered 14 under Subsection (a) during the 2006-2007 school year [<del>; and</del>

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

21 (c-5) A student's performance on an [<del>end-of-course</del>]
22 assessment instrument <u>administered</u> [<del>required</del>] under Subsection (c)
23 must be included in the student's academic achievement record.

(e) Under rules adopted by the State Board of Education,
every third year, the agency shall release the questions and answer
keys to each assessment instrument administered under Subsection
(a), (b), [(c), (d), ] or (1), excluding any assessment instrument

1 administered to a student for the purpose of retaking the assessment instrument, after the last time the instrument is 2 3 administered for that school year. To ensure a valid bank of questions for use each year, the agency is not required to release a 4 5 question that is being field-tested and was not used to compute the student's score on the instrument. The agency shall also release, 6 under board rule, each question that 7 is no longer being 8 field-tested and that was not used to compute a student's score. [During the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years, the agency shall 9 10 release the questions and answer keys to assessment instruments as described by this subsection each year.] 11

H.B. No. 2113

[The State Board of Education may adopt one 12 (q) An appropriate, nationally recognized, norm-referenced] assessment 13 14 instrument administered under Subsection (c) [in reading and 15 mathematics to be administered to a selected sample of students in the spring. If adopted, a norm-referenced assessment instrument] 16 17 must be a secured test. The commissioner shall contract with a vendor to administer the assessment instrument, complete the 18 19 scoring of the assessment instrument, and distribute within a reasonable period the results to the agency and the relevant 20 results to each school district. As soon as practicable after the 21 district receives the results from the vendor under this 22 subsection, the district shall: 23

24 (1) distribute the relevant results to each district
 25 campus; and
 26 (2) provide written notice to the student and the
 27 person standing in parental relation to the student that states the

1 student's results and whether the student performed satisfactorily
2 on the assessment instrument [The state may pay the costs of
3 purchasing and scoring the adopted assessment instrument and of
4 distributing the results of the adopted instrument to the school
5 districts. A district that administers the norm-referenced test
6 adopted under this subsection shall report the results to the
7 agency in a manner prescribed by the commissioner].

8 (h) Except as provided by Subsection (g), the [The] agency 9 shall notify school districts and campuses of the results of 10 assessment instruments administered under this section not later 11 than the 21st day after the date the assessment instrument is 12 administered.

13 (h-1) A [The] school district shall disclose to each 14 district teacher the results of assessment instruments 15 administered to students taught by the teacher in the subject for 16 the school year in which the assessment instrument is administered.

17 (i) The provisions of this section[, except Subsection  $(d)_r$ ] are subject to modification by rules adopted under Section 18 19 39.022. Each assessment instrument adopted or designated under those rules [and each assessment instrument required under 20 Subsection (d)] must be reliable and valid and must meet any 21 applicable federal requirements for measurement of 22 student 23 progress.

(p) On or before September 1 of each year, the commissioner shall make the following information available on the agency's Internet website for each assessment instrument administered under Subsection (a)[ $\frac{1}{7}$  (c) $\frac{1}{7}$ ] or (1) <u>and for the Texas Success Initiative</u>

#### 1 (TSI) diagnostic assessment:

2 (1) the number of questions on the assessment 3 instrument;

4 (2) the number of questions that must be answered 5 correctly to achieve satisfactory performance as determined by the 6 commissioner under Section 39.0241(a);

7 (3) the number of questions that must be answered
8 correctly to achieve satisfactory performance under the college
9 readiness performance standard as provided by Section 39.0241; and

10

(4) the corresponding scale scores.

(q) Notwithstanding any provision of this section or other 11 12 law, if changes made to the Every Student Succeeds Act (20 U.S.C. Section 6301 et seq.) reduce the number or frequency of assessment 13 14 instruments required to be administered to students, the State 15 Board of Education shall adopt rules reducing the number or frequency of assessment instruments administered to students under 16 17 state law, and the commissioner shall ensure that students are not assessed in subject areas or in grades that are no longer required 18 19 to meet the minimum requirements of that Act.

20 SECTION 12. The heading to Section 39.0232, Education Code, 21 is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 39.0232. USE OF [END-OF-COURSE] ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT
 AS PLACEMENT INSTRUMENT; CERTAIN USES PROHIBITED.

24 SECTION 13. Sections 39.0232(a), (b), and (c), Education 25 Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) To the extent practicable, the agency shall ensure that
 any high school [end-of-course] assessment instrument designated

1 <u>under Section 39.023(c)</u> [developed by the agency is developed in
2 such a manner that the assessment instrument] may be used to
3 determine the appropriate placement of a student in a course of the
4 same subject matter at an institution of higher education.

5 (b) A student's performance on an [<del>end-of-course</del>] 6 assessment instrument <u>administered under Section 39.023(c)</u> may not 7 be used:

8 (1) in determining the student's class ranking for any 9 purpose, including entitlement to automatic college admission 10 under Section 51.803 or 51.804; or

11 (2) as a sole criterion in the determination of 12 whether to admit the student to a general academic teaching 13 institution in this state.

14 (c) Subsection (b)(2) does not prohibit a general academic 15 teaching institution from implementing an admission policy that 16 takes into consideration a student's performance on an 17 [end-of-course] assessment instrument <u>administered under Section</u> 18 <u>39.023(c)</u> in addition to other criteria.

19 SECTION 14. Section 39.0234, Education Code, is amended by 20 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (b) to read as 21 follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the [The] agency
shall ensure that assessment instruments required under Section
39.023 are capable of being administered by computer. The
commissioner may not require a school district or open-enrollment
charter school to administer an assessment instrument by computer.
(b) Subsection (a) does not apply to a nationally

# 1 recognized, norm-referenced assessment instrument under Section 2 <u>39.023(c).</u>

3 SECTION 15. Section 39.0241, Education Code, is amended by 4 amending Subsection (a-1) and adding Subsection (a-2) to read as 5 follows:

6 (a-1) The commissioner of education, in collaboration with
7 the commissioner of higher education, shall determine the level of
8 performance necessary to indicate college readiness[, as defined by
9 Section 39.024(a)].

10 <u>(a-2) In this section, "college readiness" means the level</u> 11 of preparation a student must attain in English language arts and 12 mathematics courses to enroll and succeed, without remediation, in 13 an entry-level general education course for credit in that same 14 content area for a baccalaureate degree or associate degree program 15 at:

16 <u>(1) a general academic teaching institution, as</u> 17 <u>defined by Section 61.003, other than a research institution, as</u> 18 <u>categorized under the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's</u> 19 <u>accountability system; or</u>

20 (2) a postsecondary educational institution that 21 primarily offers associate degrees or certificates or credentials 22 other than baccalaureate or advanced degrees.

23 SECTION 16. Section 39.025, Education Code, is amended by 24 amending Subsections (a), (a-4), (b), and (b-1) and adding 25 Subsection (f-3) to read as follows:

(a) The commissioner shall adopt rules requiring a student
 in the foundation high school program under Section 28.025 to be

1 administered <u>each</u> [<del>an end-of-course</del>] assessment instrument selected under [listed in] Section 39.023(c) by the school district 2 [only for a course] in which the student is enrolled [and for which 3 an end-of-course assessment instrument is administered]. A student 4 is required to achieve a scale score that indicates satisfactory 5 performance, as determined by the commissioner under Section 6 39.0241(a), [<del>end-of-course</del>] 7 on each assessment instrument administered to the student. For each scale score required under 8 this subsection that is not based on a 100-point scale scoring 9 10 system, the commissioner shall provide for conversion, in accordance with commissioner rule, of the scale score to an 11 12 equivalent score based on a 100-point scale scoring system. А student may not receive a high school diploma until the student has 13 performed satisfactorily on each [<del>end-of-course</del>] 14 assessment 15 instrument [<del>instruments</del>] in the manner provided under this 16 subsection. This subsection does not require a student to 17 demonstrate readiness to enroll in an institution of higher education. 18

H.B. No. 2113

19 (a-4) The admission, review, and dismissal committee of a 20 student in a special education program under Subchapter A, Chapter 21 29, shall determine whether, to receive a high school diploma, the 22 student is required to achieve satisfactory performance on 23 [end-of-course] assessment instruments <u>administered under Section</u> 24 <u>39.023(c)</u>.

(b) Each time an [end-of-course] assessment instrument [adopted] under Section 39.023(c) is administered, a student who failed to achieve a score requirement under Subsection (a) may

1 retake the assessment instrument. [A student is not required to 2 retake a course as a condition of retaking an end-of-course 3 assessment instrument.]

4 (b-1) A school district shall provide each student who fails
5 to perform satisfactorily as determined by the commissioner under
6 Section 39.0241(a) on an [end-of-course] assessment instrument
7 administered under Section 39.023(c) with accelerated instruction
8 [in the subject assessed by the assessment instrument].

9 (f-3) The commissioner shall by rule adopt a transition plan to implement the amendments made by \_\_.B. \_\_\_, Acts of the 86th 10 Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, replacing end-of-course 11 12 assessment instruments with one or more assessment instruments selected by a school district under Section 39.023(c). The rules 13 14 must provide for each assessment instrument selected by a school district under Section 39.023(c) to be administered beginning with 15 students enrolled in the ninth grade for the first time during the 16 17 2019-2020 school year. During the period under which the transition from end-of-course assessment instruments is made: 18

19 (1) for students entering a grade above the ninth grade during the 2019-2020 school year or students repeating ninth 20 grade during the 2019-2020 school year, the commissioner shall 21 22 retain, administer, and use for purposes of accreditation and other 23 campus and district accountability measures under this chapter the 24 end-of-course assessment instruments required by Section 39.023(c), as that section existed before amendment by \_\_\_.B. 25 26 Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019; and 27 (2) a student subject to Subdivision (1) may not

	H.B. NO. 2113				
1	receive a high school diploma unless the student has performed				
2	satisfactorily on:				
3	(A) each required end-of-course assessment				
4	instrument administered under Section 39.023(c), as that section				
5	existed before amendment byB, Acts of the 86th				
6	Legislature, Regular Session, 2019; or				
7	(B) each assessment instrument selected under				
8	Section 39.023(c) by the district in which the student is enrolled.				
9	SECTION 17. Section 39.034(d), Education Code, is amended				
10	to read as follows:				
11	(d) The agency shall determine the necessary annual				
12	improvement required each year for a student to be prepared to				
13	perform satisfactorily on, as applicable:				
14	(1) the grade five assessment instruments;				
15	(2) the grade eight assessment instruments; and				
16	(3) the [ <del>end-of-course</del> ] assessment instruments				
17	required under this subchapter for graduation.				
18	SECTION 18. Section 39.035(a), Education Code, is amended				
19	to read as follows:				
20	(a) Subject to Subsection (b), the agency may conduct field				
21	testing of questions for any assessment instrument administered				
22	under Section 39.023(a), (b), [ <del>(c), (d),</del> ] or (1) that is separate				
23	from the administration of the assessment instrument not more				
24	frequently than every other school year.				
25	SECTION 19. Section 39.203(c), Education Code, is amended				
26	to read as follows:				
27	(c) In addition to the distinction designations described				

by Subsections (a) and (b), a campus that satisfies the criteria developed under Section 39.204 shall be awarded a distinction designation by the commissioner for outstanding performance in academic achievement in English language arts, mathematics, <u>or</u> science[, or social studies].

6 SECTION 20. Section 51.338(c), Education Code, is amended 7 to read as follows:

A student who has achieved scores set by the board on the 8 (C) questions developed for end-of-course assessment instruments under 9 Section 39.0233(a), as that section existed before repeal by 10 \_\_\_.B. \_\_\_\_, Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, is 11 12 exempt from the requirements of this subchapter. The exemption is effective for the three-year period following the date a student 13 14 takes the last assessment instrument for purposes of this 15 subchapter and achieves the standard set by the board. This subsection does not apply during any period for which the board 16 17 designates the questions developed for end-of-course assessment instruments under Section 39.0233(a), as that section existed 18 19 before repeal by \_.B. \_\_\_\_, Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, as the primary assessment instrument under this 20 subchapter, except that the three-year period described by this 21 subsection remains in effect for students who qualify for an 22 23 exemption under this subsection before that period.

24 SECTION 21. The following provisions of the Education Code 25 are repealed:

26 (1) Sections 39.023(c-2), (c-4), (c-6), and (d);
27 (2) Section 39.0233;

(3) Section 39.024; 1 (4) Sections 39.025(a-1) and (e-1); 2 Section 39.025(a-2), as added by Chapter 1036 3 (5) 4 (H.B. 1613), Acts of the 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015; Section 39.053(d-1); and 5 (6) 6 (7) Section 39.203(d). SECTION 22. As soon as practicable after the effective date 7 8 of this Act, each school district shall provide notice to an eighth 9 grade student under Section 39.025(g), Education Code, informing the student of the specific requirements applicable to the student 10 under Sections 39.023(c) and 39.025(a), Education Code, as amended 11 12 by this Act. SECTION 23. This Act applies beginning with the 2019-2020 13 14 school year. 15 SECTION 24. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each 16 17 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.

18 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate 19 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.