

By: Bucy

H.B. No. 297

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to eliminating certain state-required end-of-course
3 assessment instruments not required by federal law and eliminating
4 graduation requirements based on satisfactory performance on
5 certain end-of-course assessment instruments.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section [28.0211](#)(a-8), Education Code, is amended
8 to read as follows:

9 (a-8) A school district may not be required to provide
10 supplemental instruction under Subsection (a-1)(2) to a student in
11 more than two subject areas per school year. If the district would
12 otherwise be required to provide supplemental instruction to a
13 student in more than two subject areas for a school year, the
14 district shall prioritize providing supplemental instruction to
15 the student in mathematics and reading, or Algebra I or~~[r]~~ English
16 I, ~~[or English II]~~ as applicable, for that school year.

17 SECTION 2. Section [39.023](#), Education Code, is amended by
18 amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (q) to read as
19 follows:

20 (c) The agency shall also adopt end-of-course assessment
21 instruments for secondary-level courses in Algebra I, biology, and
22 English I~~[, English II, and United States history]~~. The Algebra I
23 end-of-course assessment instrument must be administered with the
24 aid of technology, but may include one or more parts that prohibit

1 the use of technology. The English I [~~and English II~~]
2 end-of-course assessment instrument [~~instruments~~] must [~~each~~]
3 assess essential knowledge and skills in both reading and writing
4 and must provide a single score. A school district shall comply
5 with State Board of Education rules regarding administration of the
6 assessment instruments listed in this subsection. If a student is
7 in a special education program under Subchapter A, Chapter 29, the
8 student's admission, review, and dismissal committee shall
9 determine whether any allowable modification is necessary in
10 administering to the student an assessment instrument required
11 under this subsection. The State Board of Education shall
12 administer the assessment instruments. An end-of-course
13 assessment instrument may be administered in multiple parts over
14 more than one day. The State Board of Education shall adopt a
15 schedule for the administration of end-of-course assessment
16 instruments that complies with the requirements of Subsection
17 (c-3).

18 (g) This subsection applies to end-of-course assessment
19 instruments adopted under Subsection (c) for secondary-level
20 courses in English II and United States history, as that subsection
21 existed before amendment by __.B. No. __, Acts of the 89th
22 Legislature, Regular Session, 2025. The agency may retain
23 assessment instruments described by this subsection, but may not
24 require a school district to administer those assessment
25 instruments. A school district may choose to administer an
26 assessment instrument described by this subsection. An assessment
27 instrument described by this subsection administered by a school

1 district may not be used for accountability purposes to measure the
2 performance of the district or a district campus.

3 SECTION 3. Section 39.025, Education Code, is amended by
4 amending Subsections (a-1) and (a-3) and adding Subsections (h),
5 (i), and (j) to read as follows:

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

24 (a-3) A student who, after retaking an end-of-course
25 assessment instrument for Algebra I [~~or English II~~], has failed to
26 perform satisfactorily as required by Subsection (a)[~~7~~] but who
27 receives a score of proficient on the Texas Success Initiative

1 (TSI) diagnostic assessment for mathematics [~~the corresponding~~
2 ~~subject for which the student failed to perform satisfactorily on~~
3 ~~the end-of-course assessment instrument~~] satisfies the requirement
4 concerning the Algebra I [~~or English II~~] end-of-course assessment [~~7~~
5 ~~as applicable~~].

6 (h) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), in order to receive a
7 high school diploma, a student is not required to achieve a scale
8 score that indicates satisfactory performance on an end-of-course
9 assessment for secondary-level courses in English II or United
10 States history after the effective date of ____B. No. _____, Acts of
11 the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, regardless of the date
12 the student enters high school.

13 (i) Subject to Subsection (j), a school district or
14 open-enrollment charter school policy that requires a student to
15 demonstrate satisfactory performance on an end-of-course
16 assessment for secondary-level courses in English II or United
17 States history does not apply to a student of the district or school
18 as of the effective date of ____B. No. _____, Acts of the 89th
19 Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, regardless of the date that
20 student enters high school or whether the student is currently
21 enrolled in high school.

22 (j) The board of trustees of a school district or the
23 governing body of an open-enrollment charter school with a policy
24 described by Subsection (i) may readopt the policy after the
25 effective date of ____B. No. _____, Acts of the 89th Legislature,
26 Regular Session, 2025, to apply to district or charter school
27 students enrolled in high school on or after the date the policy is

1 readopted.

2 SECTION 4. Section 39.023(c-9), Education Code, is
3 repealed.

4 SECTION 5. This Act applies beginning with the 2025-2026
5 school year.

6 SECTION 6. 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, 2025.