

CHAPTER 146

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SENATE BILL 95-210

BY SENATORS Meiklejohn, Tanner, and Bishop;
also REPRESENTATIVES Sullivan and Keller.

AN ACT

CONCERNING A CHANGE IN THE REQUIREMENT OF ADMINISTERING STUDENT ASSESSMENTS UNDER THE COLORADO STUDENT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM FROM THE TENTH TO THE ELEVENTH GRADE LEVEL.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. 22-53-405 (2), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1988 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended to read:

22-53-405. Powers and duties of the state standards and assessments development and implementation council. (2) Following adoption of the state model content standards by the board pursuant to section 22-53-406 (1), the council shall develop and recommend to the board state assessments ~~which~~ THAT are aligned with the state model content standards and ~~which~~ THAT, following adoption by the board, shall be administered statewide by the department at the fourth grade, eighth grade, and ~~tenth~~ ELEVENTH grade levels pursuant to the provisions of section 22-53-409. The council shall also recommend an acceptable performance level on each such state assessment. Such performance level shall be continuously reexamined.

SECTION 2. 22-53-407 (2) (c), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1988 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended to read:

22-53-407. Adoption of content standards by districts. (2) Following adoption of content standards pursuant to this section, the district shall develop a plan for:

(c) Administering assessments developed pursuant to paragraph (b) of this subsection (2) to students at the fourth, eighth, and ~~tenth~~ ELEVENTH grade levels and, at the district's discretion, at other grade levels;

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

SECTION 3. 22-53-409 (1) (a), (3), and (4) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1988 Repl. Vol., as amended, are amended to read:

22-53-409. Assessments. (1) (a) Effective September 1, 1996, the department shall implement a Colorado student assessment program under which it shall administer statewide assessments, adopted by the board pursuant to section 22-53-406, in the first priority areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, history, and geography on a stratified, random sampling basis to provide accurate and detailed information to the people of Colorado on student academic achievement and to corroborate the quality of the results provided by district assessments. Following adoption of state model content standards in the second priority areas of art, music, physical education, foreign languages, and civics, such areas shall be included in the Colorado student assessment program. Such statewide assessments shall be administered in grades four, eight, and ~~ten~~ ELEVEN. The timetable for administering such assessments shall be established by the board. The initial statewide assessment shall be considered a baseline assessment.

(3) In accordance with timelines adopted by the board pursuant to section 22-53-406 (2), but not later than January 1, 1998, each district shall administer assessments adopted pursuant to the district plan required under section 22-53-407 (2) in the first priority areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, history, and geography to students at the fourth, eighth, and ~~tenth~~ ELEVENTH grade levels. Following adoption of content standards in the second priority areas of art, music, physical education, foreign languages, and civics, such areas shall be included in the district assessments at the fourth, eighth, and ~~tenth~~ ELEVENTH grade levels. Results of such assessments shall be reported to the department pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of this section. Nothing in this subsection (3) shall prevent districts from administering assessments at levels other than the fourth, eighth, and ~~tenth~~ ELEVENTH grade levels.

(4) (b) In accordance with timelines adopted by the board pursuant to section 22-53-406 (2), but not later than January 1, 1999, the annual report prepared by the department shall also contain assessment results reported by each district ~~which~~ THAT specify the percentage of students achieving each of the performance levels specified by the district in the district plan adopted pursuant to section 22-53-407 (2) on each of the district content standards as measured by assessments adopted by the district. Such results shall be reported for the district as a whole as well as by gender, race, separate disabling condition, and ethnicity of students in accordance with a standard reporting format established by the board. In addition, at the fourth grade, eighth grade, and ~~tenth~~ ELEVENTH grade levels, each district shall submit a comparison of the district assessment results and the state assessment results in a standard reporting format established by the board if students in such district participated in the Colorado student assessment program for that year. In addition, such comparison shall include information establishing the validity and reliability of the district assessments and their internal comparability as well as their comparability to the state assessments.

SECTION 4. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: May 22, 1995