

CHAPTER 183

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HOUSE BILL 26-1353

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Brown and Taggart, Sirota, Goldstein, Story;
 also SENATOR(S) Amabile and Bridges, Kirkmeyer, Cutter, Exum, Kipp, Kolker, Lindstedt, Marchman, Wallace.

AN ACT

CONCERNING STATE-ADMINISTERED SOCIAL STUDIES ASSESSMENTS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REDUCING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1006.3, **amend** (1)(a) introductory portion and (1)(a)(III) as follows:

22-7-1006.3. State assessments - administration - rules - definitions.

(1) (a) ~~Beginning in the 2015-16 school year,~~ The department of education, in collaboration with local education providers, shall administer the state assessments in the instructional areas of English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, as adopted by the state board pursuant to section 22-7-1006, as follows:

(III) ~~The department shall administer a state assessment in social studies to students enrolled in public elementary and middle schools throughout the state. The department shall select the specific grades in which to administer the state social studies assessment, ensuring that students take the state social studies assessment once in elementary school and once in middle school. The department shall administer the social studies assessment required by this subsection (1)(a)(III) in a representative sample of public schools each school year, ensuring that it administers the social studies assessment in each public school at least once every three years. A school district, for one or more of the schools of the school district that are not included in the representative sample, or a charter school that is not included in the representative sample, may request that the department administer the assessment in the district school or charter school. The department shall administer the social studies assessment in the requested school in the school year~~

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

following the school year in which it receives the request SEVENTH GRADE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

SECTION 2. Appropriation - adjustments to 2026 long bill. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, to implement this act, the cash funds appropriation from the state education fund created in section 17 (4)(a) of article IX of the state constitution made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of education for the statewide assessment program is decreased by \$302,835.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not require a reduction of an appropriation in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year if:

(a) The amount of the cash funds appropriation from the state education fund made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year to the department of education for the statewide assessment program is less than the amount of the adjustment required in subsection (1) of this section; or

(b) The annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year does not include a cash funds appropriation from the state education fund to the department of education for the statewide assessment program.

SECTION 3. Effective date. This act takes effect upon passage; except that section 2 of this act takes effect only if the annual general appropriation act for the 2026-27 state fiscal year becomes law, in which case section 2 takes effect upon the effective date of this act or of the annual general appropriation act for state fiscal year 2026-27, whichever is later.

SECTION 4. Safety clause. The general assembly finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state institutions.

Approved: May 28, 2026