

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 23-0582.01 Jacob Baus x2173

**SENATE BILL 23-061**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Marchman,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Kipp and Lukens,**

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**Senate Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING ELIMINATING THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE**  
102            **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ADMINISTER A STATE ASSESSMENT**  
103            **IN SOCIAL STUDIES, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**  
104            **REDUCING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill eliminates the requirement that the department of education administer a state assessment in social studies to elementary and secondary students.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** The general assembly  
3 declares that eliminating the requirement that the Colorado department of  
4 education administer a state assessment in social studies neither  
5 eliminates education standards for instructional areas related to social  
6 studies nor eliminates the value or significance of social studies.

7 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1006.3, **amend**  
8 (1)(a) introductory portion; and **repeal** (1)(a)(III) as follows:

9 **22-7-1006.3. State assessments - administration - rules.**

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

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

1 request that the department administer the assessment in the district  
2 school or charter school. The department shall administer the social  
3 studies assessment in the requested school in the school year following  
4 the school year in which it receives the request.

5 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-95.5-203, **amend**  
6 (2)(a)(I)(C) as follows:

7 **22-95.5-203. Eligibility - application - use of grant money -**  
8 **report.** (2) (a) A local education provider is eligible for the grant  
9 program if the local education provider automatically enrolls each student  
10 entering the ninth grade or higher in an advanced course based on any of  
11 the following criteria:

12 (I) The student achieved a score that is equivalent to, or exceeds,  
13 demonstrating proficiency on the state assessment that was administered  
14 pursuant to section 22-7-1006.3 for the preceding academic year, referred  
15 to in this section as an "eligible score", as follows:

16 (C) Students who achieve an eligible score in a subject related to  
17 science ~~or social studies~~ must be automatically enrolled in advanced  
18 courses in science; ~~or social studies~~; or

19 **SECTION 4. Appropriation - adjustments to 2023 long bill. To**  
20 **implement this act, the cash funds appropriation from the state education**  
21 **fund created in section 17 (4)(a) of article IX of the state constitution,**  
22 **made in the annual general appropriation act for the 2023-24 state fiscal**  
23 **year to the department of education for the statewide assessment program**  
24 **is decreased by \$1,025,521.**

25 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
26 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
27 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except

1 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
2 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
3 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
4 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
5 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
6 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.