

CHAPTER 216

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SENATE BILL 95-211

BY SENATORS Meiklejohn, Tanner, Pascoe, and Rizzuto;
also REPRESENTATIVE Sullivan.

AN ACT**CONCERNING A THREE-YEAR PHASED SCHEDULE FOR ADMINISTERING STUDENT ASSESSMENTS
UNDER THE COLORADO STUDENT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.**

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

SECTION 1. 22-53-406 (2), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1988 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended to read:

22-53-406. Adoption of state model content standards, state assessments, and timelines - resource bank. (2) On or before June 1, 1995, the board, after careful consideration of the recommendations of the council and in consultation with the commission and the joint budget committee, shall adopt timelines:

(a) Specifying the time by which districts shall adopt first and second priority content standards and implementation plans ~~and begin assessing students~~ pursuant to the provisions of section 22-53-407; AND

(b) SPECIFYING THE TIME BY WHICH DISTRICTS SHALL BEGIN TO ASSESS STUDENTS. THE TIMELINE SHALL REQUIRE STUDENT ASSESSMENTS TO BE ADMINISTERED AS FOLLOWS: IN THE FIRST YEAR, ASSESSMENTS SHALL BE ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS IN THE FOURTH GRADE LEVEL; IN THE SECOND YEAR, ASSESSMENTS SHALL BE ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS IN THE FOURTH AND EIGHTH GRADE LEVELS; IN THE THIRD YEAR AND IN EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, ASSESSMENTS SHALL BE ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS IN THE FOURTH, EIGHTH, AND TENTH GRADE LEVELS; EXCEPT THAT, IF SENATE BILL 95-210 BECOMES LAW, IN THE THIRD YEAR AND IN EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, ASSESSMENTS SHALL BE ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS IN THE FOURTH, EIGHTH, AND ELEVENTH GRADE LEVELS.

SECTION 2. 22-53-409 (1) (a), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1988 Repl. Vol., as

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

amended, is 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. The timetable for administering such assessments shall be established by the board IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 22-53-406 (2). The initial statewide assessment shall be considered a baseline assessment.

SECTION 3. 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 25, 1995