

CHAPTER 180

EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SENATE BILL 02-059

BY SENATOR(S) Matsunaka, Anderson, Fitz-Gerald, Gordon, Hanna, Hernandez, Isgar, Linkhart, Nichol, Pascoe, Phillips, Reeves, Takis, Tate, Tupa, and Windels;
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Bacon, Boyd, Coleman, Daniel, Fritz, Groff, Jahn, Jameson, Mace, Madden, Miller, Romanoff, Spence, Tapia, Veiga, Weddig, and Williams S..

AN ACT**CONCERNING THE DESIGN OF ASSESSMENTS ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE COLORADO STUDENT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.**

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

SECTION 1. 22-7-409 (1.2) (a) (I) and (1.3), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended, and the said 22-7-409 (1.2) (a) is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW SUBPARAGRAPHS, to read:

22-7-409. Assessments - repeal. (1.2) (a) (I) The assessments required by subsection (1) of this section shall be aligned with the model content standards adopted by the state board pursuant to section 22-7-406. The assessments shall be conducted during the period beginning the second Monday in March and ending on the third Monday in April of each year. The department shall provide to each public school results of all assessments administered, AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I.5) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (a). Beginning in 2003, for purposes of notifying local boards of education pursuant to section 22-7-609 (2), the department shall provide the results of the assessments of students enrolled in schools that received an academic performance rating of "unsatisfactory" on the school accountability report prepared for the immediately preceding academic year no later than May 1, 2003, and May 1 of each year thereafter. ~~For reporting purposes only, results shall include diagnostic reporting for each student's performance on each assessment, including but not limited to content-based sub-test scores for several components of each of the standards assessed pursuant to this section.~~

(I.5) ON AND AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (I.5), THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE ASSESSMENTS ADMINISTERED PURSUANT TO

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

THIS SECTION ARE DESIGNED TO GENERATE RESULTS IN A FORM THAT WILL ENABLE STUDENTS, PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS, TEACHERS, SCHOOLS, AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO USE THE RESULTS AS DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS TO ASSIST IN PREPARING STRATEGIES FOR STUDENT ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT IN SPECIFIC AREAS. IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE ASSESSMENTS AND THE FORM IN WHICH THE ASSESSMENT RESULTS ARE REPORTED REFLECT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TASK FORCE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR TO REVIEW THE ASSESSMENT REPORTING FORMAT AND USE OF THE ASSESSMENT RESULTS. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE DEPARTMENT IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (I.5) WITHIN AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND WITHOUT REQUESTING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE.

(IV) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CREATE, MAINTAIN, AND MAKE AVAILABLE TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS, SCHOOLS, AND PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS, UPON REQUEST, A LIST OF RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS THAT SCHOOLS AND PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS MAY ACCESS TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN ADDRESSING SPECIFIC LEARNING ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE ASSESSMENT RESULTS PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1.2).

(V) EACH DISTRICT BOARD SHALL ADOPT POLICIES TO ENSURE THAT APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL WITHIN THE DISTRICT SHARE WITH AND EXPLAIN TO THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF EACH STUDENT ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT THE STUDENT'S ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND DIAGNOSTIC REPORTING RETURNED TO THE STUDENT'S PUBLIC SCHOOL PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (I.5) OF THIS PARAGRAPH (a).

(1.3) (a) The department shall permit a nonpublic school to administer the assessments required by subsection (1) of this section and shall provide to the nonpublic school the results of any assessments administered, including diagnostic reporting for each student's performance on each assessment AS DESCRIBED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I.5) OF PARAGRAPH (a) OF SUBSECTION (1.2) OF THIS SECTION. The nonpublic school shall be required to pay all costs associated with administering and providing results for such assessments.

(b) A school district, upon the request of the parent or legal guardian of a child who is participating in a nonpublic home-based educational program pursuant to section 22-33-104.5, shall permit such child to take any assessment required by subsection (1) of this section and shall provide to the parent or legal guardian of the child the results of any assessments administered, including diagnostic reporting for such child's performance on each assessment AS DESCRIBED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (I.5) OF PARAGRAPH (a) OF SUBSECTION (1.2) OF THIS SECTION. The parent or legal guardian of such a child shall be required to pay all costs associated with administering and providing results for such assessments.

SECTION 2. 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 24, 2002