

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action: Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Rules and then Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference

Vote: 9 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Fagan, Gomberg, Gorsek, Huffman, Parrish, Reardon, Sprenger, Whisnant, Gelser

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Rick Berkobien, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/25, 4/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Department of Education to conduct an evaluation of use of standardized tests in public schools. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact on students and learning
- No Child Left Behind
- Standardized tests and teaching
- Best practices

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: There are multiple statewide assessments currently used including: OAKS (Oregon Assessment of Knowledge and Skills), NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress), and the Kindergarten Assessment. On February 22, 2013 the Washington Post ran an article about a coalition of Massachusetts educators who issued a statement urging school officials to stop using standardized tests. House Bill 2664 directs the Department of Education to conduct an evaluation of the use of standardized tests.