

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 4 - 0 - 1
Yeas: Knopp, Kruse, Roblan, Hass
Nays: 0
Exc.: Beyer
Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 3/14, 4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Eliminates requirement that students have multiple alternate assessments in order to be eligible for modified diploma. Provides that students may be eligible if they meet specified criteria. Requires school district or public charter school to provide information about modified diplomas to parents on annual basis. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2013.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Measure removes two-cycle assessment requirement, which leads to many students receiving a certificate rather than a diploma
- In line with 40-40-20 goals
- Individualized Education Program (IEP) assessments still a part of student's education; IEP team to be part of any decision-making process

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Current law requires students who are seeking a modified diploma to participate in an alternate assessment beginning no later than grade six and lasting for two or more assessment cycles. Some students have Individual Education Programs that exempt them from assessments because their treatment team has determined that it is no longer useful for the student to take them. Under the current law, these students are disqualified from receiving an extended or modified diploma. The measure enables these students to acquire a diploma if they have: a documented history of inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers; a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement; or a change in ability to participate in grade level activities due to a serious illness or injury that occurred after grade eight.