

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass with Amendments to the A-Engrossed Measure. (Printed B-Engrossed)

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Beyer, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan, Hass

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 2/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Revises assessment and grading system standards for school districts. Establishes standards for proficiency education. Requires allowance of use of accommodations for students who provide work samples to demonstrate proficiency in Essential Learning Skills. Allows use of more than three indicators per content area reporting category. Allows district superintendent to revise duties of an existing committee, or establish new advisory committee, for purpose of developing and implementing proficiency education/grading system. Replaces references to “a grading” system with “a reporting” system. Directs Department of Education to conduct evaluation on impact of requirement to demonstrate proficiency in Essential Learning Skills on high school graduation rates. Directs Department of Education to negotiate with United States Department of Education to determine appropriate use of new statewide summative assessment and to submit report related to new statewide summative assessment to Legislative Assembly by December 1, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Measure as explicitly not mandating proficiency-based education
- Intent to streamline, clarify, and reduce confusion
- Intent to clarify that enacting proficiency-based education is a district-level decision
- Recent difficulties with implementation of previous legislation
- “Advisory Committee” having a strictly advisory role; no direct oversight responsibilities mandated
- Intent of 2011 legislation to enable local control regarding adoption of proficiency-based education practices
- Concern with use of “grading” versus “reporting;” intent of both words

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Allows use of more than three indicators per content area reporting category. Allows district superintendent to revise duties of existing committee, or establish new advisory committee, for purpose of developing and implementing proficiency education/grading system. Replaces references to “a grading” system with “a reporting” system.

BACKGROUND: In 2011, the Legislature passed House Bill 2220 concerning student assessment, grading, and proficiency-based evaluation. That measure made several changes to statutory language to emphasize progress toward the attainment of grade level proficiency in a continuum of knowledge and skills. Since passage, the measure has generated considerable discussion and feedback about proficiency-based assessment. Also, the implementation of House Bill 2220 procedures has met with mixed result across the state, with some districts experiencing a smoother transition than others. This measure, House Bill 4150A, builds upon the endorsed version of House Bill 2220.

2/25/2014 11:18:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.