
DIGEST

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HB 616 Engrossed

2017 Regular Session

Thomas

Abstract: Limits student testing time on state assessments per school year. Requires public school governing authorities to review benchmarks and interim assessments.

Proposed law limits testing time on standards-based assessments for public school students per school year to not more than 2% of the minimum number of instructional minutes per year as required in present law. Provides that the 2% limitation shall not affect the accommodations provided to a student with an exceptionality as defined in present law or to a student who has been determined to be eligible for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and who has an Individual Accommodation Plan. Extra time provided to such students shall not be factored into the 2% limitation. Present law (R.S. 17:154.1(A)(1)) provides that the minimum school day for public school grades one through 12 shall consist of 360 minutes of instructional time and the minimum school year shall consist of 177 days of instruction. Present law authorizes public school governing authorities to modify the total number of instructional minutes per day and instructional days per year under certain conditions, provided the same minimum total instructional minutes for the year is not changed.

Proposed law requires public school governing authorities to review all benchmarks and interim assessments on a regular basis to ensure that: they are aligned with state content standards, the assessment results are used to improve instruction and are made available to a parent upon request, and testing time is minimized. Defines "interim assessments" as assessments required by the public school governing authority to measure student learning throughout the school year. Excludes college entrance and college credit exams, Advanced Placement exams, International Baccalaureate exams, and industry-based credential exams from proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 17:24.4(F)(6) and (7))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Add provision regarding applicability of proposed law to time provided to students requiring accommodations.