

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 616

BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT: Provides relative to time requirements and responsibilities of public school governing authorities with regard to student assessments

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:24.4(F)(6) and (7), relative to student assessments; to limit the amount of  
3 time public school students spend on standards-based assessments; to provide that  
4 such limitations shall not affect accommodations provided to certain students; to  
5 require review by public school governing authorities relative to certain other  
6 assessments; to exclude certain tests from such required review; and to provide for  
7 related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:24.4(F)(6) and (7) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §24.4. Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for  
11 required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish or city  
12 school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers

13 \* \* \*

14 F.

15 \* \* \*

16 (6) The amount of time public school students spend taking standards-based  
17 assessments per school year shall not exceed two percent of the minimum number  
18 of instructional minutes per year as required in R.S. 17:154.1(A)(1). This time  
19 limitation shall not affect in any way the accommodations provided to a student with  
20 an exceptionality as defined in R.S. 17:1942 or a student who has been determined

1 to be eligible for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and  
2 has an Individual Accommodation Plan and any extra time provided to such students  
3 shall not be factored into the two percent limitation.

4 (7)(a) Each public school governing authority shall review all benchmarks  
5 and interim assessments on a regular basis to ensure that all of the following are met:

6 (i) The benchmarks and assessments are aligned with the appropriate state  
7 content standards.

8 (ii) The results of the assessments have an identified use relating to  
9 improving instruction.

10 (iii) The results of the assessments are made available to a parent upon  
11 request of the parent.

12 (iv) The time associated with the administration of the assessments is  
13 minimized in order to maximize instructional time throughout the school year.

14 (b) For purposes of this Paragraph, "interim assessments" shall mean  
15 assessments required by the public school governing authority to measure student  
16 learning throughout the school year.

17 (c) This Paragraph shall not apply to college entrance and college credit  
18 exams, Advanced Placement exams, International Baccalaureate exams, and  
19 industry-based credential exams.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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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.