



February 29, 2024

SUMMARY OF BILL: Expands, beyond just student performance in English language arts (ELA) on the most recent Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) test, the measures of student growth in ELA that a local education agency (LEA) or public charter school may use in determining whether certain fourth-grade students show adequate growth in ELA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation applies to the assessment of students who were promoted to the fourth grade based on:
 - The student being assigned a tutor through the Tennessee Accelerating Literacy and Learning Corps (TALLC) for the entirety of the fourth-grade school year; or
 - The student attending a learning loss bridge camp prior to the fourth-grade school year and being assigned a tutor through TALLC for the entirety of the fourth-grade school year.
- Each LEA and public charter school would be required to assess the growth of such students based on the student's performance:
 - On the ELA portion of the student's most recent TCAP test;
 - On a state-adopted benchmark assessment in ELA, including, but not limited to, the Tennessee universal reading screener, administered to the student in the fourth grade;
 - In an ELA classroom throughout the student's fourth grade year, as evidenced by the student's grades and any other assessment or performance measure used by the student's fourth grade ELA teacher to measure the student's achievement or growth in ELA; and
 - In ELA using one or more measures of student achievement or growth selected by the LEA or public charter school.
- The Department of Education has not adopted a benchmark assessment for fourth grade students and does not currently provide a universal reading screener to such students.
- However, districts are required to screen students in the fourth grade three times a year with an appropriate skills-based screener. It is assumed that such screener would fulfill

the requirement of this legislation. Any increase in state expenditures is estimated to be not significant.

- If an LEA or public charter school determines, based on at least two of the performance measures, that such students do not show adequate growth in ELA, then the LEA or public charter school is required to convene a conference to determine whether the student must attend a learning loss bridge camp, be assigned a tutor, or be retained in the fourth grade.
- It is estimated that the changes to student growth assessments will not impact summer learning camps or significantly affect the number of students promoted to fifth grade each year.
- LEAs and public charter schools will be able update and implement the retention policies within existing resource and during the normal course of business such that any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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