

SENATE BILL 488

By Bowling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1; Title 49, Chapter 2; Title 49, Chapter 3 and Title 49, Chapter 6, relative to testing.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 60, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) In lieu of the state-mandated assessments required as part of the Tennessee comprehensive assessment program, which includes TNReady assessments and end-of-course examinations, an LEA may choose to administer the ACT, ACT Aspire, or SAT suites of assessments as an approved testing alternative in math and English language arts for students in grades nine through twelve (9-12). An LEA's administration of the ACT, ACT Aspire, or SAT suites of assessments in math and English language arts for students in grades nine through twelve (9-12) does not excuse public school students from taking the examination required at grade eleven (11) pursuant to § 49-6-6001.

(b) Before using an approved testing alternative, an LEA shall notify the department of education, in writing, of the grade level and subject matter in which the LEA intends to use an approved testing alternative.

(c) An LEA using an approved testing alternative shall notify the parents or guardians of all students in grades nine through twelve (9-12), in writing, that the LEA is using an approved testing alternative, and provide the parents or guardians with a copy of the notice sent to the department of education pursuant to subsection (b).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it.