

READING COMPETENCY BENCHMARK ASSESSMENT

2022 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jerry W. Stevenson

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends the grade levels to which a requirement applies for a statewide reading competency benchmark assessment.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▶ amends the grade levels to which a requirement applies for a statewide reading competency benchmark assessment.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53E-4-307, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Fifth Special Session, Chapter 14

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53E-4-307** is amended to read:

53E-4-307. Benchmark assessments in reading -- Report to parent.

(1) As used in this section, "competency" means a demonstrable acquisition of a specified knowledge, skill, or ability that has been organized into a hierarchical arrangement



28 leading to higher levels of knowledge, skill, or ability.

29 (2) The state board shall approve a benchmark assessment for use statewide by school
30 districts and charter schools to assess the reading competency of students in grades 1 through
31 [6] 8 as provided by this section.

32 (3) A school district or charter school shall:

33 (a) administer benchmark assessments to students in grades 1, 2, and 3 at the
34 beginning, middle, and end of the school year using the benchmark assessment approved by the
35 state board; and

36 (b) after administering a benchmark assessment, report the results to a student's parent.

37 (4) If a benchmark assessment or supplemental reading assessment indicates a student
38 lacks competency in a reading skill, or is lagging behind other students in the student's grade in
39 acquiring a reading skill, the school district or charter school shall:

40 (a) provide focused individualized intervention to develop the reading skill;

41 (b) administer formative assessments to measure the success of the focused
42 intervention;

43 (c) inform the student's parent of activities that the parent may engage in with the
44 student to assist the student in improving reading proficiency; and

45 (d) provide information to the parent regarding appropriate interventions available to
46 the student outside of the regular school day that may include tutoring, before and after school
47 programs, or summer school.

48 (5) (a) In accordance with Section [53F-4-201](#) and except as provided in Subsection
49 (5)(b), the state board shall contract with one or more educational technology providers for a
50 benchmark assessment system for reading for students in kindergarten through grade [6] 8.

51 (b) If revenue is insufficient for the benchmark assessment system for the grades
52 described in Subsection (5)(a), the state board shall first prioritize funding a benchmark
53 assessment for students in kindergarten through grade 3.