

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 17-0502.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

**HOUSE BILL 17-1117**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Leonard**, Humphrey, Neville P., Everett, Saine, Van Winkle, Williams D, Covarrubias, Liston, Ransom

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

Neville T.,

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**House Committees**

Education

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING ELIMINATING CERTAIN STATE ASSESSMENTS IN PUBLIC**  
102      **SCHOOLS.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

Under current law, the department of education administers state assessments in English language arts and mathematics to students in grades 3 through 9 and administers state assessments in social studies to students once in elementary school, once in middle school, and once in high school. The bill repeals administration of the ninth-grade English language arts and mathematics state assessments and the state social

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

studies assessments to align with changes to federal requirements.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1006.3, **amend**  
3 (1)(a) introductory portion and (1)(a)(I); and **repeal** (1)(a)(III) and (1)(b)  
4 as follows:

5           **22-7-1006.3. State assessments - administration - rules.**

6 (1) (a) Beginning in the 2015-16 school year, the department of  
7 education, in collaboration with local education providers, shall  
8 administer the state assessments in the instructional areas of English  
9 language arts, mathematics, AND science, ~~and social studies~~, as adopted  
10 by the state board pursuant to section 22-7-1006, as follows:

11           (I) The department shall administer a state assessment in English  
12 language arts and a state assessment in mathematics to all students  
13 enrolled in grades three through ~~nine~~ EIGHT in public schools throughout  
14 the state.

15           (III) ~~The department shall administer a state assessment in social~~  
16 ~~studies to students enrolled in public elementary, middle, and high~~  
17 ~~schools throughout the state. The department shall select the specific~~  
18 ~~grades in which to administer the state social studies assessment, ensuring~~  
19 ~~that students take the state social studies assessment once in elementary~~  
20 ~~school, once in middle school, and once in high school; except that the~~  
21 ~~department shall not administer the state social studies assessment to~~  
22 ~~students enrolled in twelfth grade. The department shall administer the~~  
23 ~~social studies assessment in a representative sample of public schools~~  
24 ~~each school year, ensuring that it administers the social studies~~  
25 ~~assessment in each public school at least once every three years. A school~~

1 ~~district, for one or more of the schools of the school district that are not~~  
2 ~~included in the representative sample, or a charter school that is not~~  
3 ~~included in the representative sample, may request that the department~~  
4 ~~administer the assessment in the district school or charter school. The~~  
5 ~~department shall administer the social studies assessment in the requested~~  
6 ~~school in the school year following the school year in which it receives~~  
7 ~~the request.~~

8 (b) ~~As soon as practicable after May 20, 2015, the department of~~  
9 ~~education shall apply to the federal department of education for a waiver~~  
10 ~~of federal statutory and regulatory requirements as may be necessary to~~  
11 ~~allow the department to satisfy the federal high school assessment~~  
12 ~~requirements by administering assessments in English language arts and~~  
13 ~~mathematics to students enrolled in ninth grade.~~

14 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-1006.1, **amend**  
15 (1) introductory portion as follows:

16 **22-7-1006.1. Assessment selection - department of education**  
17 **- study - legislative declaration - repeal.** (1) The department of  
18 education shall investigate and review the options available to the state  
19 for selecting the state assessments in mathematics, English language arts,  
20 AND science, ~~and social studies~~, including options for allowing local  
21 education providers to select and administer their own assessments in  
22 these subjects for use in the state accountability system. The department,  
23 at a minimum, shall consider:

24 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
25 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
26 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
27 9, 2017, if adjournment sine die is on May 10, 2017); except that, if a

1 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
2 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
3 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
4 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
5 November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
6 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.