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AN ACT
RELATING TO FINANCIAL SOLVENCY; SUSPENDING THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR CERTAIN STUDENT ASSESSMENTS FOR THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL
YEAR.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL SOLVENCY--SUSPENDING CERTAIN REQUIRED STUDENT
ASSESSMENTS FOR ONE SCHOOL YEAR.--

A. The legislature finds that the financial crisis
of calendar years 2008-2010 will continue into fiscal year
2012, and, to balance the state budget, the legislature must
reduce general appropriations for state government, higher
education and public schools by several hundred million
dollars. The purpose of this section is to temporarily
suspend the requirement that local school districts
administer certain student assessments.

B. For school year 2011-2012, the public education
department and school districts, charter schools and state
educational institutions shall not be required to administer
the following student assessments:

(1) the provisions of Section 22-2C-4 NMSA
1978 notwithstanding, in grade eleven, a standards-based
assessment in social studies; and for grades four, six, seven
and eleven, a standards-based writing assessment; and

1 (2) the provisions of Section 22-2C-4.1 NMSA
2 1978 notwithstanding, in grades nine and ten, short-cycle
3 diagnostic assessments in reading, language arts and
4 mathematics and, in grade eleven, a college placement
5 assessment or a workforce readiness assessment.

6 C. The provisions of Section 22-13-1.1 NMSA 1978
7 notwithstanding, a student who has completed the course
8 requirements for high school graduation in the 2011-2012
9 school year may graduate without demonstrating competence in
10 required subject areas on the standards-based assessment or
11 assessments or a portfolio of standards-based indicators
12 established by the public education department by rule.

13 D. During school year 2011-2012, public schools,
14 charter schools and state educational institutions shall use
15 an appropriate assessment for grades nine and ten to comply
16 with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education
17 Act. _____

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