
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1899 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, GROVE, KLUNK, WARD, JAMES, IRVIN,
PICKETT, ORTITAY, WATSON, WARNER AND ZIMMERMAN,
MARCH 15, 2016

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 15, 2016

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the
5 laws relating thereto," in professional employees, further
6 providing for rating system; and providing for Student-
7 Centered Assessment Pilot Program.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 1123(b)(1)(ii)(A)(I), (c)(2)(A)(I) and
11 (o)(1) of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as
12 the Public School Code of 1949, amended June 30, 2012 (P.L.684,
13 No.82), are amended and subsection (o) is amended by adding a
14 paragraph to read:

15 Section 1123. Rating System.--* * *

16 (b) For professional employes and temporary professional
17 employes who serve as classroom teachers, the following shall
18 apply:

19 (1) Beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, the evaluation
20 of the effectiveness of professional employes and temporary

1 professional employes serving as classroom teachers shall give
2 due consideration to the following:

3 * * *

4 (ii) Student performance, which shall comprise fifty per
5 centum (50%) of the overall rating of the professional employe
6 or temporary professional employe serving as a classroom teacher
7 and shall be based upon multiple measures of student
8 achievement. The fifty per centum (50%) shall be comprised of
9 the following:

10 (A) Fifteen per centum (15%) building-level data, including,
11 but not limited to, all of the following:

12 (I) Student performance on assessments, including blended
13 adaptive assessments.

14 * * *

15 (c) For professional employes and temporary professional
16 employes serving as principals, the following shall apply:

17 * * *

18 (2) Student performance shall be measured as provided in
19 subsection (b)(1)(ii) for professional employes and temporary
20 professional employes supervised by the principal and shall
21 comprise fifty per centum (50%) of the principal's overall
22 rating. The fifty per centum (50%) shall be comprised of the
23 following:

24 (A) Fifteen per centum (15%) building-level data, including,
25 but not limited to, all of the following:

26 (I) Student performance on assessments, including blended
27 adaptive assessments.

28 * * *

29 (o) For purposes of this section:

30 (1) The term "assessment" shall mean the Pennsylvania System

1 of School Assessment test, the Keystone Exam, an equivalent
2 local assessment, a blended adaptive assessment or another test
3 established by the State Board of Education to meet the
4 requirements of section 2603-B(d)(10)(i) and required under the
5 No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-110, 115 Stat.
6 1425) or its successor statute or required to achieve other
7 standards established by the department for the school or school
8 district under 22 Pa. Code § 403.3 (relating to single
9 accountability system).

10 * * *

11 (9) The term "blended assessment" shall mean a blended
12 adaptive test performed under Article XV-H.

13 * * *

14 Section 2. The act is amended by adding an article to read:

15 ARTICLE XV-H

16 STUDENT-CENTERED ASSESSMENT PILOT PROGRAM

17 Section 1501-H. Definitions.

18 The following words and phrases when used in this article
19 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
20 context clearly indicates otherwise:

21 "Adaptive testing." Periodic testing over the course of the
22 academic year taken by a student on a computer which tracks
23 student growth, provides instructional data regarding the
24 student's achievement level and assigned grade and complies with
25 the requirements under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
26 (Public Law 107-110, 115 Stat. 1425) for proficiency for
27 students at the respective grade levels.

28 "Board." The State Board of Education of the Commonwealth.

29 "Department." The Department of Education of the
30 Commonwealth.

1 "Elementary school student." A student who attends a public
2 school in grades one through five.

3 "High school student." A student who attends a public school
4 in grades 9 through 12.

5 "Middle school student." A student who attends a public
6 school in grades six through eight.

7 "Program." The Student-Centered Assessment Pilot Program
8 established under section 1502-H(a).

9 "Student growth." A calculation of a student's academic
10 improvement during the current academic year in comparison to
11 prior assessments during the academic year.

12 Section 1502-H. Student-Centered Assessment Pilot Program.

13 (a) Establishment.--The Student-Centered Assessment Pilot
14 Program is established within the Department of Education. The
15 department, in conjunction with the State Board of Education and
16 school districts that participate in the program, shall
17 administer the program.

18 (b) Exemption.--A public school of a school district
19 participating in the program shall be exempt from administering
20 the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment test authorized
21 under sections 2603-B and 2604-B to eligible elementary school,
22 middle school and high school students. This exemption shall
23 begin after sufficient data collection for a comparability study
24 with existing tests as stipulated by Federal peer review.

25 (c) Eligibility.--A school district shall be eligible to
26 participate in the program if the school district administers
27 State-approved adaptive testing prior to January 1, 2017.

28 Section 1503-H. Duties of department and board.

29 The department, in conjunction with the board, shall
30 establish blended criteria for adaptive testing of eligible

1 elementary school, middle school and high school students
2 enrolled in a public school of a school district that
3 participates in the program. The criteria shall conform to
4 academic standards established for elementary school, middle
5 school and high school students under this act.

6 (b) Regulations.--The department shall establish policies
7 and promulgate regulations necessary to implement this article.

8 Section 1504-H. Duties of school districts.

9 (a) Duties.--A school district that participates in the
10 program shall have the following duties:

11 (1) The school district shall administer approved
12 adaptive testing to eligible elementary school, middle school
13 and high school students.

14 (2) In preparing eligible elementary school, middle
15 school and high school students for adaptive testing, the
16 school district shall provide the necessary methods to
17 minimize the amount of test preparation in the classroom.

18 (3) No later than 48 hours after the eligible
19 elementary school, middle school and high school students
20 complete the adaptive testing, the school district shall make
21 available the results of the adaptive testing to each
22 elementary school, middle school and high school teacher and
23 school administrator who administered the adaptive testing.

24 (b) Third-party providers.--The department may contract with
25 a third-party provider to administer the program.

26 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.