



March 10, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Education (DOE) to contract with a provider to develop a suite of assessments to be annually administered to students in grades nine and ten in the subjects of English, math, reading, and science in lieu of the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) end-of-course assessments (EOCs). Assessments developed pursuant to this section apply to the 2024-25 school year and subsequent years. Requires DOE to develop guidelines and criteria for the evaluation of educators teaching the grades and subjects for which an assessment is administered pursuant to this section. Requires DOE to submit the proposed evaluation guidelines and criteria to the Education Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives by July 1, 2023.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact - Due to multiple unknown variables, the net impact on state expenditures related to future contracts with assessment providers cannot be reasonably determined.

Assumptions:

- Tennessee currently measures high school achievement and growth on an EOC model rather than a grade-level model. Students are assessed on their knowledge of state standards in a given subject area at the time they complete instruction on that content.
- The state does not require specific courses to be taken in a specific grade level but does recommend course progressions and pre-requisites.
- The proposed legislation requires DOE to conduct a competitive bid process to identify a national vendor to design a new set of grade-level assessments beginning in FY24-25.
- Previous test administration and test development contracts have received significantly different cost proposals. Bids for DOE's 2020 Assessment Item & Test Form Development RFP ranged from \$49 million to \$125 million for the same 5-year contract.
- The results of a competitive bid process to identify a national vendor to design a new set of grade-level assessments are not yet known. Therefore, due to multiple unknown variables, the net impact on state expenditures resulting from new future contracts with assessment providers cannot be reasonably determined.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Handwritten signature of Krista Lee Carsner in black ink.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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