

SENATE BILL 1042

By Southerland

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 6, relative to a student's program of study.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-6001(b)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(A) As a strategy for assessing student readiness for postsecondary education or a career path, every public school student shall take an examination in grade eleven (11). If a public school student in grade eleven (11) intends to attend a college or university, then the student shall take an assessment approved by the commissioner of education that will assist in developing interventions to improve student preparation for postsecondary achievement. If a public school student in grade eleven (11) intends to attend a career and technical college or pursue a career path, then the student shall take an assessment approved by the commissioner of education that measures foundational workplace skills and assists in developing interventions to improve student preparation for postsecondary career and technical education or entrance into the workplace. A school counselor shall meet with each student in grade ten (10) to determine the student's postsecondary interests and advise the student concerning the assessment under this subdivision (b)(1)(A) that the student should take.

(B) The commissioner may approve an assessment and alternate assessments for each assessment required under subdivision (b)(1)(A).

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-412, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(c) After the career aptitude assessment is administered to a student, the school counselor shall meet with the student and the student's parent or guardian to discuss the student's results on the career aptitude assessment. At the meeting, the counselor shall advise the student on potential career paths and the options for high school study in career and technical programs as well as academic programs. The counselor shall explain the assessments required in grade eleven (11) under § 49-6-6001(b) and which assessment should be taken depending on the type of program of study pursued.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.