

SENATE BILL 1889

By Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
relative to assessments.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The department shall contract with a provider of a nationally recognized benchmark assessment designed to measure student readiness for postsecondary education to develop a suite of assessments to be annually administered to students in grades nine (9) and ten (10) in the subjects of English, math, reading, and science in lieu of the end-of-course assessments administered in grades nine (9) and ten (10) in the same subjects as part of the Tennessee comprehensive assessment program.

(b) The assessment provider awarded the contract required under subsection (a) must develop and provide assessments that comply with the requirements of this section; that are capable of producing data in student and educator reports detailing student performance on each assessment administered in the respective content area or subject over time; and that offer score predictions for the assessed student on a nationally recognized benchmark assessment or college admissions examination.

(c) Each assessment developed pursuant to the contract must:

(1) Be aligned with Tennessee academic standards and administered in:

(A) A paper, multiple-choice format; and

(B) A structured testing environment similar to the environment students may experience when administered a nationally recognized benchmark assessment or college admissions examination; and

(2) Measure student achievement in the content area or subject tested, and provide detailed results and item response analysis to identify specific areas in which continued or enhanced support may improve the student's achievement based on the student's unique needs and skills.

(d) Assessments developed pursuant to this section shall not be administered to students in grades nine (9) or ten (10) before the 2024-2025 school year.

(e) The department of education, in consultation with the state board of education, shall develop proposed guidelines and criteria for the evaluation of educators teaching the grades and subjects for which an assessment is administered pursuant to this section. The department shall submit the proposed evaluation guidelines and criteria to the education committee of the senate and to the education committees of the house of representatives no later than July 1, 2023.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.