

HB 294 -- High School Diplomas

Sponsor: Spencer

This bill establishes the Student Accountability Act, which, beginning with school year 2017 through 2018, requires that a student score proficient or higher on at least one assessment after eighth grade in each core area of mathematics, communication arts, social sciences, and science in order to receive a high school academic diploma from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. A student who does not achieve the required level of proficiency will receive a diploma of local achievement. A student receiving special education services whose education plan specifies that the assessment does not reflect the student's abilities may receive a diploma of local achievement. The high school may issue a certificate that reflects other academic achievements as approved by the local school board, but it may not issue an academic diploma to a student who does not meet the proficiency requirement.