

HB 1250 -- STUDENT ASSESSMENT

SPONSOR: Wood

This bill revises the law on student assessment as follows:

- (1) Prohibits the state and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education from contracting with an out-of-state company to develop and implement statewide assessments;
- (2) Requires the department to create a question database for each grade-level standards from suggestions submitted by teachers and to develop a process for soliciting and reviewing submissions;
- (3) Requires the department to move towards administering statewide assessments online throughout the year rather than at the end of the course or the end of school year. Until that goal is achieved, the department must ensure that alternative assessment methods remain available;
- (4) Restricts the number of end-of-course assessments used in determining an annual performance report or accreditation status to no more than five;
- (5) Restricts the amount and scope of student data collected in the assessment process to that of the 2013-14 school year;
- (6) Requires that a student who fails to complete an assessment on a grade-level standard be classified at the lowest level of performance;
- (7) Requires, as of the 2015-16 school year, the establishment and implementation of competency-based instruction and promotion in kindergarten through third grade; and
- (8) Revises the existing law on assessment to:
 - (a) Require the updating of the assessment system;
 - (b) Delete the restriction on the use of the assessment system to only comparison of a school's current performance to its past performance;
 - (c) Eliminate the Outstanding Schools Waiver; and
 - (d) Delete the obsolete requirements for yearly testing and waivers of the resource and process standards.