

HB 1490 -- ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION (Bahr)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education

The bill revises the laws regarding learning standards and assessments in elementary and secondary education by:

- (1) Specifying that whenever the State Board of Education in the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education develops, evaluates, modifies, or revises academic performance or learning standards, it must convene two work groups, one for grades kindergarten through five and one for grades six through twelve, for each of four specified subject areas;
- (2) Specifying the makeup of each 14-person work group and designating the persons or entities responsible for the appointment of members;
- (3) Requiring the state board to hold at least three public hearings during the development of the standards at certain time periods in their development and specifying the groups from which it must solicit feedback. All comments must be made publicly available;
- (4) Clarifying that a school district or charter school may adopt its own standards in addition to the current state standards as long as the standards are in the public domain;
- (5) Requiring, by October 1, 2014, the state board to convene work groups to develop new academic performance standards by October 1, 2015, in place of the common core state standards. The work groups must report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tem of the Senate every month on their progress;
- (6) Requiring the department to pilot assessments from the Smarter Balance Consortium during the 2014-15 school year, but exempting that year's results from use in accountability decisions or teacher evaluations for the that school year;
- (7) Requiring the adoption and implementation of new academic performance standards by the state board beginning with school year 2016-17. The state board must align the statewide assessment system to the new standards as needed within three years of adopting new standards; and
- (8) Specifying that any person who does work that normally requires a teacher's or administrator's certificate must be an employee of the school district or charter school, and that the

person's evaluations must be maintained in his or her personnel file and not shared with any state or federal agency.

After August 28, 2014, a member of the state board cannot serve more than two terms and any member who has already served two or more terms must be ineligible for an additional term. Service of less than four years must not be counted.