

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
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S. B. No. 272

Senator Koehler

To amend section 3301.0712 of the Revised Code 1
regarding a civics assessment in lieu of the 2
American government end-of-course exam. 3

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

Section 1. That section 3301.0712 of the Revised Code be 4
amended to read as follows: 5

Sec. 3301.0712. (A) The department of education and 6
workforce and the chancellor of higher education shall develop a 7
system of college and work ready assessments as described in 8
division (B) of this section to assess whether each student upon 9
graduating from high school is ready to enter college or the 10
workforce. Beginning with students who enter the ninth grade for 11
the first time on or after July 1, 2014, the system shall 12
replace the Ohio graduation tests prescribed in division (B)(1) 13
of section 3301.0710 of the Revised Code as a measure of student 14
academic performance and one determinant of eligibility for a 15
high school diploma in the manner prescribed by rule adopted 16
under division (D) of this section. 17

(B) The college and work ready assessment system shall 18
consist of the following: 19

(1)(a) Except as provided in division (B)(1)(b) of this 20

section, nationally standardized assessments that measure 21
college and career readiness and are used for college admission. 22
The assessments shall be selected jointly by the department and 23
the chancellor, and one of which shall be selected by each 24
school district or school to administer to its students. The 25
assessments prescribed under division (B)(1) of this section 26
shall be administered to all eleventh-grade students in the 27
spring of the school year. 28

(b) Beginning with students who enter the ninth grade for 29
the first time on or after July 1, 2022, the parent or guardian 30
of a student may elect not to have a nationally standardized 31
assessment administered to that student. In that event, the 32
student's school district or school shall not administer the 33
nationally standardized assessment to that student. 34

(2) (a) Except as provided in division (B)(2)(b) of this 35
section, seven end-of-course examinations, one in each of the 36
areas of English language arts I, English language arts II, 37
science, Algebra I, geometry, American history, and American 38
government. The end-of-course examinations shall be selected 39
jointly by the department and the chancellor in consultation 40
with faculty in the appropriate subject areas at institutions of 41
higher education of the university system of Ohio. Advanced 42
placement examinations and international baccalaureate 43
examinations, as prescribed under section 3313.6013 of the 44
Revised Code, in the areas of science, American history, and 45
American government may be used as end-of-course examinations in 46
accordance with division (B)(4)(a)(i) of this section. Final 47
course grades for courses taken under any other advanced 48
standing program, as prescribed under section 3313.6013 of the 49
Revised Code, in the areas of science, American history, and 50
American government may be used in lieu of end-of-course 51

examinations in accordance with division (B) (4) (a) (ii) of this 52
section. 53

(b) Beginning with students who enter ninth grade for the 54
first time on or after July 1, 2019, five end-of-course 55
examinations, one in each areas of English language arts II, 56
science, Algebra I, American history, and American government. 57
However, only the end-of-course examinations in English language 58
arts II and Algebra I shall be required for graduation. 59

A student may choose to take the civics assessment 60
described in division (B) (4) (a) (iii) of this section instead of 61
the American government end-of-course examination. 62

The department shall, as necessary to implement division 63
(B) (2) (b) of this section, seek a waiver from the United States 64
secretary of education for testing requirements prescribed under 65
federal law to allow for the use and implementation of Algebra I 66
as the primary assessment of high school mathematics. If the 67
department does not receive a waiver under this division, the 68
end-of-course examinations for students described in division 69
(B) (2) (b) of this section also shall include an end-of-course 70
examination in the area of geometry. However, the geometry end- 71
of-course examination shall not be required for graduation. 72

(3) The end-of-course examinations in American history and 73
American government shall require demonstration of mastery of 74
the American history and American government content for social 75
studies standards adopted under division (A) (1) (b) of section 76
3301.079 of the Revised Code and the topics required under 77
division (M) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code. 78

At least twenty per cent of the end-of-course examination 79
in American government shall address the topics on American 80

history and American government described in division (M) of 81
section 3313.603 of the Revised Code. 82

(4) (a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this 83
section, ~~both of~~ for divisions (B) (4) (a) (i) and (ii) of this 84
section, and beginning with the 2026-2027 school year for 85
division (B) (4) (a) (iii) of this section, the following shall 86
apply: 87

(i) If a student is enrolled in an appropriate advanced 88
placement or international baccalaureate course, that student 89
shall take the advanced placement or international baccalaureate 90
examination in lieu of the science, American history, or 91
American government end-of-course examinations prescribed under 92
division (B) (2) of this section. The department shall specify 93
the score levels for each advanced placement examination and 94
international baccalaureate examination for purposes of 95
calculating the minimum cumulative performance score that 96
demonstrates the level of academic achievement necessary to earn 97
a high school diploma. 98

(ii) If a student is enrolled in an appropriate course 99
under any other advanced standing program, as described in 100
section 3313.6013 of the Revised Code, that student shall not be 101
required to take the science, American history, or American 102
government end-of-course examination, whichever is applicable, 103
prescribed under division (B) (2) of this section. Instead, that 104
student's final course grade shall be used in lieu of the 105
applicable end-of-course examination prescribed under that 106
section. The department, in consultation with the chancellor, 107
shall adopt guidelines for purposes of calculating the 108
corresponding final course grades that demonstrate the level of 109
academic achievement necessary to earn a high school diploma. 110

Division (B) (4) (a) (ii) of this section shall apply only to 111
courses for which students receive transcribed credit, as 112
defined in section 3365.01 of the Revised Code. It shall not 113
apply to remedial or developmental courses. 114

(iii) If a student chooses to take the civics assessment 115
instead of the American government end-of-course assessment, the 116
civics assessment administered to that student shall be 117
identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used 118
by the United States citizenship and immigration services 119
agency. 120

Each school district board of education shall determine 121
the method and manner in which to administer the assessment 122
prescribed under division (B) (4) (a) (iii) of this section. 123

A student's successful completion of the assessment 124
prescribed under division (B) (4) (a) (iii) of this section shall 125
be demonstrated by answering correctly at least sixty per cent 126
of the questions included on the assessment. A student who does 127
not attain a passing score may retake the assessment until the 128
student obtains a passing score. 129

(b) No student shall take a substitute examination or 130
examination prescribed under division (B) (4) (a) of this section 131
in place of the end-of-course examinations in English language 132
arts I, English language arts II, Algebra I, or geometry 133
prescribed under division (B) (2) of this section. 134

(c) The department shall consider additional assessments 135
that may be used as substitute examinations in lieu of the end- 136
of-course examinations prescribed under division (B) (2) of this 137
section. 138

(5) The department shall do all of the following: 139

(a) Determine and designate at least five ranges of scores 140
on each of the end-of-course examinations prescribed under 141
division (B) (2) of this section, and substitute examinations 142
prescribed under division (B) (4) of this section. Not later than 143
sixty days after the designation of ranges of scores, the 144
director of education and workforce shall conduct a public 145
presentation before the standing committees of the house of 146
representatives and the senate that consider primary and 147
secondary education legislation regarding the designated range 148
of scores. Each range of scores shall be considered to 149
demonstrate a level of achievement so that any student attaining 150
a score within such range has achieved one of the following: 151

(i) An advanced level of skill; 152

(ii) An accomplished level of skill; 153

(iii) A proficient level of skill; 154

(iv) A basic level of skill; 155

(v) A limited level of skill. 156

(b) Determine a method by which to calculate a cumulative 157
performance score based on the results of a student's end-of- 158
course examinations or substitute examinations; 159

(c) Determine the minimum cumulative performance score 160
that demonstrates the level of academic achievement necessary to 161
earn a high school diploma under division (A) (2) of section 162
3313.618 of the Revised Code. However, no new minimum cumulative 163
performance score shall be determined after October 17, 2019. 164

(d) Develop a table of corresponding score equivalents for 165
the end-of-course examinations and substitute examinations in 166
order to calculate student performance consistently across the 167

different examinations. 168

A score of two on an advanced placement examination or a 169
score of two or three on an international baccalaureate 170
examination shall be considered equivalent to a proficient level 171
of skill as specified under division (B) (5) (a) (iii) of this 172
section. 173

(6) (a) A student who meets both of the following 174
conditions shall not be required to take an end-of-course 175
examination: 176

(i) The student received high school credit prior to July 177
1, 2015, for a course for which the end-of-course examination is 178
prescribed. 179

(ii) The examination was not available for administration 180
prior to July 1, 2015. 181

Receipt of credit for the course described in division (B) 182
(6) (a) (i) of this section shall satisfy the requirement to take 183
the end-of-course examination. A student exempted under division 184
(B) (6) (a) of this section may take the applicable end-of-course 185
examination at a later date. 186

(b) For purposes of determining whether a student who is 187
exempt from taking an end-of-course examination under division 188
(B) (6) (a) of this section has attained the cumulative score 189
prescribed by division (B) (5) (c) of this section, such student 190
shall select either of the following: 191

(i) The student is considered to have attained a 192
proficient score on the end-of-course examination from which the 193
student is exempt; 194

(ii) The student's final course grade shall be used in 195

lieu of a score on the end-of-course examination from which the 196
student is exempt. 197

The department, in consultation with the chancellor, shall 198
adopt guidelines for purposes of calculating the corresponding 199
final course grades and the minimum cumulative performance score 200
that demonstrates the level of academic achievement necessary to 201
earn a high school diploma. 202

(7) (a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this 203
section, the department may replace the algebra I end-of-course 204
examination prescribed under division (B) (2) of this section 205
with an algebra II end-of-course examination, beginning with the 206
2016-2017 school year for students who enter ninth grade on or 207
after July 1, 2016. 208

(b) If the department replaces the algebra I end-of-course 209
examination with an algebra II end-of-course examination as 210
authorized under division (B) (7) (a) of this section, both of the 211
following shall apply: 212

(i) A student who is enrolled in an advanced placement or 213
international baccalaureate course in algebra II shall take the 214
advanced placement or international baccalaureate examination in 215
lieu of the algebra II end-of-course examination. 216

(ii) A student who is enrolled in an algebra II course 217
under any other advanced standing program, as described in 218
section 3313.6013 of the Revised Code, shall not be required to 219
take the algebra II end-of-course examination. Instead, that 220
student's final course grade shall be used in lieu of the 221
examination. 222

(c) If a school district or school utilizes an integrated 223
approach to mathematics instruction, the district or school may 224

do either or both of the following: 225

(i) Administer an integrated mathematics I end-of-course 226
examination in lieu of the prescribed algebra I end-of-course 227
examination; 228

(ii) Administer an integrated mathematics II end-of-course 229
examination in lieu of the prescribed geometry end-of-course 230
examination. 231

(8) (a) For students entering the ninth grade for the first 232
time on or after July 1, 2014, but prior to July 1, 2015, the 233
assessment in the area of science shall be physical science or 234
biology. For students entering the ninth grade for the first 235
time on or after July 1, 2015, the assessment in the area of 236
science shall be biology. 237

(b) Until July 1, 2019, the department shall make 238
available the end-of-course examination in physical science for 239
students who entered the ninth grade for the first time on or 240
after July 1, 2014, but prior to July 1, 2015, and who wish to 241
retake the examination. 242

(c) The department shall adopt rules prescribing the 243
requirements for the end-of-course examination in science for 244
students who entered the ninth grade for the first time on or 245
after July 1, 2014, but prior to July 1, 2015, and who have not 246
met the requirement prescribed by section 3313.618 of the 247
Revised Code by July 1, 2019, due to a student's failure to 248
satisfy division (A) (2) of section 3313.618 of the Revised Code. 249

(9) The department shall not develop or administer an end- 250
of-course examination in the area of world history. 251

(10) The department, in consultation with the chancellor 252
and the governor's office of workforce transformation, shall 253

determine a competency score for both of the Algebra I and 254
English language arts II end-of-course examinations for the 255
purpose of graduation eligibility. 256

(C) The department shall convene a group of national 257
experts, state experts, and local practitioners to provide 258
advice, guidance, and recommendations for the alignment of 259
standards and model curricula to the assessments and in the 260
design of the end-of-course examinations prescribed by this 261
section. 262

(D) Upon completion of the development of the assessment 263
system, the department shall adopt rules prescribing all of the 264
following: 265

(1) A timeline and plan for implementation of the 266
assessment system, including a phased implementation if the 267
department determines such a phase-in is warranted; 268

(2) The date after which a person shall meet the 269
requirements of the entire assessment system as a prerequisite 270
for a diploma of adult education under section 3313.611 of the 271
Revised Code; 272

(3) Whether and the extent to which a person may be 273
excused from an American history end-of-course examination and 274
an American government end-of-course examination under division 275
(H) of section 3313.61 and division (B) (3) of section 3313.612 276
of the Revised Code; 277

(4) The date after which a person who has fulfilled the 278
curriculum requirement for a diploma but has not passed one or 279
more of the required assessments at the time the person 280
fulfilled the curriculum requirement shall meet the requirements 281
of the entire assessment system as a prerequisite for a high 282

school diploma under division (B) of section 3313.614 of the 283
Revised Code; 284

(5) The extent to which the assessment system applies to 285
students enrolled in a dropout prevention and recovery program 286
for purposes of division (F) of section 3313.603 or a dropout 287
prevention and recovery community school under section 3314.36 288
of the Revised Code. 289

(E) (1) Any person enrolled in a nonchartered nonpublic 290
school or any person who is exempt from attendance at school for 291
the purpose of home education under section 3321.042 of the 292
Revised Code may choose to participate in the system of 293
assessments administered under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 294
section. However, no such person shall be required to 295
participate in the system of assessments. 296

(2) The department shall adopt rules for the 297
administration and scoring of any assessments under division (E) 298
(1) of this section. 299

(F) The department shall select at least one nationally 300
recognized job skills assessment. Each school district shall 301
administer that assessment to those students who opt to take it. 302
The department shall reimburse a school district for the costs 303
of administering that assessment. The department shall establish 304
the minimum score a student must attain on the job skills 305
assessment in order to demonstrate a student's workforce 306
readiness and employability. The administration of the job 307
skills assessment to a student under this division shall not 308
exempt a school district from administering the assessments 309
prescribed in division (B) of this section to that student. 310

Section 2. That existing section 3301.0712 of the Revised 311

Code is hereby repealed.

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