



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2544

schools; statewide achievement assessments; menu.

Prime Sponsor: Representative Boyer, LD 20

---

**DPA** Committee on Education

**DPA** Caucus and COW

**X** As Transmitted to the Governor

---

## OVERVIEW

HB 2544 requires the Arizona State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt a menu of locally procured achievement assessments from which Local Education Agencies (LEA) select an assessment to administer.

## PROVISIONS

1. Directs SBE to adopt a menu of locally procured achievement assessments.
2. Permits LEAs offering instruction in grades 9-12 to select an assessment from the menu to administer in one or more schools rather than the assessment adopted by SBE, as provided for in SBE's rules and procedures, beginning in School Year (SY) 2018.
  - a. Allows LEAs offering instruction in grades 3-8 to select an assessment from the menu beginning in SY 2019.
3. Permits locally procured achievement assessments in use by an LEA to be added to the menu on request of the LEA and approval by SBE.
  - a. Requires SBE to evaluate locally procured assessments not on the menu at least annually.
4. Determines LEAs that select an assessment from the menu to be in compliance with statewide assessment requirements.
5. Requires LEAs to include the name of the assessment it administers in the school report card.
6. Directs LEAs to administer the selected assessment for a minimum period of time prescribed by SBE.
7. Directs SBE to adopt rules and procedures for the approval of locally procured assessments.
  - a. Prohibits adopted rules or procedures from requiring LEAs to receive additional SBE or Arizona Department of Education (ADE) approval to select an assessment from the menu of assessments.
  - b. Prohibits *D* and *F* LEAs from choosing an assessment on the menu and requires those LEAs to use the statewide assessment adopted by SBE.
8. Directs SBE to require the provider of a proposed assessment considered for the menu to do the following:
  - a. Provide evidence that the assessment is high quality.
  - b. Demonstrate that the assessment meets or exceeds SBE's adopted academic standards.
  - c. Demonstrate that assessment scores can be equated for state accountability programs.
  - d. Submit an evaluation from a third party approved by SBE that shows that the assessment meets the previous requirements.

**HB 2544**

- e. Provide a copy of assessment scores to ADE when scores are provided to the partnering LEA.
- 9. Requires SBE to submit a report to the Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives and the chairs of the standing education committees and provide a copy to the Secretary of State on the progress of implementation for LEAs that offer instruction in grades 3-8 by December 15, 2017.
- 10. Declares the Legislature's intent.

**CURRENT LAW**

[A.R.S. § 15-741](#) directs SBE to adopt and implement an annual Arizona Instrument to Measure Standards assessment to assess student achievement of the state's academic standards in reading, writing and math and charges school district governing boards with administering the test. Any high school assessment adopted by SBE after November 24, 2009, is required to be designed to measure college and career readiness.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

In 2010, SBE adopted new statewide academic standards and in 2014, adopted a new statewide assessment (AzMERIT) which was administered for the first time in Spring 2015. Additional information regarding the assessment may be found at (<http://www.azed.gov/assessment/>).