

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 53rd Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 264
Version:	CCS 2
Request Number:	
Author:	Representative Nelson
Date:	5/19/2011
Impact:	\$150,000 for Test Replacement; Potential Impact on the Agency for Grant Program

Research Analysis

The second conference committee report for Senate Bill 264 removes language that extended the sunset of the Quality Assessment and Accountability Task Force and instructed the task force to review and make recommendations regarding elimination of some student assessments and adoption of formative assessments.

The measure establishes the Oklahoma School Performance and Innovation Grant Program. Contingent upon the availability of funds the State Board of Education will award grants to school districts for implementation of concepts in 13 areas such as the Oklahoma Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Evaluation System, developing ways to assess teacher effectiveness in subjects and grades without state tests, implementation of nontraditional staffing, development of a teacher training and coaching program, implementation of a continuous learning calendar and others. Each grant will be approved for no longer than three years and school districts must submit a report to the State Department of Education at the end of the three years. The State Department of Education must submit a report about the program at the end of the three years to the governor, president pro tempore of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives.

The measure also allows school districts to submit a request to the State Board of Education for exemptions to statutory requirements and State Board of Education rules from which charter schools are exempt and outlines to which requirements districts must adhere.

It also instructs the State Board of Education to adopt new student assessments by April 1, 2012, and repeals the section of law that creates the Educational Quality and Accountability Board.

Prepared By: Dawn Marks

Fiscal Analysis

There are no costs associated with Section 2 of the 2nd conference committee sub (also known as the Allowing Local Administrators More Options Act), as the provisions do not require additional state appropriations. The agency estimates a cost of \$150,000 for replacement of existing criterion-referenced tests in Section 3, based on a similar recent alignment with Priority Academic Student Skills and K-12 Common Core Standards, as is required in the measure.

Though contingent on availability of funding, there are potential costs associated with the School Performance and Innovation Grant Program. The measure does not specify the total amount of funding to be provided, individual grant amounts, or funding sources; the Department of Education will make determinations on these factors at a later date.

Prepared By: Nicole Barnes

Other Considerations

Costs may vary slightly depending on future testing contracts negotiated between the State Department of Education and its testing company.