

**BILL SUMMARY**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 55<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB 3218</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>INT</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>10022</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Reps. Sears and Casey</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>5/19/2016</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>Potential change in assessment costs as dependent on future testing vendor contracts</b>

**Research Analysis**

The bill relates to the adoption of a statewide system of student assessments. It mandates that the State Board of Education must adopt a system that complies with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and aligns to state academic standards by December 31, 2016. It directs the Board to issue a request for proposals for assessments to be administered to students in grades 3 through 12. The assessments will be administered in coordination with the 6 year textbook adoption cycle and will be in effect for the 2017-18 school year.

For the 2016-17 school year, the Board will administer assessments in English Language Arts (ELA) or Reading and Mathematics in grades 3 through 8 and at least once in high school during grades 9 through 12; Science not less than once during grade spans 3 through 5, 6 through 9, and 10 through 12; and U.S. History not less than once during grades 9 through 12.

Assessments administered during the 2017-18 school year will include ELA and Mathematics in grades 3 through 8 and at least once in high school during grades 9 through 12; Science not less than once during grade spans 3 through 5, 6 through 9, and 10 through 12; and U.S. History not less than once during grades 9 through 12. The statewide system may include assessments in Reading and Writing in certain grades and it may include nationally recognized college and career readiness assessments if recommended by the Department of Education and if funding is available.

Unless otherwise exempt, all students entering the ninth grade in the 2017-18 school year must take the newly adopted assessment or assessments prior to graduation. Students will also have to meet any other high school graduation requirements adopted by the Board. Student transcripts will include the highest-achieved score on the assessment or assessments and any business and industry-recognized endorsements attained. School districts must adopt a plan for student that have started the ninth grade prior to or during the 2016-17 school year that stipulates which assessment or assessments students must take in order to graduate. The plan may include any or all of the other graduation requirements adopted by the Board. Preliminary results for assessments must be reported to districts no later than June 1 of each year. A-F Report Cards for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school years will include an explanation of the changes made in the statewide assessment system and how the transition may impact school performance grades.

The bill establishes a process for the Board to study and develop assessment requirements that will be implemented in conjunction with the statewide assessment system and will include an opportunity for public comment. The Board will make a report of the study by October 31, 2016, and the Board must adopt the assessment requirements by January 1, 2017. The requirements cannot be implemented until the legislative review process described in the bill is complete.

Lastly, it repeals several sections of law including;

- The section pertaining to definitions under the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act;
- The criterion-referenced Geography test for eleventh grade students;
- State academic standards in Reading and Mathematics;
- EOI testing and its high stakes component; and
- The Achieving Classroom Excellence Steering Committee and its linked funding.

Prepared By: Scott Tohlen

### **Fiscal Analysis**

HB 3218, as introduced, relates to the Oklahoma School Testing Program. The measure modifies the definition of “teacher”, allows for the State Board of Education to implement an electronic delivery system for all assessments, and requires the Board to continue to administer all assessments by other means. Further, by no later than December 31, 2016, the Board will adopt a statewide system of student assessments in compliance with the Every Student Succeeds Act which will be aligned with the Oklahoma Academic Standards. The Board will administer the assessments beginning with the 2017-18 school year. Required assessments with grade levels are delineated for the 2016-17 school year and beginning with the 2017-18 school year.

In addition, certain criterion referenced tests are deleted as well as end-of-instruction tests. The Board is required to report preliminary results for all statewide assessment to school district no later than June 1 of each year. The Board in consultation with other state agencies and entities will study and develop assessment requirements. Reading Sufficiency Act assessment language is provided as well as additional assessment clarifications in other education related laws. And, for information on school performance for school site report cards issued during the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school year, the Department of Education is required to provide specific information. Repealers include specified language related to certain definitions, criterion-referenced geography test, Achieving Classroom Excellence and End-of-Instruction tests.

Department of Education personnel provide that fiscal impact information cannot be fully determined at this time. The total estimated FY-17 testing costs under current law is \$18,790,176 which includes approximately \$3,800,000 in federal funds. End-of-instruction tests are estimated at \$7,308,302 of the total. Potential savings could be realized with less assessment requirements, however, funding changes may occur with specified requirements, and the potential change in assessment costs which are dependent on future testing vendors contracts.

Prepared By: Andrea Kearney

### **Other Considerations**

None