

Senate File 429 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 429
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1239)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to statewide assessments of student progress
2 utilizing core academic indicators.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph b,
2 subparagraphs (2) and (3), Code 2015, are amended by striking
3 the subparagraphs.

4 EXPLANATION

5 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
6 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

7 Current law requires that the state board of education
8 provide in rule for a set of core academic indicators in
9 mathematics and reading in grades 4, 8, and 11, and for science
10 in grades 8 and 11, and that the Iowa assessments, used by
11 school districts in the school year beginning July 1, 2011, be
12 used for this purpose.

13 This bill strikes a requirement that the state board's rules
14 provide that for the school year beginning July 1, 2016, and
15 each succeeding school year, all students enrolled in school
16 districts in grades 3 through 11 shall be administered an
17 assessment during the last quarter of the school year that
18 assesses student progress on the core academic indicators.
19 The provision also requires that the assessment used after
20 July 1, 2016, at a minimum be aligned with the Iowa common
21 core standards in both content and rigor; accurately describe
22 student achievement and growth for purposes of the school, the
23 school district, and state accountability systems; and provide
24 valid, reliable, and fair measures of student progress toward
25 college or career readiness.

26 The bill also strikes a Code provision that requires the
27 director of the department of education to establish an
28 assessment task force to review and make recommendations
29 for a statewide assessment of student progress on the core
30 academic indicators. The Iowa assessment task force submitted
31 its findings and recommendations in a report to the general
32 assembly on December 31, 2014.