

House File 2141 - Introduced

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to student academic assessments to be
2 administered by school districts and to membership in a
3 multistate assessment consortium.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 21, paragraph b,
2 subparagraph (2), Code 2014, is amended by striking the
3 subparagraph.

4 Sec. 2. ACTION TO WITHDRAW FROM MULTISTATE ASSESSMENT
5 CONSORTIUM. The director of the department of education shall
6 take action as expeditiously as possible to submit to the
7 smarter balanced assessment consortium, a multistate assessment
8 consortium, a request in writing on behalf of the state of Iowa
9 to exit the consortium. The reason the director shall cite
10 as the basis for exiting the consortium shall be the general
11 assembly's opposition to the common core state standards
12 initiative and any assessment system aligned to the common core
13 state standards.

14 EXPLANATION

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

17 This bill strikes a Code provision relating to student
18 assessments that must be administered by school districts
19 beginning July 1, 2016, and directs the director of the
20 department of education to submit a request on behalf of the
21 state to exit a multistate assessment consortium.

22 The Code provision directs the state board of education to
23 adopt rules to provide that, for the school year beginning July
24 1, 2016, and each succeeding school year, students enrolled in
25 school districts be administered an assessment during the last
26 quarter of the school year that, at a minimum, assesses core
27 academic indicators in mathematics and reading in grades 4, 8,
28 and 11, and core academic indicators in science in grades 8 and
29 11. Currently, the assessment to be administered beginning in
30 2016 must be aligned with the Iowa common core standards in
31 both content and rigor; accurately describe student achievement
32 and growth for purposes of the school, the school district,
33 and state accountability systems; and provide valid, reliable,
34 and fair measures of student progress toward college or career
35 readiness.

1 The Code language stricken by the bill directs that the
2 assessments assess the core indicators, which would include
3 both academic indicators and graduation rate, postsecondary
4 education, and successful employment indicators, but only
5 student assessment of the core academic indicators may have
6 been contemplated.

7 The director shall take action as expeditiously as possible
8 to exit the smarter balanced assessment consortium. The
9 reason cited for exiting the consortium shall be the general
10 assembly's opposition to the common core state standards
11 initiative and any assessment system aligned to the common core
12 state standards.