



February 28, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Sets limits for the administration of the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) tests, including TNReady assessments and end-of-course examinations, for each subject in each grade level. Requires TCAP tests for grades three through twelve (3-12) to be administered in a manner that ensures science and social studies are not tested together in the same grade. Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to amend the board's rules and policies to align with the requirements of this section.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$14,000,000/FY20-21

**Decrease State Expenditures –
Exceeds \$1,300,000/FY21-22 and Subsequent Years**

Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation will require new valid tests to be developed and ready by the 2020-2021 school year.
- In addition to the final end of year test, two stand-alone field/equating tests will need to take place during the school year, prior to the administration of these new tests.
- The new testing regime will require development of new items during the year to function with standard-set scores. It is assumed that a minimum of four new assessments for elementary social studies and high school science will require at least 2,000 new items and over 300 new forms required for the annual equating plan.
- Based on the FY19-20 costs of assessment development and due to the shortened timeframe for development and implementation of the proposed legislation by the end of the next school year, the estimated one-time increase in state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$14,000,000, in FY20-21.
- It is estimated that for future years, after the emergency production costs of the first year, the following year would represent a steady-state new testing array, and DOE could save 13 percent on variable design costs and 20 percent on variable administration costs.
- The resulting savings will result in an estimated recurring decrease in state expenditures exceeding \$1,300,000 in FY21-22 and subsequent years.
- No significant impact to local government.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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