

1 HOUSE BILL 539

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 G. Andres Romero

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10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; ELIMINATING HIGHER EDUCATION OR
12 CAREER READINESS ASSESSMENT SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS IN
13 GRADES NINE AND TEN.

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15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

16 SECTION 1. Section 22-2C-4.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2007,
17 Chapter 307, Section 4 and Laws 2007, Chapter 308, Section 4,
18 as amended) is amended to read:

19 "22-2C-4.1. STATEWIDE COLLEGE AND WORKPLACE READINESS
20 ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.--

21 A. The department shall establish a readiness
22 assessment system to measure the readiness of every New Mexico
23 high school student for success in higher education or a career
24 no later than the 2008-2009 school year. The department shall
25 ensure that the readiness assessment system is aligned with

.199916.1

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1 state academic content and performance standards, college
2 placement tests and entry-level career skill requirements. The
3 readiness assessment system shall include, ~~[the following~~
4 ~~components:~~

5 ~~(1) in grade nine, a short-cycle diagnostic~~
6 ~~assessment in reading, language arts and mathematics to be~~
7 ~~locally administered in the fall and at least two additional~~
8 ~~times during the year;~~

9 ~~(2) in grade ten, a short-cycle diagnostic~~
10 ~~assessment in reading, language arts and mathematics that also~~
11 ~~serves as an early indicator of college readiness, to be~~
12 ~~locally administered at least three times during the year; and~~

13 ~~(3) in] for~~ grade eleven, in the fall, one or
14 more of the following components chosen by the student:

15 ~~[(a)]~~ (1) a college placement assessment;

16 ~~[(b)]~~ (2) a ~~[workforce]~~ work force readiness
17 assessment; or

18 ~~[(c)]~~ (3) an alternative demonstration of
19 competency using standards-based indicators.

20 B. ~~[All]~~ Students ~~[at the specified grade level]~~
21 shall participate in the readiness assessment system at no cost
22 to the student.

23 C. ~~[The department shall ensure that results of~~
24 ~~performance on readiness assessments administered in grades~~
25 ~~nine and ten are reported to students, parents and public~~

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underscoring material = new
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1 ~~schools no later than four weeks following the date on which~~
2 ~~the assessments are administered, in a form that is easily~~
3 ~~understandable and useful in the next-step planning process.]~~

4 Reports of assessment results shall be provided to students and
5 parents in writing whenever possible but, if necessary, orally
6 in the language best understood by each student and parent.

7 D. The department shall adopt standards for
8 reasonable accommodations in the administration of readiness
9 assessments for students with disabilities and limited English
10 proficiency, including when and how accommodations may be
11 applied.

12 E. In developing, selecting or approving the high
13 school or college readiness assessments for school district or
14 charter school use, the department may adopt commercially
15 available standards-based assessments or approve a school
16 district's or charter school's short-cycle diagnostic
17 assessments that meet the requirements of this section. The
18 department shall involve appropriate licensed school employees
19 in the development or selection of readiness assessments."