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AN ACT

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

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

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

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

A. The department shall establish a readiness  
assessment system to measure the readiness of every New  
Mexico high school student for success in higher education or  
a career no later than the 2008-2009 school year. The  
department shall ensure that the readiness assessment system  
is aligned with state academic content and performance  
standards, college placement tests and entry-level career  
skill requirements. The readiness assessment system shall  
include, for grade eleven, in the fall, one or more of the  
following components chosen by the student:

- (1) a college placement assessment;
- (2) a workforce readiness assessment; or
- (3) an alternative demonstration of  
competency using standards-based indicators.

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B. Students shall participate in the readiness assessment system at no cost to the student.

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

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

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