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Office

H.B. 82
134th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Cross and Jones

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SUMMARY

- Eliminates the requirement that high school students take a nationally standardized college admission assessment for graduation and, instead, specifies that the assessment be offered to all 11th grade students but participation is voluntary.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Nationally standardized college admission assessments

Beginning with the school year immediately following the bill's effective date, the bill eliminates the current requirement for high school students to take a nationally standardized college admission assessment.¹ Currently, that test as prescribed jointly by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Chancellor of Higher Education, is either the ACT or SAT.

The bill further specifies that the assessment shall continue to be offered to all 11th grade students in the spring of each school year but participation is voluntary.

Background on high school testing and graduation requirements

Current law requires seven high school end-of-course exams for classes up to the class of 2023 and, starting with the class of 2023, five end-of-course exams. It also requires that all high school students must take a nationally standardized assessment (ACT or SAT).

Also under current law, for the classes of 2021 and 2022, a student may qualify for a high school diploma under either of the following options:

1. Satisfy one of the original graduation pathways, which includes:²

¹ R.C. 3301.0712(B)(1)(b).

² See R.C. 3313.618, not in the bill.

- a. Ohio state tests (end-of-course exams);
 - b. Industry credential and workforce readiness; or
 - c. College and Career Readiness assessments (obtain a remediation-free score on the ACT or SAT).
2. Students for the classes of 2021 and 2022 also have the option to qualify for graduation under the new qualifications enacted under H.B. 166 of the 133rd General Assembly for the class of 2023 and beyond. The qualifications require students to demonstrate “competency” and “readiness” through various options.

For more information on graduation pathways described above please see this guidance from the Department of Education: <http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Earning-an-Ohio-High-School-Diploma-for-the-Cl-2/GradReq2021.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US>.

For a full description of changes made to graduation requirements under H.B. 166, please see that act’s final analysis: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=12387&format=pdf>.

HISTORY

| Action | Date |
|------------|----------|
| Introduced | 02-09-21 |
