

February 16, 2022

The Honorable Kristey Williams, Chairperson
House Committee on K-12 Education Budget
Statehouse, Room 546-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Representative Williams:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for HB 2685 by House Committee on K-12 Education Budget

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning HB 2685 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

HB 2685 would create the Kansas Student Achievement Accountability Act that would require students to show grade level proficiency on state assessments before promotion to the next grade level and would require state assessments to be provided to each grade level in each school year.

Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, each student enrolled in an accredited school would be required to pass each core subject matter course at the required standards set by the State Board of Education to be taught at each grade level and would demonstrate grade level proficiency at “level 2” or above on each of the annual statewide assessments administered to students. Any student who does not pass each core subject matter class or demonstrate grade level proficiency could not be promoted to the next grade level. Any student that would fail to demonstrate grade level proficiency at “level 2” or above on the final statewide assessments in the 12th grade would not be certified as having completed the course requirements for graduation.

The State Board would develop standardized state assessments to measure student academic achievement for each required course in the elementary and middle school grade levels and for each required course for high school graduation that is not a required elective course. Academic achievement for each elective course necessary to meet the minimum graduation requirements would be measured by each course classroom teacher, who would assess whether the student demonstrates proficiency, or by a student passing a recognized standardized assessment for a Career Technical Education certificate. Each student who would not demonstrate grade level proficiency at “level 2” or above on any annual statewide assessment would be given an opportunity to retake the assessment before the end of the school year. Any school building principal or district superintendent who promotes a student to the next grade level or certifies that a student has met the minimum State Board of Education graduation requirements in violation of provisions of this section would be decertified and the State Board would revoke the principal’s or superintendent’s leadership license.

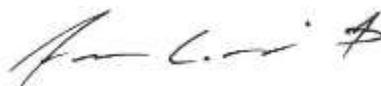
Prior to the beginning of each semester, the State Board and each school district would provide an opportunity for any high school student to take the statewide assessment for each required course before enrolling in the course. If a student achieves a “level 3” or above on the assessment, the student would be considered proficient in the subject and would not be required to take or pass the course for graduation. Any student may enroll in any additional elective courses during the academic year.

The bill would require the state assessments to be administered at three grade levels, as determined by the State Board, in kindergarten and grades one through 12 by the core subject-matter classroom teacher to each student enrolled in the teacher’s classroom between March 21 and April 29 of each school year. The State Board would be required to align the performance levels on the statewide assessments for each grade level with the nationally normed scale and cut scores established by the National Assessment of Education Progress and ACT college entrance exam, as applicable. If statewide assessments or scale or cut scores have not been established for a specific grade level and subject matter, the State Board would contract with the University of Kansas Achievement and Assessment Institute to develop the assessments and proficiency levels.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect				
	FY 2022 SGF	FY 2022 All Funds	FY 2023 SGF	FY 2023 All Funds
Revenue	--	--	--	--
Expenditure	--	--	\$20,955,000	\$20,955,000
FTE Pos.	--	--	--	6.00

According to the Department of Education, the agency currently provides a total of 17 various state assessments at an annual cost of approximately \$6.0 million from all funding sources, including \$1.4 million from the State General Fund. HB 2685 would increase the number of required assessments to 65, at an additional cost of \$20.4 million, all from the State General Fund. Additionally, the Department would need an additional 6.00 positions to manage the additional data and reporting requirements of the bill at a cost of \$555,000, all from the State General Fund. Of these additional administrative costs, \$355,000 would be required for 4.00 FTE IT Programmer positions and \$200,000 for 1.00 FTE Assessment Coordinator position and 1.00 FTE Researcher position, inclusive of fringe benefit costs for all positions. Any fiscal effect associated with HB 2685 is not reflected in *The FY 2023 Governor’s Budget Report*.

Sincerely,



Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget

cc: Craig Neuenswander, Education