

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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SENATE BILL 1128*

Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 6/24/98

House Committee Substitute Favorable 7/15/98

House Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 9/2/98

Short Title: Testing in Second Grade.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

May 14, 1998

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO DIRECT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A PILOT PROGRAM TO ALLOW SELECTED LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO USE VALID, AGE-APPROPRIATE STANDARDIZED TESTS IN SECOND GRADE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 115C-174.11(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Assessment Instruments for ~~First-Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grades.~~Grade. - The State Board of Education shall adopt and provide to the local school administrative units developmentally appropriate individualized assessment instruments consistent with the ~~Basic Education Program for the first and second grades, North Carolina Standard Course of Study for kindergarten, first grade, and second grade,~~ rather than standardized tests. Local school administrative units may use these assessment instruments provided to them by the State Board for ~~first and second grade students, and shall not use standardized tests.~~ kindergarten, first grade, and second grade students. The State Board shall select up to 10 local school administrative units that volunteer to participate in a pilot program in which these units may use valid, age-appropriate

1 standardized tests in combination with other assessments in second grade so long as they
2 are used for individual student diagnostic or program evaluation purposes. Second grade
3 standardized tests shall not be used for accountability purposes or as a basis for
4 promotion, retention, tracking, or labeling decisions about individual students. If
5 standardized tests or assessments are used for individual diagnostic purposes or if the
6 results are placed in a student's record, the school shall provide the results to that
7 student's parent or legal guardian. Local school administrative units are encouraged to
8 notify parents and guardians of students before administering standardized tests or
9 assessments to those students under this subsection. The State Board shall report to the
10 Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by December 15, 2000, on the pilot
11 program established under this subsection and shall recommend whether this program
12 should be continued or expanded to additional school administrative units or grades."

13 Section 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.