

By the Committee on Education; and Senators Constantine,
Wilson and Villalobos

304-2550-04

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to student assessments for
3 public schools; amending s. 1008.22, F.S.;
4 delaying the date by which the Commissioner of
5 Education must approve the use of specified
6 standardized tests as an alternative to the
7 grade 10 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test
8 (FCAT); allowing passage of the alternative
9 tests to satisfy the assessment requirement for
10 students graduating from high school in the
11 2003-2004 school year, subject to certain
12 conditions; amending s. 1003.433, F.S.;
13 allowing passage of alternate assessments in
14 lieu of the grade 10 FCAT for certain transfer
15 students subject to certain conditions
16 beginning in the 2004-2005 school year;
17 repealing s. 1008.301, F.S., relating to
18 concordance studies by the State Board of
19 Education; providing an effective date.

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21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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23 Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 1008.22, Florida
24 Statutes, is amended to read:

25 1008.22 Student assessment program for public
26 schools.--

27 (9) EQUIVALENCIES FOR STANDARDIZED TESTS.--

28 (a) The Commissioner of Education shall ~~determine the~~
29 ~~comparable validity of other available standardized tests,~~
30 ~~including the SAT, ACT, College Placement Test, PSAT, PLAN,~~
31 ~~and tests used for entry into the military. If such tests are~~

1 ~~deemed to be valid and reliable measures, the commissioner~~
2 ~~shall~~ approve the use of the SAT and ACT such tests as
3 alternative alternate assessments to the grade 10 FCAT for the
4 2003-2004 ~~2002-2003~~ school year. Students who attain scores on
5 the SAT or ACT which ~~that~~ equate to the passing scores on the
6 grade 10 FCAT for purposes of high school graduation ~~on any of~~
7 ~~the approved alternative assessments~~ shall satisfy the
8 assessment requirement for a standard high school diploma as
9 provided in s. 1003.43(5)(a) for the 2003-2004 ~~2002-2003~~
10 school year graduating class if the students meet the
11 requirement in paragraph (b). ~~Prior to the application of~~
12 ~~these alternative assessments in subsequent school years, the~~
13 ~~Legislature shall review the continued use of these~~
14 ~~alternative tests.~~

15 (b) A student must take the grade 10 FCAT for a total
16 of three times without earning a passing score in order to use
17 the scores on the alternative assessments in paragraph (a).

18 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 1003.433, Florida
19 Statutes, is amended to read:

20 1003.433 Learning opportunities for out-of-state and
21 out-of-country transfer students and students needing
22 additional instruction to meet high school graduation
23 requirements.--

24 (1) Students who enter a Florida public school at the
25 eleventh or twelfth grade from out of state or from a foreign
26 country shall not be required to spend additional time in a
27 Florida public school in order to meet the high school course
28 requirements if the student has met all requirements of the
29 school district, state, or country from which he or she is
30 transferring. Such students who are not proficient in English
31 should receive immediate and intensive instruction in English

1 language acquisition. However, to receive a standard high
2 school diploma, a transfer student must:

3 (a) Earn a 2.0 grade point average; and

4 (b) Pass the grade 10 FCAT required in s. 1008.22(3),
5 if the student is an eleventh grade student; or

6 (c) Beginning in the 2004-2005 school year, attain
7 scores on the SAT or ACT which equate to the passing scores on
8 the grade 10 FCAT, if the student is a twelfth grade student
9 ~~an alternate assessment as described in s. 1008.22(9).~~

10 Section 3. Section 1008.301, Florida Statutes, as
11 created by section 2 of chapter 2003-80, Laws of Florida, is
12 repealed.

13 Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
14 law.

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16 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
17 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
18 Senate Bill 332 and 1912 and 2678

19 The CS allows students who take but do not pass the 10th grade
20 FCAT after a total of three times to use their SAT or ACT
21 scores to satisfy the assessment requirement for graduating
from high school this school year.

22 The CS also allows passage of the ACT or SAT in lieu of the
23 10th grade FCAT for twelfth grade transfer students, beginning
24 in the 2004-2005 school year.
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