

By Senator Bullard

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public school educational
3 assessments and accountability; suspending the use of
4 statewide, standardized assessment results for
5 purposes of student promotion, retention, or
6 graduation and evaluation of instructional personnel
7 and school administrators for specific school years;
8 providing requirements for determining the promotion
9 or retention of a grade 3 student; requiring a grade
10 10 student to earn a concordant score to meet a
11 specific graduation requirement; suspending school
12 grades for specific school years; requiring the State
13 Board of Education to adopt and implement a new school
14 grading system by a specified date; providing
15 requirements for the new school grading system;
16 providing an effective date.

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

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20 Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law:

21 (1) For the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 school years, results
22 from the statewide, standardized assessments in English Language
23 Arts (ELA) and Mathematics administered pursuant to s. 1008.22,
24 Florida Statutes, may not be used to determine the promotion or
25 retention of a student, to satisfy graduation requirements to
26 earn a standard high school diploma, or as evaluation criteria
27 for the annual evaluation of instructional personnel and school
28 administrators. Determination of promotion or retention for a
29 grade 3 student shall be made using the student's academic
30 performance and report card and other evidence that demonstrates
31 the student's mastery of Florida's academic standards for ELA.
32 To satisfy the graduation requirement that a student pass the

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33 grade 10 ELA assessment, a grade 10 student must earn the
34 appropriate concordant score on the SAT or ACT as determined by
35 the Commissioner of Education pursuant to s. 1008.22, Florida
36 Statutes.

37 (2) For the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 school years, school
38 grades, pursuant to s. 1008.34, Florida Statutes, shall be held
39 in abeyance. Performance on the statewide, standardized
40 assessments administered pursuant to s. 1008.22, Florida
41 Statutes, shall serve as an informational baseline for schools
42 to work toward improved performance in future years. A school
43 may not be required to select and implement a turnaround option
44 pursuant to s. 1008.33, Florida Statutes, in the 2016-2017 and
45 2017-2018 school years.

46 (3) No later than July 1, 2017, the State Board of
47 Education shall adopt and implement a school grading system that
48 is demonstrably equitable, reliable, timely, rigorous,
49 affordable, and rationally funded. The state board must include
50 components representing the state's academic standards,
51 classroom instruction, technology, and assessments in the new
52 school grading system.

53 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.