

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to statewide, standardized  
 3           assessments; amending ss. 1008.22 and 1008.25, F.S.;  
 4           requiring the Department of Education to develop  
 5           versions of statewide, standardized assessments and  
 6           specified portions of the statewide, standardized  
 7           coordinated screening and progress monitoring system  
 8           in certain languages by a specified date; requiring  
 9           the department to establish criteria for the use of  
 10          such assessments and portions of the system;  
 11          authorizing parents to prohibit the use of such  
 12          assessments and portions of the systems in certain  
 13          languages; requiring the department to develop a  
 14          timetable and action plan for the development and  
 15          implementation of such assessments and written  
 16          portions of the system; 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. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section**  
 21 **1008.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

22           1008.22 Student assessment program for public schools.—

23           (3) STATEWIDE, STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.—The  
 24           Commissioner of Education shall design and implement a  
 25           statewide, standardized assessment program aligned to the core

26 | curricular content established in the state academic standards.  
27 | The commissioner also must develop or select and implement a  
28 | common battery of assessment tools that will be used in all  
29 | juvenile justice education programs in the state. These tools  
30 | must accurately measure the core curricular content established  
31 | in the state academic standards. Participation in the assessment  
32 | program is mandatory for all school districts and all students  
33 | attending public schools, including adult students seeking a  
34 | standard high school diploma under s. 1003.4282 and students in  
35 | Department of Juvenile Justice education programs, except as  
36 | otherwise provided by law. If a student does not participate in  
37 | the assessment program, the school district must notify the  
38 | student's parent and provide the parent with information  
39 | regarding the implications of such nonparticipation. The  
40 | statewide, standardized assessment program shall be designed and  
41 | implemented as follows:

42 |       (d) Students with disabilities; Florida Alternate  
43 | Assessment; English language learners.—

44 |       1. Each district school board must provide instruction to  
45 | prepare students with disabilities in the core content knowledge  
46 | and skills necessary for successful grade-to-grade progression  
47 | and high school graduation.

48 |       2. A student with a disability, as defined in s. 1007.02,  
49 | for whom the individual education plan (IEP) team determines  
50 | that the statewide, standardized assessments under this section

51 cannot accurately measure the student's abilities, taking into  
52 consideration all allowable accommodations, shall have  
53 assessment results waived for the purpose of receiving a course  
54 grade and a standard high school diploma. Such waiver shall be  
55 designated on the student's transcript. The statement of waiver  
56 shall be limited to a statement that performance on an  
57 assessment was waived for the purpose of receiving a course  
58 grade or a standard high school diploma, as applicable.

59 3. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules, based  
60 upon recommendations of the commissioner, for the provision of  
61 assessment accommodations for students with disabilities and for  
62 students who have limited English proficiency.

63 a. Accommodations that negate the validity of a statewide,  
64 standardized assessment are not allowed during the  
65 administration of the assessment. However, instructional  
66 accommodations are allowed in the classroom if identified in a  
67 student's IEP. Students using instructional accommodations in  
68 the classroom that are not allowed on a statewide, standardized  
69 assessment may have assessment results waived if the IEP team  
70 determines that the assessment cannot accurately measure the  
71 student's abilities.

72 b. If a student is provided with instructional  
73 accommodations in the classroom that are not allowed as  
74 accommodations for statewide, standardized assessments, the  
75 district must inform the parent in writing and provide the

76 | parent with information regarding the impact on the student's  
77 | ability to meet expected performance levels. A parent must  
78 | provide signed consent for a student to receive classroom  
79 | instructional accommodations that would not be available or  
80 | permitted on a statewide, standardized assessment and  
81 | acknowledge in writing that he or she understands the  
82 | implications of such instructional accommodations.

83 |       c. If a student's IEP states that online administration of  
84 | a statewide, standardized assessment will significantly impair  
85 | the student's ability to perform, the assessment shall be  
86 | administered in hard copy.

87 |       d.(I) By the 2027-2028 school year, the Department of  
88 | Education shall develop a version of each statewide,  
89 | standardized assessment in the three most prevalent languages  
90 | represented in the English language learner population within  
91 | the state. The department must establish criteria for when the  
92 | use of such assessments in a language other than English is  
93 | appropriate. A parent of a student who is an English language  
94 | learner may prohibit his or her student from being administered  
95 | an assessment in a language other than English.

96 |       (II) The department shall develop a timetable and action  
97 | plan to develop and implement the assessments in the additional  
98 | languages as required under sub-sub-subparagraph (I) in addition  
99 | to such assessments in additional languages, as feasible.

100 |       4. For students with significant cognitive disabilities,

101 the Department of Education shall provide for implementation of  
 102 the Florida Alternate Assessment to accurately measure the core  
 103 curricular content established in the state academic standards.

104 **Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (9) of section**  
 105 **1008.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

106 1008.25 Public school student progression; student  
 107 support; coordinated screening and progress monitoring;  
 108 reporting requirements.—

109 (9) COORDINATED SCREENING AND PROGRESS MONITORING SYSTEM.—

110 (a) The Department of Education, in collaboration with the  
 111 Office of Early Learning, shall procure and require the use of a  
 112 statewide, standardized coordinated screening and progress  
 113 monitoring system for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
 114 Program and public schools. The system must:

115 1. Measure student progress in meeting the appropriate  
 116 expectations in early literacy and mathematics skills and in  
 117 English Language Arts and mathematics standards as required by  
 118 ss. 1002.67(1) (a) and 1003.41 and identify the educational  
 119 strengths and needs of students.

120 2. For students in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
 121 Program through grade 3, measure student performance in oral  
 122 language development, phonological and phonemic awareness,  
 123 knowledge of print and letters, decoding, fluency, vocabulary,  
 124 and comprehension, as applicable by grade level, and, at a  
 125 minimum, provide interval level and norm-referenced data that

126 | measures equivalent levels of growth.

127 |       3. Be a valid, reliable, and developmentally appropriate  
128 | computer-based direct instrument that provides screening and  
129 | diagnostic capabilities for monitoring student progress;  
130 | identifies students who have a substantial deficiency in reading  
131 | or mathematics, including identifying students with  
132 | characteristics of dyslexia, dyscalculia, and other learning  
133 | disorders; and informs instruction. Any student identified by  
134 | the system as having characteristics of dyslexia or dyscalculia  
135 | shall undergo further screening. Beginning with the 2023-2024  
136 | school year, the coordinated screening and progress monitoring  
137 | system must be computer-adaptive.

138 |       4. Provide data for Voluntary Prekindergarten Education  
139 | Program accountability as required under s. 1002.68.

140 |       5. Provide Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program  
141 | providers, school districts, schools, teachers, and parents with  
142 | data and resources that enhance differentiated instruction and  
143 | parent communication.

144 |       6. Provide baseline data to the department of each  
145 | student's readiness for kindergarten. The determination of  
146 | kindergarten readiness must be based on the results of each  
147 | student's initial progress monitoring assessment in  
148 | kindergarten. The methodology for determining a student's  
149 | readiness for kindergarten must be developed by the department  
150 | and aligned to the methodology adopted pursuant to s.

151 1002.68(4).

152 7. Assess how well educational goals and curricular  
153 standards are met at the provider, school, district, and state  
154 levels and provide information to the department to aid in the  
155 development of educational programs, policies, and supports for  
156 providers, districts, and schools.

157 8.a. For any written portions of the system and by the  
158 2027-2028 school year, be available in the three most prevalent  
159 languages represented in the English language learner population  
160 within the state. The department must establish criteria for  
161 when the use of such portions of the system in a language other  
162 than English is appropriate. A parent of a student who is an  
163 English language learner may prohibit his or her student from  
164 being administered such portions of the system in a language  
165 other than English.

166 b. The department shall develop a timetable and action  
167 plan to develop and implement the written portions of the system  
168 in such languages as required by sub-subparagraph a. in addition  
169 to additional languages, as feasible.

170 **Section 3.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.