

A bill for an act
relating to education; modifying the reporting of assessment results; amending
Minnesota Statutes 2007 Supplement, section 120B.30, subdivision 1a.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2007 Supplement, section 120B.30, subdivision 1a,
is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Statewide and local assessments; results.** (a) The commissioner must
develop reading, mathematics, and science assessments aligned with state academic
standards that districts and sites must use to monitor student growth toward achieving
those standards. The commissioner must not develop statewide assessments for academic
standards in social studies, health and physical education, and the arts. The commissioner
must require:

(1) annual reading and mathematics assessments in grades 3 through 8 and at the
high school level for the 2005-2006 school year and later; and

(2) annual science assessments in one grade in the grades 3 through 5 span, the
grades 6 through 9 span, and a life sciences assessment in the grades 10 through 12 span
for the 2007-2008 school year and later.

(b) The commissioner must ensure that all statewide tests administered to elementary
and secondary students measure students' academic knowledge and skills and not students'
values, attitudes, and beliefs.

(c) Reporting of assessment results must:

(1) provide timely, useful, and understandable information on the performance of
individual students, schools, school districts, and the state in two phases. The first phase
must report raw performance scores to schools and teachers, for internal use only, without

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the results of the constructed response questions 13 business days after all districts have returned all scoreable test materials to the department. The second phase must report the final scores, including the results of the constructed response question;

(2) include, by no later than the 2008-2009 school year, a value-added component that is in addition to a measure for student achievement growth over time; and

(3)(i) for students enrolled in grade 8 before the 2005-2006 school year, determine whether students have met the state's basic skills requirements; and

(ii) for students enrolled in grade 8 in the 2005-2006 school year and later, determine whether students have met the state's academic standards.

(d) Consistent with applicable federal law and subdivision 1, paragraph (d), clause (1), the commissioner must include appropriate, technically sound accommodations or alternative assessments for the very few students with disabilities for whom statewide assessments are inappropriate and for students with limited English proficiency.

(e) A school, school district, and charter school must administer statewide assessments under this section, as the assessments become available, to evaluate student progress in achieving the academic standards. If a state assessment is not available, a school, school district, and charter school must determine locally if a student has met the required academic standards. A school, school district, or charter school may use a student's performance on a statewide assessment as one of multiple criteria to determine grade promotion or retention. A school, school district, or charter school may use a high school student's performance on a statewide assessment as a percentage of the student's final grade in a course, or place a student's assessment score on the student's transcript.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective beginning in the 2008-2009 school year.