

Second Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 14-0699.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

HOUSE BILL 14-1202

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Scott,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Todd and Scheffel,

House Committees

Education
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR**
102 **SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR WHICH THE STATE BOARD OF**
103 **EDUCATION MAY WAIVE STATEWIDE TESTING REQUIREMENTS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Under current law, each school district is required to administer statewide assessments in various subjects in each of grades 3 through 11 (statewide testing requirements), and the state board of education (state board) cannot waive this requirement. The bill directs the state board to

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

waive most of the statewide testing requirements for a school district that submits a school district assessment plan that meets specified requirements. A school district that receives a waiver must publish its assessment results on the school district web site and submit the results to the department of education (department) for publishing on the department web site that reports the academic performance of all school districts and public schools. If a school district that receives a waiver fails to meet statewide targets for academic performance for 3 consecutive school years, the state board must modify the school district's waiver to require the school district to administer the statewide assessments in the subjects in which it failed to meet the statewide targets; except that a single student cannot be required to take more than one statewide assessment in a school year. The parent of a student who is enrolled in a school district that receives a waiver may excuse his or her child from participating in any standardized assessments, including a statewide assessment. The department cannot penalize a school district, and a school district cannot penalize the student or the student's teacher, if a parent excuses his or her child from testing.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** part 18 to article
3 2 of title 2 as follows:

4 **PART 18**

5 **STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENTS TASK FORCE**

6 **2-2-1801. Legislative declaration.** (1) **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
7 **FINDS THAT:**

8 (a) **THE INCREASING REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTING CONTENT**
9 **STANDARDS AND ADMINISTERING STATEWIDE AND LOCAL ASSESSMENTS**
10 **ARE REQUIRING AN INCREASINGLY SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF TIME AND**
11 **RESOURCES IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE STATE;**

12 (b) **HIGH-QUALITY ASSESSMENTS PROVIDE TEACHERS, PARENTS,**
13 **PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH RELIABLE ESTIMATES OF**
14 **STUDENT LEARNING THAT CAN BE USED TO IMPROVE INSTRUCTIONAL**
15 **PRACTICES. DEPENDING ON THE ASSESSMENT, GROWTH DATA MAY BE**

1 GENERATED TO ESTIMATE HOW MUCH PROGRESS STUDENTS MAKE DURING
2 A SPECIFIC PERIOD OF TIME AS THEY PROGRESS TO HIGHER LEVELS OF
3 MASTERY. WHILE ASSESSMENTS THAT ARE COMMON ACROSS PUBLIC
4 SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS GENERATE VALUABLE INFORMATION
5 ABOUT WHAT IS POSSIBLE, WHAT IS WORKING WELL, AND WHAT NEEDS TO
6 BE ADDRESSED IN THE BROADER EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM, IT IS VALUABLE
7 TO STUDY THE EFFICACY OF COLORADO'S CURRENT STATUTORY
8 ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS;

9 (c) IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE STATE TO CREATE A TASK
10 FORCE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EDUCATION COMMUNITY AND
11 PARENTS AND EXPERTS IN STANDARDS-BASED EDUCATION TO STUDY THE
12 IMPLICATIONS OF THE STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR SCHOOL
13 DISTRICTS, PUBLIC SCHOOLS, EDUCATORS, AND STUDENTS;

14 (d) AT A MINIMUM, THE STUDY SHOULD EXAMINE HOW THE
15 STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS REQUIRED IN SECTIONS 22-7-409, 22-7-1006,
16 AND 22-7-1013, C.R.S., AND IN PART 12 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S.,
17 ARE ADMINISTERED, HOW THE DATA OBTAINED FROM THE ASSESSMENTS
18 ARE USED, AND THE IMPACT OF THE STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS ON LOCAL
19 ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS, INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, AND ADMINISTRATIVE
20 WORKLOAD;

21 (e) THE STUDY SHOULD ALSO EXAMINE:

22 (I) THE INTERACTION OF THE STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS WITH THE
23 EDUCATOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SYSTEMS REQUIRED IN ARTICLE 9
24 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S., AND WITH THE STATEWIDE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM
25 FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE, AND
26 PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 11 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S.,
27 INCLUDING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS IN

1 IDENTIFYING EXISTING ACHIEVEMENT GAPS;

2 (II) THE INTERACTION BETWEEN ASSESSMENTS REQUIRED BY
3 SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE STATEWIDE
4 ASSESSMENTS; AND

5 (III) THE IMPACT THAT ADMINISTERING BOTH LOCAL AND
6 STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS HAS ON THE AMOUNT OF TIME
7 STUDENTS SPEND TAKING ASSESSMENTS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND
8 PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPEND PLANNING AND ADMINISTERING ASSESSMENTS.

9 **2-2-1802. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS PART 18, UNLESS THE
10 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

11 (1) "AT-RISK STUDENT" MEANS A STUDENT WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR
12 FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE LUNCH UNDER THE FEDERAL "NATIONAL SCHOOL
13 LUNCH ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1751 ET SEQ.

14 (2) "CHAIRMAN" MEANS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE BOARD OF
15 EDUCATION ELECTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-2-105 (4), C.R.S.

16 (3) "CHARTER SCHOOL" MEANS A CHARTER SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL
17 DISTRICT THAT IS AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF
18 TITLE 22, C.R.S., OR AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL THAT IS AUTHORIZED
19 BY THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF
20 ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S.

21 (4) "DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
22 CREATED AND EXISTING PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-1-115, C.R.S.

23 (5) "HOUSE MINORITY LEADER" MEANS THE LEADER ELECTED BY
24 THE MINORITY CAUCUS OF LEGISLATORS SERVING IN THE HOUSE OF
25 REPRESENTATIVES.

26 (6) "LOCAL ASSESSMENTS" MEANS ASSESSMENTS THAT A SCHOOL
27 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL ADOPTS AND ADMINISTERS PURSUANT TO

1 SECTION 22-7-407, 22-7-1013, OR 22-7-1205, C.R.S.

2 (7) "PRESIDENT" MEANS THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

3 (8) "SENATE MINORITY LEADER" MEANS THE LEADER ELECTED BY
4 THE MINORITY CAUCUS OF LEGISLATORS SERVING IN THE SENATE.

5 (9) "SPEAKER" MEANS THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
6 REPRESENTATIVES.

7 (10) "STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS" MEANS THE ASSESSMENTS
8 ADMINISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-7-409, 22-7-1006, OR
9 22-7-1205, C.R.S.

10 (11) "TASK FORCE" MEANS THE STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENTS
11 TASK FORCE CREATED IN SECTION 2-2-1803.

12 **2-2-1803. Standards and assessments task force -**

13 **appointments - meetings.** (1) THERE IS CREATED THE STANDARDS AND
14 ASSESSMENTS TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
15 STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS AND LOCAL ASSESSMENTS, THE FEASIBILITY OF
16 WAIVING CERTAIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS, AND
17 ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT MAY RECEIVE WAIVERS OF
18 CERTAIN ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS. NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2014, THE
19 SPEAKER AND THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
20 THE PRESIDENT AND THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE, AND THE
21 CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL APPOINT THE
22 MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS
23 SECTION. THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES SHALL ENSURE THAT THE
24 MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE REPRESENT:

25 (a) SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT ARE
26 GEOGRAPHICALLY AND DEMOGRAPHICALLY DIVERSE;

27 (b) PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT SERVE VARIOUS GRADE LEVELS AND

1 OPERATE WITH VARIOUS MODELS AND MISSIONS; AND

2 (c) DIFFERING EDUCATION PHILOSOPHIES, EXPERTISE, AND
3 UNDERSTANDING REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF EDUCATIONAL
4 STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENTS.

5 (2) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF FIFTEEN MEMBERS APPOINTED
6 AS FOLLOWS:

7 (a) THREE REPRESENTATIVES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT
8 ADMINISTRATORS EMPLOYED IN THE STATE, APPOINTED ONE EACH BY THE
9 SPEAKER, THE PRESIDENT, AND THE CHAIRMAN. THE MEMBERS APPOINTED
10 PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH (a) MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE MEMBER
11 WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT
12 ADMINISTRATORS AND AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A
13 SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT SERVES A STUDENT POPULATION OF WHICH AT
14 LEAST SIXTY PERCENT ARE AT-RISK STUDENTS.

15 (b) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF DIRECTORS SERVING ON SCHOOL
16 DISTRICT BOARDS OF EDUCATION IN THE STATE, INCLUDING BUT NOT
17 LIMITED TO AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE
18 ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARDS OF EDUCATION, APPOINTED
19 ONE EACH BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE CHAIRMAN;

20 (c) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF TEACHERS EMPLOYED IN PUBLIC
21 SCHOOLS IN THE STATE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO AT LEAST ONE
22 MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION OF TEACHERS,
23 APPOINTED ONE EACH BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE HOUSE MINORITY
24 LEADER;

25 (d) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF CHARTER SCHOOLS WITHIN THE
26 STATE, ONE OF WHOM REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION OF
27 CHARTER SCHOOLS AND ONE OF WHOM REPRESENTS THE GOVERNING

1 BOARD OF THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE, APPOINTED ONE EACH
2 BY THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER AND THE CHAIRMAN;

3 (e) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF PARENTS OF CHILDREN WHO ARE
4 ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE STATE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED
5 TO AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION
6 OF PARENTS OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, APPOINTED ONE
7 EACH BY THE SPEAKER AND THE SENATE MINORITY LEADER;

8 (f) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN THE
9 STATE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO
10 REPRESENTS AN ORGANIZATION OF BUSINESSES, APPOINTED ONE EACH BY
11 THE SPEAKER AND THE HOUSE MINORITY LEADER;

12 (g) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT REPRESENTS
13 THE INTERESTS OF THE STUDENT GROUPS THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS
14 IDENTIFIED AS CHRONICALLY LOW-PERFORMING ON STATEWIDE
15 ASSESSMENTS, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER; AND

16 (h) ONE PERSON WHO IS AFFILIATED WITH THE CONSORTIA OF
17 STATES THAT INCLUDES COLORADO AND THAT IS DEVELOPING
18 ASSESSMENTS IN MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS,
19 APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

20 (3) (a) THE SPEAKER SHALL CONVENE THE FIRST MEETING OF THE
21 TASK FORCE NO LATER THAN JULY 15, 2014, AT WHICH MEETING THE TASK
22 FORCE MEMBERS SHALL SELECT FROM AMONG THE MEMBERSHIP A PERSON
23 TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE TASK FORCE. THE TASK FORCE SHALL MEET
24 UPON THE CALL OF THE CHAIR AS OFTEN AS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE
25 DUTIES SPECIFIED IN THIS PART 18. THE TASK FORCE MAY MEET WITHIN
26 THE COMMITTEE HEARING ROOMS OF THE STATE CAPITOL, SUBJECT TO
27 AVAILABILITY.

1 (b) THE TASK FORCE MEMBERS SHALL SERVE WITHOUT
2 COMPENSATION AND WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES.

3 (c) IF A VACANCY OCCURS ON THE TASK FORCE FOR ANY REASON,
4 THE ORIGINAL APPOINTING AUTHORITY SHALL APPOINT A PERSON WHO
5 MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE VACANT POSITION TO FILL THE
6 VACANCY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE VACANCY OCCURS.

7 (4) (a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE INFORMATION AND STAFF
8 SUPPORT TO THE TASK FORCE UPON THE REQUEST OF THE TASK FORCE
9 CHAIR TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY FOR THE TASK FORCE TO COMPLETE THE
10 DUTIES SPECIFIED IN THIS PART 18. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COLLECT AND
11 PROVIDE TO THE TASK FORCE THE DATA NECESSARY FOR THE TASK FORCE
12 TO CONSIDER THE ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 2-2-1804 (1) (a), (1) (b),
13 AND (1) (d) AND THE INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR THE TASK FORCE TO
14 CONSIDER THE ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 2-2-1804 (1) (c), (1) (e), AND
15 (1) (f).

16 (b) IN ASSISTING THE TASK FORCE, THE DEPARTMENT, TO THE
17 GREATEST EXTENT PRACTICABLE, SHALL COORDINATE THE WORK FOR THE
18 TASK FORCE WITH THE RESEARCH PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY
19 SERVICE AGREEMENT THE DEPARTMENT HAS WITH A REGIONAL
20 COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH CENTER AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS
21 PART 18.

22 **2-2-1804. Standards and assessments task force - duties -**
23 **report.** (1) IN COMPLETING THE STUDY REQUIRED IN THIS PART 18, THE
24 TASK FORCE SHALL CONSIDER, AT A MINIMUM, THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

25 (a) THE ADMINISTRATION OF STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS WITHIN
26 SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED
27 TO:

1 (I) THE ASSESSMENT TIMELINES FOR THE 2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR
2 AND SCHOOL YEARS THEREAFTER;

3 (II) THE TOTAL ANNUAL COST TO THE DEPARTMENT AND TO
4 SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS OF PREPARING FOR AND
5 ADMINISTERING THE STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS;

6 (III) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS REQUIRED TO PREPARE FOR AND
7 ADMINISTER STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS AND THE TOTAL TIME STUDENTS
8 ANNUALLY SPEND PREPARING FOR AND TAKING STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS;

9 (IV) THE COST TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS OF
10 DIVERTING TIME AND RESOURCES TO PREPARATION AND ADMINISTRATION
11 OF STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS AND AWAY FROM INSTRUCTION;

12 (V) THE TIMELINE FOR ADMINISTERING NEW OR ADDITIONAL
13 STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS; AND

14 (VI) THE TIMELINE FOR RECEIVING STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT
15 RESULTS;

16 (b) THE ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL ASSESSMENTS BY SCHOOL
17 DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

18 (I) THE LOCAL ASSESSMENTS ADMINISTERED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS
19 AND CHARTER SCHOOLS TO SUPPLEMENT STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS;

20 (II) THE COSTS TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS OF
21 PREPARING FOR AND ADMINISTERING THE LOCAL ASSESSMENTS;

22 (III) THE LOCAL ASSESSMENT TIMELINES;

23 (IV) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS REQUIRED TO PREPARE FOR AND
24 ADMINISTER LOCAL ASSESSMENTS AND THE TOTAL TIME STUDENTS
25 ANNUALLY SPEND PREPARING FOR AND TAKING LOCAL ASSESSMENTS;

26 (V) THE COST TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS OF
27 DIVERTING TIME AND RESOURCES TO PREPARATION AND ADMINISTRATION

1 OF LOCAL ASSESSMENTS AND AWAY FROM INSTRUCTION;

2 (VI) THE TIMELINE FOR ADMINISTERING NEW OR ADDITIONAL

3 LOCAL ASSESSMENTS;

4 (VII) THE TIMELINE FOR RECEIVING LOCAL ASSESSMENT RESULTS;

5 (VIII) THE COST TO A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL OF

6 ADMINISTERING, THE TIME REQUIRED TO PREPARE FOR, AND THE TIME

7 STUDENTS ANNUALLY SPEND IN TAKING ASSESSMENTS THAT THE SCHOOL

8 DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL CHOOSES TO ADMINISTER IN ADDITION TO

9 THE LOCAL ASSESSMENTS; AND

10 (IX) THE COMBINED IMPACT OF STATEWIDE AND LOCAL

11 ASSESSMENTS ON CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION;

12 (c) THE FEASIBILITY OF ALLOWING SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND

13 CHARTER SCHOOLS FLEXIBILITY REGARDING STATEWIDE REQUIREMENTS

14 FOR ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND FLEXIBILITY TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT

15 OF DUPLICATION IN TESTING CAUSED BY ADMINISTERING BOTH STATEWIDE

16 AND LOCAL ASSESSMENTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE

17 RESULTING IMPACTS ON ACCOUNTABILITY, COMPARABILITY OF

18 PERFORMANCE AMONG PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS, AND

19 QUALITY OF EDUCATION;

20 (d) THE ABILITY OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS TO

21 IMPLEMENT STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION

22 22-7-1013, C.R.S., AND TO IMPLEMENT PART 12 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE 22,

23 C.R.S., INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

24 (I) AVAILABLE RESOURCES FOR CREATING OR PURCHASING AND

25 IMPLEMENTING CURRICULA, INCLUDING TEXTBOOKS;

26 (II) THE EXTENT OF BROADBAND ACCESS AND THE AVAILABILITY

27 OF TECHNOLOGY WITHIN SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER SCHOOLS;

1 (III) THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS' AND CHARTER SCHOOLS'
2 PROPORTIONAL USE OF CURRICULA, INCLUDING TEXTBOOKS, BROADBAND,
3 AND TECHNOLOGY, FOR TESTING AND FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES OTHER
4 THAN TESTING; AND

5 (IV) THE ADEQUACY OF STAFFING AND PROFESSIONAL
6 DEVELOPMENT FOR STAFF WITHIN SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARTER
7 SCHOOLS;

8 (e) THE FEASIBILITY AND CONSEQUENCES OF EXTENDING
9 TIMELINES AND IMPLEMENTING HOLD HARMLESS PERIODS IN ALL STATE
10 ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEMS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS, THE STATE CHARTER
11 SCHOOL INSTITUTE, PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND EDUCATORS; AND

12 (f) THE FEASIBILITY AND CONSEQUENCES OF ALLOWING PARENTS
13 TO EXCUSE THEIR CHILDREN FROM STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT PROGRAMS
14 WITHOUT NEGATIVELY IMPACTING INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS, PUBLIC
15 SCHOOLS, TEACHERS, OR PRINCIPALS. IN ANALYZING THIS ISSUE, THE TASK
16 FORCE SHALL CONSIDER ANY AVAILABLE DATA REGARDING PARENTS'
17 REASONS FOR EXCUSING THEIR CHILDREN FROM STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT
18 PROGRAMS.

19 (2) (a) IN CONDUCTING THE STUDY, THE TASK FORCE SHALL, AT A
20 MINIMUM, SEEK INPUT FROM A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF SCHOOL
21 DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS THROUGH THE USE OF TECHNIQUES SUCH
22 AS FOCUS GROUPS, SURVEYS, AND INTERVIEWS. THE TASK FORCE SHALL
23 APPLY THE INFORMATION RECEIVED IN MAKING ITS FINDINGS AND
24 FORMULATING THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FINAL REPORT.

25 (b) WHEN CONSIDERING FEASIBILITY WITH REGARD TO THE ISSUES
26 INCLUDED IN THE STUDY, THE TASK FORCE, AT A MINIMUM, SHALL
27 CONSIDER THE EXPENSE THAT THE STATE MAY INCUR AS A RESULT OF A

1 DECREASE IN OR LOSS OF FEDERAL MONEYS AND THE EFFECT THAT A
2 CHANGE IN THE STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS MAY HAVE ON
3 THE STATE'S ABILITY TO IDENTIFY AND MEASURE GAPS IN ACADEMIC
4 ACHIEVEMENT AMONG IDENTIFIED STUDENT GROUPS.

5 (3) THE TASK FORCE, WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT,
6 SHALL PREPARE A FINAL REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS, INCLUDING LEGISLATIVE
7 RECOMMENDATIONS, IF ANY. THE TASK FORCE MAY PREPARE A MAJORITY
8 REPORT AND ONE OR MORE MINORITY REPORTS. THE TASK FORCE SHALL
9 PRESENT THE MAJORITY REPORT AND MINORITY REPORTS, IF ANY, AT A
10 JOINT HEARING OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE AND THE
11 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, WHICH IS
12 HELD NO LATER THAN JANUARY 31, 2015.

13 **2-2-1805. Repeal of part.** THIS PART 18 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE
14 JULY 1, 2015.

15 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-2-112, **add** (1) (r)
16 as follows:

17 **22-2-112. Commissioner - duties - repeal.** (1) Subject to the
18 supervision of the state board, the commissioner has the following duties:

19 (r) (I) TO ENSURE THAT THE DEPARTMENT, AS REQUIRED IN
20 SECTIONS 2-2-1803 (4) AND 2-2-1804 (3), C.R.S., ASSISTS THE STANDARDS
21 AND ASSESSMENTS TASK FORCE CREATED IN PART 18 OF ARTICLE 2 OF
22 TITLE 2, C.R.S.

23 (II) THIS PARAGRAPH (r) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015.

24 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
25 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
26 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.