

First Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 15-0661.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

SENATE BILL 15-056

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kerr, Todd, Johnston, Crowder, Merrifield, Roberts

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Kraft-Tharp,

Senate Committees
Education

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING REDUCING THE FREQUENCY OF ADMINISTERING THE
102 STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT IN SOCIAL STUDIES.

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, the department of education (department) must administer the statewide assessment in social studies annually to students enrolled in a single selected elementary grade, middle school grade, and high school grade.

Under the bill, beginning in the 2015-16 school year, the department may choose to administer the social studies assessment

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.

annually to a representative sample of public schools so long as it administers the assessment in each public school at least once every 3 years. If the department chooses a 3-year assessment schedule, a school district or a charter school may ask the department to administer the test in a public school that is not scheduled.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-7-409, **amend** (1)
3 (k) as follows:

4 **22-7-409. Assessments - repeal.** (1) Beginning in the spring
5 semester of 1997, the department shall implement the Colorado student
6 assessment program under which the department shall administer
7 statewide assessments adopted by the board pursuant to section 22-7-406
8 in the first priority areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and science.
9 The department shall administer the English versions of the state
10 assessments and may administer any assessments adopted by the board in
11 languages other than English, as may be appropriate for English language
12 learners; except that any student who has participated in the English
13 language proficiency program, created pursuant to section 22-24-104, for
14 more than a total of three school years shall be ineligible to take the
15 assessments in a language other than English. The statewide assessments
16 shall be administered as follows:

17 (k) Beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, and ~~each school year~~
18 IN SCHOOL YEARS thereafter, the department shall administer a
19 STANDARDS-BASED statewide assessment in social studies to students
20 enrolled in public elementary, middle, and high schools throughout the
21 state. ~~In specific grades to be determined by~~ The department SHALL
22 SELECT THE SPECIFIC GRADES IN WHICH IT ADMINISTERS the social studies
23 assessment ~~shall be administered~~ TO ENSURE THAT IT ADMINISTERS THE

1 ASSESSMENT TO STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE SELECTED GRADES once in
2 elementary school, once in middle school, and once in high school.
3 BEGINNING IN THE 2015-16 SCHOOL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT MAY
4 ADMINISTER THE SOCIAL STUDIES ASSESSMENT IN A REPRESENTATIVE
5 SAMPLE OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS EACH SCHOOL YEAR SO LONG AS THE
6 DEPARTMENT ADMINISTERS THE SOCIAL STUDIES ASSESSMENT IN EACH
7 PUBLIC SCHOOL AT LEAST ONCE EVERY THREE YEARS. IF THE DEPARTMENT
8 CHOOSES TO ADMINISTER THE SOCIAL STUDIES ASSESSMENT IN A
9 REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS, A SCHOOL DISTRICT, FOR
10 ONE OR MORE OF THE SCHOOLS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT ARE NOT
11 INCLUDED IN THE REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE, OR A CHARTER SCHOOL THAT
12 IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE, MAY REQUEST THAT
13 THE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTER THE ASSESSMENT IN THE DISTRICT SCHOOL
14 OR CHARTER SCHOOL. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE SOCIAL
15 STUDIES ASSESSMENT IN THE REQUESTED SCHOOL IN THE SCHOOL YEAR
16 FOLLOWING THE SCHOOL YEAR IN WHICH IT RECEIVES THE REQUEST.

17 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
18 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
19 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.