

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2007-043

State of Arkansas
86th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2007

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2253

By: Representatives Cook, Kenney, Abernathy

Referred to
Education Committee- House
by the House of Representatives
on 03/21/2007

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A TWO-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM USING FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS STATEWIDE; TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT TO REQUIRE A TWO-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM USING FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS STATEWIDE AND TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. NOT TO BE CODIFIED.

(a) The General Assembly finds:

(1) That formative assessments are an important tool for:

(A) Determining a student's understanding and ability to apply concepts in the curriculum frameworks and use that information to immediately address any deficiencies during the school year;

(B) Aligning the assessment of a student's learning with teaching strategies during the school year; and

(C) Supporting a teacher's determination of exactly which

1 part of the curriculum needs reinforcement or identifying for which a
 2 different teaching strategy is needed;

3 (2) That formative assessments are currently being used in a
 4 large amount of the state's school districts and should be used statewide;
 5 and

6 (3) That an effective statewide formative assessment program
 7 would take more than one (1) year to develop.

8 (b) For these reasons, the Department of Education shall develop a
 9 two-year pilot for a state-supported formative assessment program with
 10 funding available to school districts participating in the pilot program to
 11 begin with the 2007-2008 school year.

12 (c) Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, the amount of twenty-
 13 five dollars (\$25.00) per student participating in the pilot program shall be
 14 allocated to the Department of Education for the purpose of implementing the
 15 pilot program.

16 (d) After completion of the pilot program, the General Assembly shall
 17 determine the effectiveness of formative assessments in providing an
 18 opportunity for an adequate education and consider providing statewide
 19 funding for mandated formative assessments.

20 (e) The Department of Education is requested to work in conjunction
 21 with the professional associations to provide a plan for the statewide
 22 rollout of formative assessments and to report to the House Interim Committee
 23 on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education on or before May
 24 1, 2008.

25 (f) The funding provided in this act shall not be considered
 26 foundation funding as the General Assembly has not determined that formative
 27 assessments, the pilot program, or the funding are necessary for the
 28 provisions of an adequate education.

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