

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

Computer-adaptive assessments are online assessments where test questions are presented in a sequence that depends on whether the student taking the test answers the previous test question correctly. Through this process, each student is administered a unique set of test questions that are meant to provide an accurate measure of the student's achievement level. This bill proposes to require that statewide computer-adaptive math tests be administered to students in grades 3 through 8 in the 2010-2011 school year and later and that statewide computer-adaptive reading tests be administered to students in grades 3 through 8 in the 2013-2014 school year and later.

Section

- 1** **Statewide testing.** (a) Provides for computer-adaptive reading and math assessments that are aligned with state standards and include multiple choice questions to be administered to general education students in grades 3 through 8.

(e) Anticipates using 3rd through 8th grade computer-adaptive assessments for diagnostic purposes and educational accountability.

Makes computer-adaptive math tests for grades 3 through 8 apply in the 2010-2011 school year and later and makes requirements for the computer-adaptive reading tests for grades 3 through 8 apply in the 2013-2014 school year and later.
- 2** **Statewide and local assessments; results.** (a) For purposes of administering computer-adaptive assessments in reading and math to students in grades 3 through 8 beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, defines computer-adaptive assessments, fully-adaptive assessments, partially-adaptive assessments, on-grade level, above-grade level, and below-grade level.

(b) Directs the commissioner to use fully-adaptive tests to the extent no net loss of federal and state funds occurs and to otherwise use partially-adaptive assessments to meet federal accountability requirements.

(c) Directs the commissioner to implement computer-adaptive reading and math assessments for grades 3 through 8 and to allow for pencil-and-paper tests that are the equivalent of computer-adaptive assessments to the extent these tests are needed to accommodate the technology capacity of individual school districts.

(d) Directs the commissioner to ensure that: (i) individual student performance data and achievement and summary reports are available within three school days; (ii) individual student growth data are available from school year to school year; (iii) parents and educators are able to use elementary and middle school student performance data to project student achievement in high school; (iv) useful diagnostic information about areas of students' academic strengths and weaknesses is available to improve student instruction; and (v) school districts are able to replace locally purchased computer-adaptive assessments with state-developed and state-funded computer-adaptive assessments.

(e) Makes computer-adaptive math tests for grades 3 through 8 apply in the 2010-2011 school year and later and makes requirements for the computer-adaptive reading tests for grades 3 through 8 apply in the 2013-2014 school year and later.