

SENATE AMENDMENT 5 TO sb550.

deleting lines 11 through 36 on page 4 in their entirety and substituting the following:

"(a) (1) The Department of Education shall develop and implement testing for public school students at grades four (4), eight (8), and eleven (11) or twelve (12) which is criterion-referenced and measures application of knowledge and skills in reading, writing, and mathematics and, as funds are available, in science and social studies.

(2) The State Board of Education shall establish expected levels of achievement on the criterion-referenced examinations.

(b) (1) The Department of Education shall develop and implement end-of-level testing for public school students in grades nine (9) and ten (10), which is criterion-referenced and measures the application of knowledge and skills in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

(2) The State Board of Education shall establish expected achievement standards for end-of-level testing.

(c) Any student failing to achieve the established standard on the criterion-referenced examinations or the end-of-level testing shall be evaluated by school personnel who shall jointly develop an academic skills plan to assist the student in achieving the expected standard in subject areas where performance is deficient.

(d) (1) A school or school district shall develop one (1) comprehensive, long-range school improvement plan focused on student achievement; provided, however, that nothing in this act shall be interpreted as requiring the development of separate school and school district improvement plans.

(2) Any school or school district that has a definable group of students failing to achieve the established achievement level on the criterion-referenced examinations or failing to achieve the established standard on end-of-level testing shall develop and implement a plan, reviewed and approved by the Department of Education, to assist the identifiable group achieve the expected standard. This plan shall be part of the school or school district long-range comprehensive school improvement plan and shall be reported to the public. Progress on improved achievement shall be included as part of the school and school district annual report to the public.

(3) Any school or school district that has less than ninety percent (90%) of its students achieving the established standard on the criterion-referenced examinations or less than ninety percent (90%) of its students achieving the established standard on end-of-level testing shall participate in a school improvement program approved by the Department of Education. This improvement plan shall be part of the school or school district long-range comprehensive school improvement plan and shall be reported to the public. Progress on improved achievement shall be included as part of the school and school district annual report to the public.

(e) (1) The Department of Education shall test public school students at grades five (5), seven (7), and ten (10) with a nationally norm-referenced test to be selected by the State Board of Education.

(2) Any school or school district that has more than thirty percent (30%) of its students in the lowest quartile of the norm-referenced test shall participate in a school improvement plan approved by the Department of Education. This improvement plan shall be part of the school or school district long-range comprehensive school improvement plan and shall be reported to the public. Progress on improved achievement shall be included as part of the school and school district annual report to the public.

(f) The Department of Education and the local school districts shall annually compile and disseminate to the public results of administering all required examinations, as well as the nationally norm-referenced test. The results of the end-of-level testing shall become a part of each student's transcript or permanent record and shall be recorded on these documents in a manner prescribed by the State Board of Education."

AND

deleting lines 1 through 36 on page 5

AND

deleting lines 1 through 3 on page 6