

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2023 SESSION

CHAPTER 157

An Act to amend and reenact § 2 of Chapter 760 of the Acts of Assembly of 2022, relating to Department of Education; Standards of Learning assessment revision work group; consideration of effectiveness of assessments for students with disabilities.

[H 1884]

Approved March 22, 2023

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

- 1. That § 2 of Chapter 760 of the Acts of Assembly of 2022 is amended and reenacted as follows:**
 1. § 2. In developing such revised assessments and plan, the work group shall consider (i) best practices and innovations in summative assessments of proficiency from across the nation; (ii) alternative approaches to current and new assessment items, including subject areas and methods of grading such items; (iii) assessment items that include open-ended questions, long-form writing, and other tasks, with student responses scored by the Department according to statewide scoring rubrics; (iv) plan for pilot implementation of such assessment items prior to the 2027-2028 school year as necessary to determine the validity of such items; (v) the process for the development of a bank of vetted sample assessment items that include a comprehensive representation of knowledge and skills being assessed; (vi) the legislative and regulatory changes and funding necessary to implement alternative approaches considered by the work group; (vii) *the effectiveness of assessments for students with disabilities, including the Virginia Alternate Assessment Program for those students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, and the use of those assessments to improve and individualize instruction;* and (viii) a proposed timeline for implementation of such new assessments, giving consideration to implementation prior to the 2027-2028 school year. Nothing in this act shall prohibit the work group from looking at all forms of assessment. Such work group shall not be responsible for implementation of such revised assessment items unless there is further action from the General Assembly.