



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 279

January Session, 2023

House Bill No. 6763

House of Representatives, March 28, 2023

The Committee on Education reported through REP. CURREY of the 11th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING AN AUDIT OF THE STATE-WIDE MASTERY EXAMINATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) Not later than July 1, 2024, the
2 Commissioner of Education shall conduct an audit of the administration
3 of the state-wide mastery examination under section 10-14n of the
4 general statutes. Such audit shall focus on the time, materials, costs and
5 resources, by grade level and examination, expended by the
6 Department of Education and local and regional boards of education in
7 administering the state-wide mastery examination. Such audit shall
8 include (1) the amount of funding allocated by the state and each board
9 of education in the administration of the state-wide mastery
10 examination, (2) how such state and local funding is expended,
11 including a breakdown of expenditures by grade level and examination
12 and a summary of any contractual obligations related to such
13 administration, (3) a summary of how staff time is allocated and
14 expended to administer the state-wide mastery examination, and (4) a
15 summary of the costs and amount of instructional time allocated by each
16 local and regional board of education, by grade level and examination,
17 including a breakdown of such costs and instructional time for

18 preparation and administration and any interim, benchmark or other
19 mid-year, state-wide mastery examination-related test administration.

20 (b) Following completion of the audit described in subsection (a) of
21 this section, the commissioner shall use the results and findings of the
22 audit to develop a plan to improve, streamline and reduce the use of
23 assessment tools and examinations used to monitor the performance of
24 students in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, in accordance with
25 20 USC 6362(e)(3)(D). Such plan shall be developed using data collected
26 on or after July 1, 2021, and include, without limitation: (1) An
27 examination of models from other states that are streamlining the
28 assessment tools and examinations used to monitor the performance of
29 students based on the requirements set forth in 20 USC 6361, 6362 and
30 6363, (2) results from a survey given to local and regional boards of
31 education on the use of alternative assessment strategies used to
32 promote and assess students' abilities beyond those assessed in the
33 state-wide mastery examination, such as students' abilities to (A)
34 collaborate, (B) communicate effectively, (C) think critically and
35 analytically, (D) employ their creativity, (E) assess their own knowledge
36 and learning needs, and (F) be conscience of the civic and community
37 impact of their actions and actions of others, and (3) recommendations
38 for improving or streamlining the assessment tools and examinations
39 used to monitor the performance of students based on the audit
40 conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

41 (c) Not later than January 1, 2025, the commissioner shall submit the
42 plan described in subsection (b) of this section to the joint standing
43 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
44 relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the
45 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2023	New section

ED Joint Favorable

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	Potential Significant	Potential Significant

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost in FY 24 and FY 25 to the State Department of Education (SDE) to (1) perform a one-time audit of the administration of the state-wide mastery exam, and (2) develop a plan to streamline the use of assessment tools used to monitor student performance. It is anticipated that SDE will need to hire a consultant to perform the audit and to develop the plan, which can result in significant costs depending on the scope of the audit and the plan.

The Out Years

SDE is required to complete the audit by July 1, 2024 and to develop the subsequent plan to streamline the use of assessment tools by January 1, 2025. As such, the impact in the out years will depend on the provisions of the plan developed by SDE.

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6763

AN ACT CONCERNING AN AUDIT OF THE STATE-WIDE MASTERY EXAMINATION.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 41 Nay 0 (03/10/2023)