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H.B. 82
134th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Passed by the House

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Cross and Jones

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SUMMARY

- Permits the parent or guardian of a high school student to opt the student out of taking a nationally standardized college admission assessment, beginning with students who enter the 9th grade for the first time in the school year that follows the bill's effective date.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Nationally standardized college admission assessments

Beginning with the school year immediately following the bill's effective date, the bill permits the parent or guardian of a high school student to opt the student out of the current requirement to take a nationally standardized college admission assessment. The student's school district or school is then prohibited from administering the assessment to that student.¹ That assessment, as jointly prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Chancellor of Higher Education, is either the ACT or SAT. Under current law, it must be offered to all 11th grade students in the spring of each school year.

Background on high school testing and graduation requirements

Current law requires seven high school end-of-course exams for classes up to the class of 2022 and, starting with the class of 2023, five end-of-course exams. It also requires all high school students to take a nationally standardized college admission assessment (ACT or SAT).

Also under current law, for the classes of 2021 and 2022, a student may qualify for a high school diploma under either of the following options:

¹ R.C. 3301.0712(B)(1)(b).

1. Satisfy one of the original graduation pathways, which includes:²
 - a. Ohio state tests (end-of-course exams);
 - b. Industry credential and workforce readiness; or
 - c. College and Career Readiness assessments (obtain a remediation-free score on the ACT or SAT).
2. Qualify for graduation under the new qualifications enacted under H.B. 166 of the 133rd General Assembly for the class of 2023 and beyond. The qualifications require students to demonstrate “competency” and “readiness” through various options.

For more information on graduation pathways described above please see this guidance from the Department of Education: <http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Earning-an-Ohio-High-School-Diploma-for-the-Cl-2/GradReq2021.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US>.

For a full description of changes made to graduation requirements under H.B. 166, please see that act’s final analysis: <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/download?key=12387&format=pdf>.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-09-21
Reported, H. Primary & Secondary Education	05-26-21
Passed House (94-0)	06-10-21

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² See R.C. 3313.618, not in the bill.