



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 202

PRINTERS NO. 161

PRIME SPONSOR: Turzai

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2016/17	FY 2017/18
General Fund	\$0	See "Fiscal Impact" below.

SUMMARY:

House Bill 202 amends the Public School Code concerning Keystone Exams. It would take effect immediately.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 202 eliminates the statutory requirement for the development and implementation of Keystone Exams in English Composition, Algebra II, Geometry, U.S. History, Chemistry, Civics and Government, and World History.

The legislation also changes the requirements for passing a Keystone Exam for high school graduation as they apply to vocational education students. If a vocational education student failed to achieve proficiency on a Keystone Exam, the student would be deemed proficient for graduation purposes if the student completed locally established grade-based requirements for academic content areas associated with each exam. In addition, the student would need to demonstrate proficiency on an assessment in his or her area of study. This could be by attaining an industry-based competency certification related to the student's program of study, or by demonstrating a high likelihood of success on an approved industry-based competency assessment or readiness for continued meaningful engagement in the student's program of study as demonstrated by performance on benchmark assessments, course grades, and other factors consistent with the student's goals and career plan.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds. Under current law, the requirement to develop the Keystone Exams is subject to annual appropriation for that purpose. Therefore, enactment of this legislation could save the Commonwealth money if the Governor and General Assembly would have appropriated money for this purpose.

PREPARED BY: Jeff Miller
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: March 13, 2017

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.