

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 564

Sponsor: REPRESENTATIVE ENGLISH

Printer's No. 589

1 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 5 and 6, by striking out "civics
2 test graduation requirement" and inserting
3 assessment of civic knowledge

4 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 12 through 16; page 2, lines 1
5 through 30; page 3, lines 1 through 22; by striking out all of
6 said lines on said pages and inserting

7 Section 1605.1. Assessment of Civic Knowledge.--(a)
8 Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, each school entity:

9 (1) Shall administer at least once to students during grades
10 seven through twelve a locally developed assessment of United
11 States history, government and civics that includes the nature,
12 purpose, principles and structure of United States
13 constitutional democracy, the principles, operations and
14 documents of United States government and the rights and
15 responsibilities of citizenship. Each school entity shall
16 determine the form of the assessment and the manner in which the
17 assessment shall be administered and may administer the
18 assessment at the conclusion of the course of study required
19 under section 1605(a) or at the conclusion of another related
20 course or instructional unit. A school entity may use the United
21 States Citizenship and Immigration Services Test to satisfy the
22 requirements of this paragraph.

23 (2) Shall issue a certificate of recognition to students who
24 attain a passing grade on the assessment administered under
25 paragraph (1).

26 (b) The department shall:

27 (1) Within twelve (12) months of the effective date of this
28 section, post on its publicly accessible Internet website links
29 to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Test
30 and any related resources offered by the United States
31 Citizenship and Immigration Services. The department shall also
32 post on its publicly accessible Internet website any additional
33 materials that the department deems useful to school entities in
34 complying with the requirements in this section.

35 (2) Conduct an electronic survey of each school entity at

1 the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year and at the
2 conclusion of every second school year thereafter requesting
3 information concerning compliance with the requirements of this
4 section. Each school entity shall respond to the survey no later
5 than November 30 following the school year for which the survey
6 is conducted. The survey shall only request the following
7 information for the immediately preceding school year:

8 (i) The format of the assessment administered as required
9 under subsection (a)(1).

10 (ii) The total number of students who took the assessment.

11 (iii) The total number of students who attained a passing
12 grade on the assessment.

13 (iv) The grade level or levels in which the assessment was
14 administered.

15 (v) The course or courses in which the assessment was
16 administered.

17 (3) By January 1 of the year following the school year for
18 which the survey is conducted, make the data collected from the
19 surveys conducted under paragraph (2) available on its publicly
20 accessible Internet website.

21 (c) A student with an individualized education program shall
22 not be required to take the assessment administered under
23 subsection (a)(1) if the provisions of the student's
24 individualized education program indicate otherwise.

25 (d) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
26 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless
27 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

28 "Department" shall mean the Department of Education of the
29 Commonwealth.

30 "Individualized education program" shall mean a written
31 statement for each child with a disability that is developed,
32 reviewed or revised in a meeting in accordance with the
33 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (Public Law 91-230,
34 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.) and 22 Pa. Code Ch. 14 (relating to
35 special education services and programs).

36 "School entity" shall mean a school district, area
37 vocational-technical school, intermediate unit, charter school,
38 cyber charter school or regional charter school.

39 "United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Test"
40 shall mean the one hundred (100) question civics test used by
41 the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.