

HOUSE BILL 548

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7lr2681
CF 7lr2444

By: **Delegates Shoemaker, D. Barnes, Ebersole, Hornberger, Kittleman, McComas,
Morgan, Rose, and Tarlau**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2017

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Prekindergarten Student Assessment – Moratorium**

3 FOR the purpose of placing a moratorium on the assessment of prekindergarten students
4 until a certain audit of the pilot year of the assessment results in certain
5 determinations; and generally relating to a moratorium on the assessment of
6 prekindergarten students.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Education

9 Section 7–210

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Education**

15 7–210.

16 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a statewide kindergarten
17 assessment that is administered with the purpose of measuring school readiness:

18 (1) Shall be limited to a representative sample, as determined by the
19 Department, of kindergarten students from within each local school system in the State;
20 and

21 (2) May include an evaluation of:

22 (i) Language and literacy skills;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) Academic knowledge in mathematics, science, and social studies;

2 (iii) Physical development; and

3 (iv) Social development.

4 (b) A principal and a teacher who are in mutual agreement, or a county board,
5 may administer a statewide kindergarten assessment with the purpose of measuring school
6 readiness if:

7 (1) The assessment is completed on or before October 1; and

8 (2) The aggregate results are returned within 45 days after administration
9 of the assessment.

10 (c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a statewide
11 kindergarten assessment may not be administered to an enrolled prekindergarten student.

12 (2) **[A] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION,** A statewide
13 kindergarten assessment may be administered to an enrolled prekindergarten student by
14 a school psychologist or other school-based professional who intends to use the results in
15 order to identify a disability.

16 **(D) (1) A MORATORIUM SHALL BE PLACED ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF**
17 **THE EARLY LEARNING ASSESSMENT FOR ENROLLED PREKINDERGARTEN STUDENTS**
18 **UNTIL:**

19 **(I) A COMPLETE AUDIT OF THE 2016–2017 PILOT YEAR OF THE**
20 **EARLY LEARNING ASSESSMENT IS CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH**
21 **(2) OF THIS SUBSECTION; AND**

22 **(II) THE AUDIT RESULTS IN A DETERMINATION THAT THE**
23 **EARLY LEARNING ASSESSMENT IS VALID AND RELIABLE AND IS CONSISTENT WITH**
24 **THE PURPOSE OF INFORMING INSTRUCTION AND TARGETING INTERVENTIONS AND**
25 **SUPPORTS.**

26 **(2) AN AUDIT OF THE 2016–2017 PILOT YEAR OF THE EARLY**
27 **LEARNING ASSESSMENT SHALL BE CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE:**

28 **(I) WHETHER THE ASSESSMENT PROVIDES ACTIONABLE**
29 **FEEDBACK TO STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND EDUCATORS IN A FORMAT THAT HELPS**
30 **EDUCATORS IMPROVE THEIR PRACTICE, ENCOURAGES POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS**
31 **BETWEEN THE PARTIES, AND HELPS INFORM INSTRUCTION FOR EDUCATORS;**

1 **(II) WHETHER EDUCATORS AND ADMINISTRATORS USE**
2 **ASSESSMENT DATA TO IMPROVE AND DIFFERENTIATE INSTRUCTION;**

3 **(III) WHETHER THERE IS ANY REDUNDANCY OR DUPLICATION**
4 **WITH ASSESSMENTS ALREADY REQUIRED AT THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL**
5 **LEVELS;**

6 **(IV) THE AMOUNT OF TIME TEACHERS SPEND ADMINISTERING,**
7 **COLLECTING, AND ENTERING DATA;**

8 **(V) THE WORKLOAD IMPACT ON EDUCATORS;**

9 **(VI) THE TECHNOLOGY NEEDS OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR**
10 **CLASSROOM IN ORDER TO COLLECT AND ENTER DATA; AND**

11 **(VII) ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE INFORMATION.**

12 **[(d)] (E)** The Department shall adopt regulations to implement the
13 requirements of this section.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
15 1, 2017.