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By: Delegates Guyton and Luedtke

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Ways and Means

AN ACT concerning

## A BILL ENTITLED

**Graduation Requirements** 

2	State Board of Education - Public High School Students - Assessments and

FOR the purpose of requiring all public high school students to be assessed in a certain manner, subject to a certain limitation; requiring the State Board of Education to administer a certain assessment to certain students in certain school years; prohibiting the State Board from using the results of certain assessments for certain purposes; making conforming changes; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the administration of assessments and graduation requirements for public high school students.

- 11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 12 Article Education
- 13 Section 7–205.1
- 14 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 15 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)
- 16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

## 18 Article – Education

19 7–205.1.

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- 20 (a) The State Board shall establish high school curriculum and graduation 21 requirements for all public schools in accordance with this section.
- 22 (b) (1) [Beginning] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, 23 BEGINNING with the 2015–2016 school year, all students shall be assessed using 24 acceptable college placement cut scores no later than 11th grade to determine whether the



- student is ready for college-level credit-bearing course work in English Language Arts, Literacy, and Mathematics.
- 3 (2) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Department, 4 in collaboration with local school systems and public community colleges, shall develop and 5 implement, by the 2016–2017 school year, transition courses or other instructional 6 opportunities to be delivered in the 12th grade to students who have not achieved college 7 and career readiness by the end of the 11th grade.
- 8 (ii) The implementation of transition courses or other instructional 9 opportunities required under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph:
- 10 1. Shall include an assessment or reassessment of the student after completion of the course; and
- 12 2. May not preclude or replace enrollment in a course 13 otherwise required for graduation from high school.
- 14 (c) (1) Beginning with the 9th grade class of 2014, and subject to paragraph 15 (2) of this subsection and subsection (e) of this section, each student shall enroll in a 16 mathematics course in each year of high school that the student attends high school.
- 17 (2) The Department shall adopt regulations that establish the 18 mathematics and math-related courses that fulfill the requirements of this subsection, 19 which may include math-related career and technology program courses.
- 20 (d) It is the goal of the State that all students achieve mathematics competency 21 in Algebra II.
- 22 (e) A student who is enrolled in a credit—bearing mathematics transition course 23 under subsection (b)(2) of this section:
- 24 (1) Subject to item (2) of this subsection, shall be considered to meet the 25 requirements of subsection (c) of this section; and
- 26 (2) May not be considered to meet the requirements of subsection (c) of this section if other credit—bearing courses required for graduation have not been met.
- 28 (F) (1) IN THE 2019–2020 SCHOOL YEAR, THE STATE BOARD:
- 29 (I) SHALL ADMINISTER AN ASSESSMENT INTENDED TO MEET 30 THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION ONLY TO A 31 REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE STATE; AND

- 1 (II) MAY NOT USE THE ASSESSMENT ADMINISTERED UNDER 2 ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH TO EVALUATE A STUDENT IN ANY WAY FOR 3 GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL.
- 4 (2) IN THE 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR, THE STATE BOARD:
- 5 (I) SHALL ADMINISTER THE ASSESSMENT DESCRIBED UNDER 6 PARAGRAPH (1)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO ALL PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN 7 THE STATE; AND
- 8 (II) MAY NOT USE THE ASSESSMENT ADMINISTERED UNDER 9 ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH TO EVALUATE A STUDENT IN ANY WAY FOR 10 GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL.
- 11 **[**(f)**] (G)** The Department may adopt regulations to require the award of credit toward high school graduation requirements for the time a student spends participating in:
- 13 (1) A registered apprenticeship program approved by the Division of 14 Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Department of Labor, Licensing, 15 and Regulation; or
- 16 (2) A youth apprenticeship program under Title 18, Subtitle 18 of this 17 article.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2021, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.