

# SENATE BILL 787

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By: **Senator Madaleno**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Federal Innovative Assessments Pilot Program – Application**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education to apply to the United  
4 States Department of Education to participate in a certain federal pilot program; and  
5 generally relating to the federal innovative assessments pilot program.

6 Preamble

7 WHEREAS, On December 10, 2015, President Obama signed legislation that  
8 reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as the Every Student  
9 Succeeds Act (ESSA); and

10 WHEREAS, ESSA includes many PreK–12 education priorities that are intended to  
11 ensure all students have access to a high–quality education that will prepare them to  
12 succeed in careers, college, and life; and

13 WHEREAS, While ESSA maintains the same requirements for states to have  
14 challenging academic standards and assessments in reading, math, and science as ESEA  
15 did, ESSA moves away from the notion that standardized tests are the only method of  
16 measuring student success; and

17 WHEREAS, ESSA focuses on innovation in education, including giving states the  
18 flexibility to move towards a more innovative and learner–centered approach to assessing  
19 students than under ESEA; and

20 WHEREAS, ESSA includes a provision that allows seven states to participate in a  
21 pilot program to develop new, high–quality innovative assessment systems, including  
22 competency–based and performance–based assessments; now, therefore,

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
24 That the Maryland State Department of Education shall apply to participate in the United

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 States Department of Education's pilot program to develop, test, implement, and evaluate  
2 innovative assessment systems that could be scaled up to partial or full statewide  
3 administration and focus on education models that are aligned with new approaches for  
4 teaching and learning that allow for differentiated student support based on individual  
5 learning needs.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
7 1, 2016.