

# SENATE BILL 667

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7lr2444  
CF HB 548

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By: **Senator Jennings**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2017

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 14, 2017

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purpose of placing a moratorium on ~~the~~ a certain assessment of prekindergarten  
4 students 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:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

4 (2) May include an evaluation of:

5 (i) Language and literacy skills;

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

7 (iii) Physical development; and

8 (iv) Social development.

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

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

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

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

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

21 **(D) (1) A MORATORIUM SHALL BE PLACED ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF**  
22 **THE MANDATORY EARLY LEARNING ASSESSMENT FOR ENROLLED**  
23 **PREKINDERGARTEN STUDENTS UNTIL:**

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

27 **(II) THE AUDIT RESULTS IN A DETERMINATION THAT THE**  
28 **EARLY LEARNING ASSESSMENT IS VALID AND RELIABLE AND IS CONSISTENT WITH**  
29 **THE PURPOSE OF INFORMING INSTRUCTION AND TARGETING INTERVENTIONS AND**  
30 **SUPPORTS.**

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

1 (I) WHETHER THE ASSESSMENT PROVIDES ACTIONABLE  
2 FEEDBACK TO STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND EDUCATORS IN A FORMAT THAT HELPS  
3 EDUCATORS IMPROVE THEIR PRACTICE, ENCOURAGES POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS  
4 BETWEEN THE PARTIES, AND HELPS INFORM INSTRUCTION FOR EDUCATORS;

5 (II) WHETHER EDUCATORS AND ADMINISTRATORS USE  
6 ASSESSMENT DATA TO IMPROVE AND DIFFERENTIATE INSTRUCTION;

7 (III) WHETHER THERE IS ANY REDUNDANCY OR DUPLICATION  
8 WITH ASSESSMENTS ALREADY REQUIRED AT THE FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL  
9 LEVELS;

10 (IV) THE AMOUNT OF TIME TEACHERS SPEND ADMINISTERING,  
11 COLLECTING, AND ENTERING DATA;

12 (V) THE WORKLOAD IMPACT ON EDUCATORS;

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

15 (VII) ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE INFORMATION.

16 [(d)] (E) The Department shall adopt regulations to implement the  
17 requirements of this section.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
19 1, 2017.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.