



WORKING DRAFT

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2015

LCO No. 8352



Offered by:
SEN. SLOSSBERG, 14th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1095

File No. 639

Cal. No. 359

"AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENTS ASSESSMENTS."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a Mastery
4 Examination Committee within the Department of Education.
5 Membership of the committee shall consist of the following: (1) The
6 Commissioner of Education and the president of the Board of Regents
7 for Higher Education, or their designees, (2) one representative from
8 the State Board of Education, (3) one representative and one
9 practitioner from each of the following associations, designated by the
10 association, the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, the
11 Connecticut Association of Schools, the Connecticut Association of
12 Public School Superintendents, the Connecticut Education Association,
13 the Connecticut Parent Teacher Association and the American
14 Federation of Teachers-Connecticut, and (4) persons selected by the
15 Commissioner of Education who shall include, but shall not be limited

16 to, teachers, persons with expertise in performance evaluation
17 processes and systems and any other person the commissioner deems
18 appropriate.

19 (b) The committee shall examine (1) the impact of the state-wide
20 mastery examination on teaching, students and student learning time,
21 (2) the administration of the state-wide mastery examination on
22 computers or other devices, (3) whether the state-wide mastery
23 examination is an appropriate student assessment, (4) whether the
24 state-wide mastery examination (A) responds to student needs, (B)
25 offers accommodations for students with disabilities and students who
26 are English language learners, (C) informs teachers of student
27 progress, (D) aligns with curriculum standards adopted by the State
28 Board of Education, and (E) complies with the requirements of federal
29 law, (5) the feasibility of decreasing the amount of time required to
30 complete the state-wide mastery examination by using alternative
31 formats or alternative methods of delivery, and (6) ways to facilitate
32 timely communication between the State Board of Education and local
33 and regional boards of education with regard to the state-wide
34 mastery examination.

35 (c) Not later than January 15, 2017, the committee shall submit a
36 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
37 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
38 relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-
39 4a of the general statutes.

40 (d) The committee shall terminate on the date that it submits such
41 report or January 15, 2017, whichever is later.

42 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) To the extent permitted by
43 federal law or the terms of a federal waiver of the Elementary and
44 Secondary Education Act of 1965, 20 USC 6301, et seq., as amended
45 from time to time, as it relates to the grade eleven mastery examination
46 requirement pursuant to section 10-14n of the general statutes, as

47 amended by this act, not later than January 1, 2016, the State Board of
48 Education, in consultation with the Mastery Examination Committee,
49 established pursuant to section 1 of this act, shall enter into an
50 agreement with a provider of a nationally recognized college readiness
51 assessment for the provision and administration of such college
52 readiness assessment as part of such grade eleven mastery
53 examination requirement, provided such college readiness assessment
54 offers accommodations for students with disabilities and students who
55 are English language learners.

56 Sec. 3. Section 10-14n of the general statutes is repealed and the
57 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage and*
58 *applicable on and after the effective date of an agreement between the State*
59 *Board of Education and a provider of a nationally recognized college readiness*
60 *assessment for the provision and administration of a college readiness*
61 *assessment as part of the grade eleven mastery examination requirement*):

62 (a) As used in this section, "mastery examination" means (1) for
63 students enrolled in grades three to eight, inclusive, an examination or
64 examinations, approved by the State Board of Education, that
65 [measure] measures essential and grade-appropriate skills in reading,
66 writing [,] or mathematics, [or science] (2) for students enrolled in
67 grades five, eight and ten, an examination, approved by the State
68 Board of Education, that measures essential and grade-appropriate
69 skills in science, and (3) for students enrolled in grade eleven, a
70 nationally recognized college readiness assessment, approved by the
71 State Board of Education, that measures essential and grade-
72 appropriate skills in reading, writing and mathematics.

73 (b) (1) For the school year commencing July 1, [2013] 2015, and each
74 school year thereafter, each student enrolled in grades three to eight,
75 inclusive, and grade [ten or] eleven in any public school shall,
76 annually, take a mastery examination in reading, writing and
77 mathematics during the regular school day.

78 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2013, and each school
79 year thereafter, each student enrolled in [grade] grades five, eight []
80 and ten [or eleven] in any public school shall, annually, in March or
81 April, take a state-wide mastery examination in science during the
82 regular school day.

83 (c) (1) Mastery examinations, as defined in subdivision (1) of
84 subsection (a) of this section, given to students enrolled in grades three
85 to eight, inclusive, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this
86 section, shall be provided by and administered under the supervision
87 of the State Board of Education.

88 (2) Mastery examinations, as defined in subdivision (2) of subsection
89 (a) of this section, given to students enrolled in grade five, eight or ten,
90 pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, shall be
91 provided by and administered under the supervision of the State
92 Board of Education.

93 (3) Mastery examinations, as defined in subdivision (3) of subsection
94 (a) of this section, given to students enrolled in grade eleven, pursuant
95 to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, shall be paid for by
96 the State Board of Education and administered by the provider of such
97 nationally recognized college readiness assessment in accordance with
98 the provisions of the agreement between the state board and such
99 provider, pursuant to section 2 of this act.

100 (d) The scores on each component of the mastery examination, as
101 defined in subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section, for each
102 [tenth or] eleventh grade student may be included on the permanent
103 record and transcript of each such student who takes such
104 examination. For each [tenth or] eleventh grade student who meets or
105 exceeds the state-wide mastery goal level on any component of the
106 mastery examination, a certification of having met or exceeded such
107 goal level shall be made on the permanent record and the transcript of
108 each such student and such student shall be issued a certificate of

109 mastery for such component. [Each tenth or eleventh grade student
 110 who fails to meet the mastery goal level on each component of said
 111 mastery examination may annually take or retake each such
 112 component at its regular administration until such student scores at or
 113 above each such state-wide mastery goal level or such student
 114 graduates or reaches age twenty-one.]

115 (e) No public school may require achievement of a satisfactory score
 116 on a mastery examination, or any subsequent retest on a component of
 117 such examination as the sole criterion of promotion or graduation."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage and applicable on and after the effective date of an agreement between the State Board of Education and a provider of a nationally recognized college readiness assessment for the provision and administration of a college readiness assessment as part of the grade eleven mastery examination requirement</i>	10-14n