

ESEA IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS

S.1177 Every Student Succeeds Act

Dec. 14, 2015

Topic:	INNOVATION
Subtopic:	Competency-Based Assessments Pilot
Description of the issue	Provisions related to a pilot program that would allow a limited number of states to use competency-based assessments as part of the accountability system.
S.1177 Every Student Succeeds Act	<p>The Senate provisions were maintained in the Conference report (see below)</p> <p>Includes Secretarial authority to provide up to seven states initial authority (with potential of expansion) to carry out innovative assessments such as competency-based, cumulative, year-end assessments.</p> <p>This pilot would enable states, or a consortium of states, to submit a proposal for an alternative assessment system to the U.S. Department of Education for approval. Once approved, a state would begin to implement its new assessment system either statewide or with an initial group of districts and would incorporate that performance data into the state's accountability system.</p> <p>The proposal would enable states to build a system of assessments that validates student mastery and generates information to improve learning in real-time. This system could incorporate a combination of summative, interim, formative, performance-based and high-quality local assessments.</p> <p>States would be required to demonstrate that new assessments are comparable, valid, reliable, of high technical quality, and consistent with relevant, nationally recognized professional and technical standards.</p>
Subtopic:	21st Century Skills
Description of the issue	Provisions that would increase state's ability to prioritize students learning skills necessary for a 21 st century workforce that are often hard to measure, such as collaboration, creativity and problem solving.
S.1177 Every Student Succeeds Act	<p>States annually measure and report on several indicators that are factors in a state's accountability determinations. These indicators are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Achievement of all students and subgroups of students toward meeting goals using student achievement on state tests (which may include measures of growth); 2. A statewide elementary/middle school academic indicator that is the same for all students and each subgroup of students; 3. High school graduation (based on four-year adjusted cohort rates and may include an extended-year rate at state discretion); 4. English language proficiency of English learners; and 5. Another valid and reliable indicator of school quality, success or student supports, as determined appropriate by the state and that is applied to all LEAs and schools in the state, which may include: student readiness for

	<p>postsecondary education or the workforce; career and technical education attainment, performance on college admissions exams and measures of college credit accumulations, student engagement; educator engagement; student, parent and teacher survey results; school climate and safety data; access to or success in advanced coursework; and other state-determined measures.</p>
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