



Bill Number: H.B. 2425

Crandall Floor Amendment

Reference to: House engrossed bill

Amendment drafted by: Leg Council

FLOOR AMENDMENT EXPLANATION

- **Repeals a requirement that the State Board of Education (Board) develop and adopt competency tests for the graduation of pupils from high school.**
- **Repeals the mandate that the Board adopt and implement a nationally standardized norm-referenced achievement test.**
- **Requires English Language Learners in public schools to be subject to the Board's assessment policies.**

Amendment explanation prepared by Kody Kelleher

3/21/2013

CRANDALL FLOOR AMENDMENT
SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.B. 2425
(Reference to House engrossed bill)

1 Page 1, between lines 1 and 2, insert:

2 "Section 1. Section 15-701.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-701.01. High school; graduation; requirements; community
5 college or university courses; transfer from
6 private schools; academic credit

7 A. The state board of education shall:

8 1. Prescribe a minimum course of study, as defined in section 15-101
9 and incorporating the academic standards adopted by the state board of
10 education, for the graduation of pupils from high school.

11 2. Prescribe competency requirements for the graduation of pupils from
12 high school incorporating the academic standards in at least the areas of
13 reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies.

14 3. Develop and adopt competency tests pursuant to section
15 15-741. ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS WHO ARE SUBJECT TO ARTICLE 3.1 OF THIS
16 CHAPTER ARE SUBJECT TO THE ASSESSMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-741. ~~for the~~
17 ~~graduation of pupils from high school in at least the areas of reading,~~
18 ~~writing and mathematics and shall establish passing scores for each such~~
19 ~~test. For the purposes of satisfying the graduation requirements of this~~
20 ~~paragraph, a minimum score as determined by the state board of education on~~
21 ~~one or more nationally recognized college entrance examinations selected by~~
22 ~~the state board of education, if examination information may be accessed at~~
23 ~~no cost to this state, may be substituted for passing scores on the Arizona~~
24 ~~instrument to measure standards test for a pupil who is in grade twelve. For~~
25 ~~the purposes of satisfying the graduation requirements of this paragraph, a~~
26 ~~score as determined by the state board of education on a board examination~~
27 ~~prescribed in article 6 of this chapter may be substituted for passing scores~~

1 ~~on the Arizona instrument to measure standards test if a pupil who is in~~
2 ~~grade twelve has previously taken the board examination and has not achieved~~
3 ~~the minimum score required to be eligible for a Grand Canyon diploma. A~~
4 ~~pupil shall not be required to pass the competency test required in this~~
5 ~~paragraph to graduate from high school if the pupil transfers into the~~
6 ~~district from out-of-state and has successfully passed a statewide assessment~~
7 ~~test on state adopted standards that are substantially equivalent to the~~
8 ~~state board adopted academic standards.~~

9 ~~B. If the state board of education adopts a competency test as a~~
10 ~~graduation requirement for a child with a disability as defined in section~~
11 ~~15-761 or a child who receives special education pursuant to section 15-763,~~
12 ~~pupils with individualized education programs shall not be required to~~
13 ~~achieve passing scores on competency tests in order to graduate from high~~
14 ~~school unless the pupil is learning at a level appropriate for the pupil's~~
15 ~~grade level in a specific academic area and unless passing scores on a~~
16 ~~competency test are specifically required in a specific academic area by the~~
17 ~~pupil's individualized education program as mutually agreed on by the pupil's~~
18 ~~parents and the pupil's individualized education program team or the pupil,~~
19 ~~if the pupil is at least eighteen years of age. These competency tests shall~~
20 ~~be administered to pupils in a manner prescribed in the pupil's~~
21 ~~individualized education program, and school districts and charter schools~~
22 ~~shall make specific and appropriate accommodations for pupils with~~
23 ~~individualized education programs. Pupils with section 504 plans as defined~~
24 ~~in section 15-731 shall not be required to achieve passing scores on~~
25 ~~competency tests in order to graduate from high school unless the pupil is~~
26 ~~learning at a level appropriate for the pupil's grade level in a specific~~
27 ~~academic area and unless passing scores on a competency test are specifically~~
28 ~~required in a specific academic area by the pupil's section 504 plan that is~~
29 ~~developed in consultation with the pupil's parents. These competency tests~~
30 ~~shall be administered to pupils in a manner prescribed in the pupil's section~~
31 ~~504 plan, and school districts and charter schools shall make specific and~~
32 ~~appropriate accommodations for pupils with a section 504 plan. A pupil with~~

~~an individualized education program or a section 504 plan who graduates from high school but who is not required to achieve a passing score on a competency test in order to graduate from high school shall receive the standard diploma issued by the school district or charter school.~~

~~C.~~ B. The governing board of a school district shall:

1. Prescribe curricula that include the academic standards in the required subject areas pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 1 of this section.

2. Prescribe criteria for the graduation of pupils from the high schools in the school district. These criteria shall include accomplishment of the academic standards in at least reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies, as determined by district assessment. Other criteria may include additional measures of academic achievement and attendance.

~~D.~~ C. The governing board may prescribe the course of study and competency requirements for the graduation of pupils from high school that are in addition to or higher than the course of study and competency requirements ~~which~~ THAT the state board prescribes.

~~E.~~ D. The governing board may prescribe competency requirements for the passage of pupils in courses that are required for graduation from high school.

~~F.~~ E. A teacher shall determine whether to pass or fail a pupil in a course in high school as provided in section 15-521, paragraph ~~3~~ 4 on the basis of the competency requirements, if any have been prescribed. The governing board, if it reviews the decision of a teacher to pass or fail a pupil in a course in high school as provided in section 15-342, paragraph 11, shall base its decision on the competency requirements, if any have been prescribed.

~~G.~~ F. Graduation requirements established by the governing board may be met by a pupil who passes courses in the required or elective subjects at a community college or university, if the course is at a higher level than the course taught in the high school attended by the pupil or, if the course is not taught in the high school, the level of the course is equal to or higher than the level of a high school course. The governing board shall

1 determine if the subject matter of the community college or university course
2 is appropriate to the specific requirement the pupil intends it to fulfill
3 and if the level of the community college or university course is less than,
4 equal to or higher than a high school course, and the governing board shall
5 award one-half of a carnegie unit for each three semester hours of credit the
6 pupil earns in an appropriate community college or university course. If a
7 pupil is not satisfied with the decision of the governing board regarding the
8 amount of credit granted or the subjects for which credit is granted, the
9 pupil may request that the state board of education review the decision of
10 the governing board, and the state board shall make the final determination
11 of the amount of credit to be given the pupil and for which subjects. The
12 governing board shall not limit the number of credits that is required for
13 high school graduation and that may be met by taking community college or
14 university courses. For the purposes of this subsection:

15 1. "Community college" means an educational institution that is
16 operated by a community college district as defined in section 15-1401 or a
17 postsecondary educational institution under the jurisdiction of an Indian
18 tribe recognized by the United States department of the interior.

19 2. "University" means a university under the jurisdiction of the
20 Arizona board of regents.

21 ~~H.~~ G. A pupil who transfers from a private school shall be provided
22 with a list that indicates those credits that have been accepted and denied
23 by the school district. A pupil may request to take an examination in each
24 particular course in which credit has been denied. The school district shall
25 accept the credit for each particular course in which the pupil takes an
26 examination and receives a passing score on a test designed and evaluated by
27 a teacher in the school district who teaches the subject matter on which the
28 examination is based. In addition to the above requirements, the governing
29 board of a school district may prescribe requirements for the acceptance of
30 the credits of pupils who transfer from a private school.

31 ~~H.~~ H. If a pupil who was previously enrolled in a charter school or
32 school district enrolls in a school district in this state, the school

1 district shall accept credits earned by the pupil in courses or instructional
2 programs at the charter school or school district. The governing board of a
3 school district may adopt a policy concerning the application of transfer
4 credits for the purpose of determining whether a credit earned by a pupil who
5 was previously enrolled in a school district or charter school will be
6 assigned as an elective or core credit.

7 ~~I.~~ I. A pupil who transfers from a charter school or school district
8 shall be provided with a list that indicates which credits have been accepted
9 as an elective credit and which credits have been accepted as a core credit
10 by the school district. Within ten school days after receiving the list, a
11 pupil may request to take an examination in each particular course in which
12 core credit has been denied. The school district shall accept the credit as
13 a core credit for each particular course in which the pupil takes an
14 examination and receives a passing score on a test designed and evaluated by
15 a teacher in the school district who teaches the subject matter on which the
16 examination is based.

17 ~~K.~~ J. The state board of education shall adopt rules to allow high
18 school pupils who can demonstrate competency in a particular academic course
19 or subject to obtain academic credit for the course or subject without
20 enrolling in the course or subject.

21 ~~L.~~ K. Pupils who earn a Grand Canyon diploma pursuant to article 6 of
22 this chapter are exempt from the graduation requirements prescribed in this
23 section, ~~including the requirement that a pupil obtain passing scores on the~~
24 ~~Arizona instrument to measure standards test in order to graduate from high~~
25 ~~school~~. Pupils who earn a Grand Canyon diploma are entitled to all the
26 rights and privileges of persons who graduate with a high school diploma
27 issued pursuant to this section, including access to postsecondary
28 scholarships and other forms of student financial aid and access to all forms
29 of postsecondary education. Notwithstanding any other law, a pupil who is
30 eligible for a Grand Canyon diploma may elect to remain in high school
31 through grade twelve and shall not be prevented from enrolling at a high
32 school after the pupil becomes eligible for a Grand Canyon diploma. A pupil

1 who is eligible for a Grand Canyon diploma and who elects not to pursue one
2 of the options prescribed in section 15-792.03 may only be readmitted to that
3 high school or another high school in this state pursuant to policies adopted
4 by the school district of readmission.

5 Sec. 2. Repeal

6 Section 15-701.02, Arizona Revised Statutes, is repealed.

7 Sec. 3. Section 15-702, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

8 15-702. High school equivalency diploma; fees; rules

9 A. Any person who is sixteen years of age or older and who passes a
10 general educational development test shall be awarded an Arizona high school
11 equivalency diploma by the state board of education and the state
12 superintendent of public instruction. The state board of education may
13 establish eligibility requirements for persons wishing to take a general
14 educational development test, except that the minimum age required to take
15 the test may not be older than sixteen nor shall the board require the
16 completion of any high school credits.

17 B. A person who meets the minimum course of study and competency
18 requirements prescribed by the state board of education for graduation from
19 high school through a combination of high school credits and community
20 college and university credits, which are converted to high school credits in
21 the same manner as provided in section 15-701.01, subsection ~~E~~ F by the
22 governing board or the state board of education, shall be awarded an Arizona
23 high school equivalency diploma.

24 C. The state board of education may establish and collect fees for the
25 issuance and reissuance of the following:

- 26 1. A general equivalency diploma.
- 27 2. A general equivalency transcript.

28 D. The state board of education shall ~~develop~~ ADOPT rules for fee
29 waivers for the general equivalency diploma and general equivalency
30 transcripts.

1 Sec. 4. Section 15-741, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

2 15-741. Assessment of pupils

3 A. The state board of education shall:

4 1. Adopt rules for purposes of this article pursuant to title 41,
5 chapter 6.

6 2. Adopt and implement an Arizona instrument to measure standards test
7 to measure pupil achievement of the state board adopted academic standards in
8 reading, writing and mathematics in at least four grades designated by the
9 board. The board shall determine the manner of implementation. ~~The board
10 shall not require high school pupils to meet or exceed the standards measured
11 by the Arizona instrument to measure standards test in any standards other
12 than reading, writing and mathematics in order to graduate from high school.~~
13 The board may administer assessments of the academic standards in social
14 studies and science, except that a pupil shall not be required to meet or
15 exceed the social studies or science standards measured by the Arizona
16 instrument to measure standards test ~~in order to graduate from high school.~~

17 ~~3. Adopt and implement a statewide nationally standardized
18 norm-referenced achievement test in reading, language arts and mathematics,
19 except that the superintendent of public instruction may determine additional
20 grade levels for which pupils are tested. The tests shall be consistent with
21 the state standards and shall be administered during the spring of each year
22 between March 15 and May 1.~~

23 ~~4.~~ 3. Ensure that the tests prescribed in this section are uniform
24 throughout the state.

25 ~~5.~~ 4. Ensure that the tests prescribed in this section are able to be
26 scored in an objective manner and that the tests are not intended to advocate
27 any sectarian, partisan or denominational viewpoint.

28 ~~6. Ensure that the results of the nationally standardized
29 norm-referenced achievement tests established as provided in this article are
30 comparable to associated grade equivalents, percentiles and stanines derived
31 from a multistate sample.~~

1 ~~7.~~ 5. Include within its budget all costs pertaining to the tests
2 prescribed in this article. If sufficient monies are appropriated, the state
3 board may provide ~~norm-referenced~~ achievement test services to school
4 districts ~~which~~ THAT request assistance in testing pupils in grades
5 additional to those required by this section.

6 ~~8. Use subtests of the statewide nationally standardized~~
7 ~~norm-referenced achievement test as designated by the state board to assess~~
8 ~~pupils in reading, language arts and mathematics, at a level appropriate for~~
9 ~~their grade level.~~

10 ~~9.~~ 6. Survey teachers, principals and superintendents on achievement
11 related nontest indicators, including information on graduation rates by
12 ethnicity and dropout rates by ethnicity for each grade level. Before the
13 survey, the state board of education shall approve at a public meeting the
14 nontest indicators on which data will be collected. In conducting the survey
15 and collecting data, the state board of education shall not violate the
16 provisions of the family educational rights and privacy act (P.L. 93-380), as
17 amended, nor disclose personally identifiable information.

18 ~~10.~~ 7. Establish a fair and consistent method and standard by which
19 ~~norm-referenced~~ test scores from schools in a district may be evaluated
20 taking into consideration demographic data. The board shall establish
21 intervention strategies to assist schools with scores below the acceptable
22 standard. The board shall annually review district and school scores and
23 shall offer assistance to school districts in analyzing data and implementing
24 intervention strategies. The board shall use the adopted ~~norm-referenced~~
25 test and methods of data evaluation for a period of at least ten years.

26 ~~11.~~ 8. Participate in other assessments that provide national
27 comparisons as needed.

28 B. The ~~standardized norm-referenced~~ achievement tests adopted by the
29 state board as provided in subsection A OF THIS SECTION shall be given AT
30 LEAST annually. ~~The tests shall be administered over a one week period~~
31 ~~between March 15 and May 1.~~ Nontest indicator data and other information

1 shall be collected at the same time as the collection of ~~standardized~~
2 ~~norm-referenced~~ achievement test data.

3 C. Local school district governing boards shall:

4 1. Administer the tests prescribed in subsection A ~~OF THIS SECTION~~.

5 2. Survey teachers, principals and superintendents on achievement
6 related nontest indicator data as required by the state board, including
7 information related to district graduation and dropout rates. In conducting
8 the survey and collecting data, the governing board shall not violate the
9 provisions of the family educational rights and privacy act (P.L. 93-380), as
10 amended, nor disclose personally identifiable information.

11 D. Any additional assessments for high school pupils that are adopted
12 by the state board of education after ~~the effective date of this amendment to~~
13 ~~this section~~ ~~NOVEMBER 24, 2009~~ shall be designed to measure college and
14 career readiness of pupils.

15 E. A test for penmanship shall not be required pursuant to this
16 article.

17 Sec. 5. Repeal

18 Sections ~~15-744~~ and ~~15-747~~, Arizona Revised Statutes, are repealed."

19 Renumber to conform

20 Page 7, line 7, strike "This act applies" insert "Sections 15-756.01, 15-756.02,
21 15-756.03, 15-756.04 and 15-756.11, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by
22 this act, and section 11 of this act, relating to succession, apply"

23 Amend title to conform

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