

1 H.149

2 Introduced by Representatives Sharpe of Bristol, Cole of Burlington, Komline
3 of Dorset, Kupersmith of South Burlington, Manwaring of
4 Wilmington, Marcotte of Coventry, Masland of Thetford,
5 Nuovo of Middlebury, Stevens of Shoreham, Toleno of
6 Brattleboro, and Townsend of Randolph

7 Referred to Committee on

8 Date:

9 Subject: Education; standards-based performance assessment; secondary
10 school; graduation

11 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require
12 satisfactory completion of a standards-based performance assessment prior to
13 graduation from secondary school, to permit graduation beginning in January
14 of a student's junior year, and to allow a student who graduates prior to senior
15 year to continue to attend technical education and college preparatory classes
16 until age 25.

17 An act relating to requiring a standards-based performance assessment prior
18 to graduation from secondary school

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 165 is amended to read:

3 § 165. STANDARDS OF QUALITY FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS; EQUAL
4 EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES; STANDARDS-BASED
5 PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

6 * * *

7 (g) No publicly funded student attending a Vermont public school, an
8 independent school meeting school quality standards, or an approved
9 independent school shall meet the requirements for secondary school
10 graduation unless the student has satisfactorily completed a standards-based
11 performance assessment pursuant to this subsection.

12 (1) The Agency shall determine the nature and content of the
13 assessment, which shall be the minimum standard required for secondary
14 school graduation and which, at a minimum, shall include assessments for
15 mathematics, language arts, and science.

16 (2) A student who has satisfactorily completed the assessment shall be
17 eligible to graduate from secondary school beginning in January of the
18 student's junior year; provided, however, that a student who graduates prior to
19 senior year may attend technical education and college preparatory classes
20 available to students enrolled in that school until the student reaches the age
21 of 25.

1 (3) A student who does not satisfactorily complete the assessment shall
2 be provided additional opportunities to do so.

3 Sec. 2. IMPLEMENTATION

4 The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement this act on a
5 progressive basis by requiring that students graduating from secondary school
6 in 2015 and after shall either meet or exceed the “needs improvement”
7 threshold on at least two assessments and by gradually increasing the standards
8 for satisfactory completion of the standards-based performance assessment
9 until students graduating from secondary school in 2021 and after shall be
10 required to meet or exceed the “proficient” threshold on all mandated
11 assessments.

12 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2013 and shall apply to students
14 graduating from secondary school in 2015 and after.