



## **H.B. 190**

127th General Assembly  
(As Passed by the House)

**Reps. Hite, Bubb, Wagner, J. McGregor, Combs, Adams, Goodwin, Wagoner, Stebelton, Webster, Letson, Hottinger, Peterson, Latta, Huffman, Otterman, Okey, Setzer, Dyer, Patton, Lundy, Luckie, Garrison, Evans, Celeste, Heard, Collier, Schlichter, Brady, Aslanides, Bacon, Bolon, Boyd, Budish, Core, DeBose, Domenick, Fende, Fessler, Flowers, Gibbs, Goyal, J. Hagan, Harwood, Healy, Hughes, Koziura, Mallory, Mandel, Oelslager, Sayre, Schindel, D. Stewart, Sykes, Szollosi, B. Williams, Yuko, Zehringer**

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Revises the scheduling of the spring administration of the elementary achievement tests from no earlier than the week containing May 1, as under current law, to no earlier than the week containing April 24.
- Provides for the elementary achievement tests to be administered over a two-week period, instead of five consecutive days.
- Specifies the deadline for a school district or community school to submit achievement tests to the scoring company.

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### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

#### **Background on state achievement tests**

Each city, exempted village, and local school district and each community school is required to administer the state achievement tests to its students annually.<sup>1</sup> The following table shows the achievement tests given in each grade.

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<sup>1</sup> Students who attend a chartered nonpublic school with a scholarship awarded under the Educational Choice Scholarship Pilot Program or a public Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) school also must take the achievement tests (R.C. 3310.14 and 3326.14, neither section in the bill).

	Ohio Achievement Tests				
	Reading	Writing	Math	Science	Social Studies
<b>Grade 3</b>	X		X		
<b>Grade 4</b>	X	X	X		
<b>Grade 5</b>	X		X	X	X
<b>Grade 6</b>	X		X		
<b>Grade 7</b>	X	X	X		
<b>Grade 8</b>	X		X	X	X
<b>Grade 10</b>	X	X	X	X	X

The tenth-grade tests are known collectively as the Ohio Graduation Tests (or "OGT"). A student enrolled in a school district, community school, or chartered nonpublic school must pass all five areas of the OGT in order to qualify for a high school diploma. Also, based largely on student test scores on all achievement tests, the Department of Education annually rates the performance of each public school district and building, including most community schools.

**Spring administration dates for the elementary tests**

(R.C. 3301.0710(C)(1) and (2))

The State Board of Education selects the dates for administration of the achievement tests, within statutory parameters. Current law requires the spring administration of the *elementary*-level achievement tests (not the OGT) to begin no earlier than Monday of the week containing May 1. The third-grade reading test also must be given on a date prior to December 31.

The bill moves the earliest date for the spring elementary tests to Monday of the week containing April 24, rather than May 1. Therefore, the earliest possible administration date under the bill is April 19, instead of April 26. The bill does not affect the December administration of the third-grade reading test.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> The bill also does not affect the administration dates of the OGT, which must be no earlier than Monday of the week containing March 15 for 10th graders taking the test for the first time, and one date prior to December 31 and one date after December 31 but prior to March 31 for 11th and 12th graders re-taking a test (R.C. 3301.0710(C)(3)).

### **Duration of the testing period**

(R.C. 3301.0710(H)(3))

Current law specifies that, when the State Board designates the dates for the administration of all *elementary*-level achievement tests, the Board must require that the tests for each grade level be given on consecutive days. This provision applies to the spring and December administrations of the elementary tests, but apparently it does not apply to the OGT.

The bill removes this requirement and, instead, specifies that the Board must require the elementary tests to be given "over a period of two weeks."

### **Shipping date of elementary tests**

(R.C. 3301.0711(G)(1))

The bill establishes a deadline for school districts to submit the elementary achievement tests to the scoring company hired by the Department of Education and requires each district to designate one location for the collection of the tests prior to submission. Both of these provisions were previously enacted in Am. Sub. H.B. 119 of the 127th General Assembly (the biennial operating budget) and took effect June 30, 2007.

Under both current law and the bill, districts' submission deadlines depend on the size of their enrollment. Districts with a total enrollment of less than 2,500 must submit their tests by the Friday after all of the tests have been administered. Districts with enrollments of 2,500 or more, but less than 7,000, must submit their tests by the Monday after all of the tests have been administered. Districts with enrollments of 7,000 or more must submit their tests by the Tuesday after all of the tests have been administered.<sup>3</sup>

Since community schools are required to comply with the achievement testing law as if they were school districts,<sup>4</sup> it appears that the new graduated submission dates also apply to community schools. However, most community schools have enrollments that are smaller than 2,500 students.

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<sup>3</sup> Districts must submit tests administered during the make-up period, which is the nine days following the test's original administration date, by the Friday after the test is given.

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 3314.03(A)(11)(d), not in the bill.

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## **HISTORY**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DATE</b>
Introduced	04-26-07
Reported, H. Education	06-20-07
Passed House (97-0)	06-26-07

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