

House Bill 5

Coursework, Assessment and Accountability

Representative Jimmie Don Aycock

COURSEWORK

Provides flexibility for students to develop their talents and pursue their interests

- Creates one diploma that affords all students a variety of postsecondary opportunities. Students may earn an additional endorsement in one of four areas: STEM, Business and Industry, Public Services, and Arts and Humanities.
- Greatly expands course options and allows individual students more flexibility
- Allows districts to partner with community colleges and industry to develop rigorous courses that address workforce needs, provide technical training and count towards graduation
- Eliminates the requirement that all students must pass Algebra II and ELA III to receive a high school diploma
- Grants current ninth and tenth grade students the benefits of the new structure
- Allows all high school graduates to be eligible for automatic admission to Texas public four-year universities because all student graduate under the same diploma

ASSESSMENT

Reduces overreliance on standardized testing to evaluate student performance

- Reduces the number of end-of-course assessments from fifteen to five
- Allows students to meet their graduation assessment requirement by passing ELA II (reading and writing), Algebra I, biology and US History
- Eliminates the requirement that the end-of-course assessments determine fifteen percent of a student's course grade
- Establishes clear graduation requirements for students and parents by eliminating the cumulative score requirement
- Encourages college readiness by allowing satisfactory performance on Advanced Placement exams, SAT exams and the ACT to satisfy graduation requirements

ACCOUNTABILITY

Provides for meaningful and informative school ratings

- Evaluates schools on more measures than state standardized assessment
- Establishes a new three category rating system that evaluates schools on academic performance, financial performance and community and student engagement employing understandable labels of A, B, C, D and F
- Directs the agency and districts to release all three ratings at the same time to provide a clearer understanding of overall school performance
- Allows local communities to engage in the accountability process by requiring districts to set goals and evaluate performance locally in addition to state ratings