

April 3, 2003

**S 957. K-8 TESTING REFORM ACT OF 2003. TO MODIFY THE STATE SCHOOL TESTING PROGRAM.**

Requires that content standards developed under GS 115C-12 be measurable in grades 3 through 8 by nationally normed achievement tests, that tests adopted under GS 115C-174.11 for grades 3 through 8 be nationally normed achievement tests developed by a testing company, that these tests be administered for no more than 5 days in a school year, and that students who score below national average in reading or math for 8<sup>th</sup> grade be provided remedial instruction in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Repeals provisions related to study of testing before third grade. Establishes advisory committee to assist State Board of Education in test selection. Requires State Board of Education to contract with testing companies to provide broad accommodations and alternate methods of assessment for children in grades 3 through 8 consistent with individualized education plans required by federal law. Prohibits coordination or administration of testing program by guidance counselors. Prohibits administration of locally adopted standardized tests in addition to nationally normed achievement tests adopted by State Board for grades 3 through 8. Effective July 1, 2003; applies beginning with 2003-04 school year.

**Intro. by Apodaca, Rand, Tillman.**

Ref. to	GS 115C
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