March 24, 2005

S 987. K-8 TESTING REFORM ACT OF 2005. TO MODIFY THE STATE SCHOOL TESTING PROGRAM. Amends GS 115C-174.11(c) to provide that annual testing for grades three through twelve be designed to measure academic progress and that tests for grades three through eight be nationally normed achievement tests developed by a testing company. Provides for remedial instruction for students who score below the national average in reading or mathematics for eighth grade. Establishes advisory committee to assist State Board of Education with test selection, comprised of three member of the Senate appointed by President Pro Tem., three members of the House appointed by the Speaker, chair of State Board of Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction, one representative of higher education, one teacher and one parent appointed by the President Pro Tem., and one teacher certified in special education, one other teacher, and one parent appointed by the Speaker. Prohibits State Board of Education or local school administrative units from authorizing additional testing in grades three through eight. Requires State Board of Education to adopt rules prohibiting schools from using guidance counselors to coordinate or administer testing program for more than ten days during school year. Effective July 1, 2005, and applies beginning with 2005-06 school year.

Intro. by Apodaca.

Ref. to Education

**GS 115C**