

HOUSE BILL 358: School Performance Grade Scale

This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:Senate Education/Higher EducationDate:May 6, 2015Introduced by:Reps. L. Johnson, Horn, Holloway, ElmorePrepared by:Drupti Chauhan*Analysis of:First EditionCommittee Counsel

SUMMARY: House Bill 358 would extend the use of the 15-point scale for assignment of A-F school performance grades for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S450, as introduced by Sens. Tillman, Soucek, McInnis, which is currently in Rules and Operations of the Senate.]

CURRENT LAW: In general, school performance scores are calculated by adding the school achievement score and the school growth score and then converting the score to a 100-point scale. A-F school performance grades are assigned a corresponding letter grade based on a ten-point grading scale, as follows:

- A school performance score of at least 90 is a school performance grade of A.
- A school performance score of at least 80 is a school performance grade of B.
- A school performance score of at least 70 is a school performance grade of C.
- A school performance score of at least 60 is a school performance grade of D.
- A school performance score of less than 60 is a school performance grade of F.

S.L. 2014-5 changed the scale for calculating A-F school performance grades from a ten-point scale to a 15-point scale for the 2013-2014 school year, as follows:

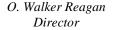
- A school performance score of at least 85 is a school performance grade of A.
- A school performance score of at least 70 is a school performance grade of B.
- A school performance score of at least 55 is a school performance grade of C.
- A school performance score of at least 40 is a school performance grade of D.
- A school performance score of less than 40 is a school performance grade of F.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 358 would extend the use of the 15-point scale for assignment of A-F school performance grades for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would become effective when it becomes law.

BACKGROUND: Under current law, the State Board of Education (SBE) must award school achievement, growth, and performance scores and an associated A-F performance grade for every school.

*Denise Adams, Committee Analyst, contributed significantly to this summary.





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- School achievement scores are calculated to reflect student performance on annual indicators that
 include subject-specific assessments, college and workplace readiness measures, and graduation
 rates.
- School growth scores are calculated by weighing student growth, using EVAAS, on achievement indicators to see which schools have met, exceeded, or not met expected growth.
- School performance scores are calculated by adding the school achievement score and the school growth score earned by a school. The school achievement score accounts for 80% and the school growth score accounts for 20% of the total sum. If a school has met expected growth and the inclusion of the school's growth score would reduce the school's performance score, a school may choose to use the school achievement score as the sole measure to calculate the performance score. The performance score is converted to a 100-point scale and assigned a corresponding letter grade of A-F based on 10-point grading scale.