



HOUSE BILL 358: School Performance Grade Scale

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - K-12	Date:	March 31, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. L. Johnson, Horn, Holloway, Elmore	Prepared by:	Denise Adams
Analysis of:	First Edition		Legislative Analyst

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.

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House Bill 358

Page 2

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.

- School achievement scores are calculated to reflect student performance on annual indicators, including 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.