



HOUSE BILL 439: Competency-Based Assessments

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

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - K-12	Date:	April 21, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. S. Martin, Horn, Bryan	Prepared by:	Drupti Chauhan
Analysis of:	First Edition		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *House Bill 439 would establish the intent of the General Assembly to transition to a system of testing that uses competency-based learning assessments for public schools students in the State.*

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S530, as introduced by Sen. Soucek, which is currently in Rules and Operations of the Senate.]

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 1 of House Bill 439 provides that it is the intent of the General Assembly that the State transition to a system of testing and assessments for all public school students that uses competency-based learning assessments to measure student performance and student growth when practicable. This competency-based student assessment system should provide that:

- Students advance upon mastery.
- Competencies are broken down into explicit and measurable learning objectives.
- Assessment is meaningful for students.
- Students receive differentiated support based on their learning needs.
- Learning outcomes emphasize competencies that include the application and creation of knowledge.

Section 2 of the bill encourages the State Board of Education to evaluate the feasibility of integrating competency-based assessments for use in local school administrative units and as part of the statewide testing system for measuring student performance and student growth. The State Board may examine competency-based assessments in other states, including potential benefits and obstacles to implementing similar systems in North Carolina along with the relationship between competency-based assessments and innovative teaching methods used in the State's school such as blended learning models and digital teaching tools.

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

O. Walker Reagan
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