



2025-2026 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 257: 2026 Appropriations Act, Sec. 8A.7: Require the State Education Assistance Authority to Provide Testing Costs for Certain Personal Education Student Account Recipients and Permit Parents of Those Personal Education Student Account Recipients to Opt Out of Testing

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-41, Sec. 8A.7

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Section 8A.7 of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257) requires the State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) to pay the cost of nationally standardized tests in grades 3, 8, and 11 that are required for Personal Education Student Account (PESA) recipients who attend a nonpublic school that qualifies for direct disbursement of PESA funds.

Additionally, parents of students who receive a PESA due to any of the following disabilities can opt out of the nationally standardized tests in grades 3 through 12 that are required for PESA recipients who attend a nonpublic school that qualifies for the direct disbursement of PESA funds:

- Autism.
- Hearing impairment.
- Moderate or severe intellectual disability.
- Orthopedic impairment.
- Visual impairment.

SEAA is not required to pay the cost of any standardized tests for which a parent has opted the PESA recipient out.

This section became effective July 1, 2026.

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