

**HOUSE BILL No. 2685**

By Committee on K-12 Education Budget

2-10

1 AN ACT concerning education; relating to private and public schools;  
2 establishing the Kansas student achievement accountability act;  
3 requiring students to show grade level proficiency on state assessments  
4 before promotion to the next grade level; requiring certain state  
5 assessments to be provided in each grade level; amending K.S.A. 2021  
6 Supp. 72-5170 and repealing the existing section.

7  
8 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

9 New Section 1. (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as  
10 the Kansas student achievement accountability act.

11 (b) Commencing in the 2023-2024 school year, each student enrolled  
12 in a Kansas accredited public, private or parochial school shall pass each  
13 core subject matter course at the required standards set by the state board  
14 of education to be taught at each grade level and shall demonstrate grade  
15 level proficiency at level 2 or above on each of the annual statewide  
16 assessments administered to such student. Any such student who does not  
17 pass each core subject matter class or demonstrate grade level proficiency  
18 on the statewide assessments as required by this section shall not be  
19 promoted to the next grade level. Any student who fails to demonstrate  
20 grade level proficiency at level 2 or above on the final statewide  
21 assessments in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade shall not be certified as having completed the  
22 course requirements necessary for graduation from a Kansas accredited  
23 high school.

24 (c) The state board shall develop standardized statewide assessments  
25 to measure student academic achievement for each required course in the  
26 elementary and middle school grade levels and for each required course  
27 for high school graduation that is not a required elective course. Academic  
28 achievement for each elective course necessary to meet the minimum  
29 graduation requirements shall be measured by each course classroom  
30 teacher, who shall assess whether a student demonstrates proficiency, or by  
31 a student passing a recognized standardized assessment for a career and  
32 technical education certificate.

33 (d) Each student who does not demonstrate grade level proficiency at  
34 a level 2 or above on any annual statewide assessment shall be given an  
35 opportunity to retake such assessment before the end of the school year in  
36 which such student failed to demonstrate grade level proficiency.

1 (e) Any school building principal or district superintendent who  
2 promotes a student to the next grade level or certifies that a student has  
3 met the minimum state board of education graduation requirements in  
4 violation of the provisions of this section shall be decertified and the state  
5 board of education shall revoke such principal's or superintendent's  
6 leadership license.

7 (f) Prior to the beginning of each semester, the state board of  
8 education and each school district shall provide an opportunity for any  
9 high school student to take the statewide assessment for each required  
10 course before enrolling in such course. If a student achieves a level 3 or  
11 above on any such assessment, the student shall be considered proficient in  
12 such subject and shall not be required to take or pass such course for  
13 graduation. Any such student may enroll in any additional elective courses  
14 during such academic year.

15 (g) This section shall not apply to students who have been determined  
16 to be exceptional children, except gifted children, under the provisions of  
17 the Kansas special education for exceptional children act. Such students  
18 shall be subject to the provisions of their respective individualized  
19 education programs.

20 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 72-5170 is hereby amended to read as  
21 follows: 72-5170. (a) (1) In order to accomplish the mission for Kansas  
22 education, the state board shall design and adopt a school *building and*  
23 district accreditation system based upon improvement in performance that  
24 equals or exceeds the educational goal set forth in K.S.A. 72-3218(c), and  
25 amendments thereto, and is measurable. The state board shall hold all  
26 school *buildings and* districts accountable through the Kansas education  
27 systems accreditation rules and regulations, or any successor accreditation  
28 system and accountability plan adopted by the state board. The state board  
29 also shall ensure that all school districts and the public schools operated by  
30 such districts have programs and initiatives in place for providing those  
31 educational capacities set forth in K.S.A. 72-3218(c), and amendments  
32 thereto. On or before January 15 of each year, the state board shall prepare  
33 and submit a report on the school *building and* district accreditation  
34 system to the governor and the legislature.

35 (2) The accountability measures established pursuant to paragraph (1)  
36 shall be applied both at the district level and at the school level. Such  
37 accountability measures shall be reported by the state board for each  
38 school district and each school. All reports prepared pursuant to this  
39 section shall be published in accordance with K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 72-1181,  
40 and amendments thereto.

41 (3) If a school *building or* district is not fully accredited and a  
42 corrective action plan is required by the state board, such corrective action  
43 plan, and any subsequent reports prepared by the state board regarding the

1 progress of such school district in implementing and executing such  
2 corrective action plan, shall be published on the state department of  
3 education's internet website and such school district's internet website in  
4 accordance with K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 72-1181, and amendments thereto.

5 (4) If a school *building or* district is not accredited, the  
6 superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, shall appear before the  
7 committee on education of the house of representatives and the committee  
8 on education of the senate during the regular legislative session that occurs  
9 during the same school year in which such school *building or* district is not  
10 accredited. Such school district shall provide a report to such committees  
11 on the challenges and obstacles that are preventing such school *building or*  
12 district from becoming accredited.

13 (b) The state board shall establish curriculum standards that reflect  
14 high academic standards for the core academic areas of mathematics,  
15 science, reading, writing and social studies. The curriculum standards shall  
16 be reviewed at least every seven years. Nothing in this subsection shall be  
17 construed in any manner so as to impinge upon any school district's  
18 authority to determine its own curriculum.

19 (c) The state board shall provide for statewide assessments in the core  
20 academic areas of mathematics, science, reading, writing and social  
21 studies. The board shall ensure compatibility between the statewide  
22 assessments and the curriculum standards established pursuant to  
23 subsection (b). Such assessments shall be administered ~~at three grade~~  
24 ~~levels, as determined by the state board in kindergarten and grades one~~  
25 *through 12 by the core subject-matter classroom teacher to each student*  
26 *enrolled in such teacher's classroom between March 21 and April 29 of*  
27 *each school year.* The state board shall determine performance levels on  
28 the statewide assessments *as provided in this subsection*, the achievement  
29 of which represents high academic standards in the academic area at the  
30 grade level to which the assessment applies. *The state board shall align*  
31 *the performance levels on the statewide assessments for each grade level*  
32 *with the nationally normed scale and cut scores established by the*  
33 *national assessment of education progress and the ACT college entrance*  
34 *exam, if applicable. If statewide assessments or scale or cut scores have*  
35 *not been established for a specific grade level and subject matter, the state*  
36 *board shall contract with the university of Kansas achievement and*  
37 *assessment institute to develop such assessments and proficiency levels.*  
38 The state board should specify high academic standards both for individual  
39 performance and school performance on the assessments.

40 (d) Each school year, on such date as specified by the state board,  
41 each school district shall submit the Kansas education system accreditation  
42 report to the state board in such form and manner as prescribed by the state  
43 board.

1 (e) Whenever the state board determines that a school *building or*  
2 district has failed either to meet the accreditation requirements established  
3 by rules and regulations or standards adopted by the state board or provide  
4 curriculum based on state standards and courses required by state law, the  
5 state board shall so notify the school *building or* district. Such notice shall  
6 specify the accreditation requirements that the school district has failed to  
7 meet and the curriculum that it has failed to provide. Upon receipt of such  
8 notice, the board of education of such school district is encouraged to  
9 reallocate the resources of the school *building or* district to remedy all  
10 deficiencies identified by the state board.

11 (f) Each school in every school district shall establish a school site  
12 council composed of the principal and representatives of teachers and  
13 other school personnel, parents of students attending the school, the  
14 business community and other community groups. School site councils  
15 shall be responsible for providing advice and counsel in evaluating state,  
16 school district, and school site performance goals and objectives and in  
17 determining the methods that should be employed at the school site to  
18 meet these goals and objectives. Site councils may make recommendations  
19 and proposals to the school board regarding budgetary items and school  
20 district matters, including, but not limited to, identifying and implementing  
21 the best practices for developing efficient and effective administrative and  
22 management functions. Site councils also may help school boards analyze  
23 the unique environment of schools, enhance the efficiency and maximize  
24 limited resources, including outsourcing arrangements and cooperative  
25 opportunities as a means to address limited budgets.

26 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2021 Supp. 72-5170 is hereby repealed.

27 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
28 publication in the statute book.