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SENATE BILL 360

**50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011**

INTRODUCED BY

Cynthia Nava

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO FINANCIAL SOLVENCY; SUSPENDING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
CERTAIN STUDENT ASSESSMENTS FOR THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--PUBLIC SCHOOLS FINANCIAL  
SOLVENCY--SUSPENDING CERTAIN REQUIRED STUDENT ASSESSMENTS FOR  
ONE SCHOOL YEAR.--**

A. The legislature finds that the financial crisis  
of calendar years 2008-2010 will continue into fiscal year  
2012, and, to balance the state budget, the legislature must  
reduce general appropriations for state government, higher  
education and public schools by several hundred million  
dollars. The purpose of this section is to temporarily suspend  
the requirement that local school districts administer certain  
student assessments.

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1           B. For school year 2011-2012, the public education  
2 department and school districts, charter schools and state  
3 educational institutions shall not be required to administer  
4 the following student assessments:

5                   (1) the provisions of Section 22-13-1.1 NMSA  
6 1978 notwithstanding, a standards-based assessment or  
7 assessments or a portfolio of standards-based indicators for  
8 high school graduation;

9                   (2) the provisions of Section 22-2C-4 NMSA  
10 1978 notwithstanding, in grade eleven, a standards-based  
11 assessment in social studies; and for grades three through  
12 eight and eleven, a standards-based writing assessment; and

13                   (3) the provisions of Section 22-2C-4.1 NMSA  
14 1978 notwithstanding, in grades nine and ten, short-cycle  
15 diagnostic assessments in reading, language arts and  
16 mathematics and, in grade eleven, a college placement  
17 assessment, a workforce readiness assessment or an alternative  
18 demonstration of competency using standards-based indicators.

19           C. The provisions of Section 22-13-1.1 NMSA 1978  
20 notwithstanding, a student who has completed the course  
21 requirements for high school graduation in the 2011-2012 school  
22 year may graduate without demonstrating competence in required  
23 subject areas on the standards-based assessment or assessments  
24 or a portfolio of standards-based indicators established by the  
25 public education department by rule.

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