

SENATE BILL SUMMARY

Prepared by the Division of Legislative Information for the Senate Bill **AS ORIGINALLY FILED**. For more detail, see Senate Bill Analyses, if available, prepared by the Senate's professional committee staff.

SB 420

Student Assessment in the Public Schools/ Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test by Senator Bullard

Terminates the administration of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) to students in grades 9 through 12. Requires the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) to replace the grade 10 FCAT for purposes of measuring a student's knowledge and skills and a school's performance grade.

Requires students to take the PSAT/NMSQT in grade 10. Requires students to earn passing scores on the PSAT/NMSQT in reading, mathematics, and writing to qualify for a standard high school diploma.

Requires the State Board of Education to designate a passing score for each section of the PSAT/NMSQT that is aligned to the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and demonstrates the proficiency level required for high school graduation.

Provides for application beginning with public school students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year. (See bill for details)