

Policy Issues with Senate Bill 740:

(Page 4, Line 15 – 19)

All students shall be assessed using acceptable college placement cut scores no later than 11th grade to determine whether the student is ready for college-level credit-bearing course work in English Language Arts, Literacy, and Mathematics.

Issue: PARCC Algebra II Assessment will provide College Career Ready Determination. Students only take this assessment after completing the course; Algebra II is not a high school graduation requirement in Maryland; the bill states that it is the goal of the state that all students achieve mathematics competency in Algebra II (not a requirement). Earlier assessments (Algebra I and Geometry will provide information about a student's being on track for college and career readiness.) Will all 11th graders have to take the PARCC Algebra II assessment or will the earlier assessments be allowed?

(Page 4, Lines 20 – 26)

Development of Transition Courses for students in grade 12 who have not achieved college and career readiness by the end of 11th grade.

Issue: Is a COMAR requirement needed to mandate students take the transition course and assessment or reassessment after completing the course?

(Page 5, Lines 1-5)

Beginning with 9th grade class of 2014, each student shall enroll in a mathematics course in each year of high school that the student attends high school.

Issue: Requires a change in COMAR

(Page 5, Lines 6-9)

The Department shall adopt regulations that establish the mathematics and math-related courses that fulfill the requirements of this subsection, which may include math-related career and technology program courses.

Issue: Requires a COMAR regulation

(Page 18, Lines 3 – 17)

Report on feasibility of the award of a MD high school diploma regardless of whether a student has completed the minimum requisite credits or 4 years of high school if the student:

Is assessed as college and career ready under 7-205 meets the student service and other assessment graduation requirements; and is found to be feasible under item (1) of this section...

Issue: How is feasible defined?????