the

KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Premiere Bill

Referred to Committee:

Senate 1

Blue | Bill # SBP 12

Authors: Austin Schneller, Jacob Young	Action on the Bill	
School: Greenwood High School	House	Senate
City Bowling Green	Passed	□ Passed

An act to allow exemptions for all English as a second language students from accountably standardized testing until they demonstrate proficient skill in English.

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: The purpose of this bill is to make state testing fair for students who do not speak nor read English. This bill amends act 703 KAR 5:070, which states that LEP/ESL students are required to take all portions of the state testing after their first years in Kentucky schools, and will be included in the school wide district participation rate. With this bill all LEP/ESL student's test scores will not be accounted for until they score a 5/5 on their access test, which measure a pupil's English proficiency. Between the October and April testing periods the students must have an improvement rate of half a point on the Access Test. The LEP/ESL students will have to take the Access Test both in October and April instead of just once per school year of if improvement is not shown. The exact dates of the testing will be determined by the school district.

Section 2: The Access test is a required test for all LEP/ESL students. This test measures their English proficiency. ESL stands for English as a second language and is the same thing as LEP, which stands for limited English proficiency. A students will be considered an LEP/ESL student if they are an immigrant coming from a foreign non-English speaking nation and enrolling in Kentucky public schools. The improvement rate is improvement over the course of a school year on their Access testing.

Section 3: The Kentucky Board of Education will enforce and rule whether or not a pupil will be considered a LEP/ESL student. LEP/ESL accountability testing scores will not count until they score a 5 on their Access exam. In addition, if 80% of the LEP/ESL in a school do not meet the requirements of the Access test improvement rate then the school will have to send an comprehensive improvement plan to the Kentucky Department of Education. If the improvement plan is not upheld within a preexisting protocol will apply.

Section 4: This bill will be in enacted for the 2014-2015 school year.