

- SUBJECT:** Monitoring performance under contracts for student assessments
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 11 ayes — Aycock, Allen, J. Davis, Deshotel, Dutton, Farney, Huberty, K. King, Ratliff, J. Rodriguez, Villarreal
0 nays
- SENATE VOTE:** On final passage, April 30 — 31-0
- WITNESSES:** For — (*Registered but did not testify*: Monty Exter, Association of Texas Professional Educators; Dwight Harris, Texas AFT; Casey McCreary, Texas Association of School Administrators)
Against — None
On — (*Registered but did not testify*: David Anderson and Gloria Zyskowski, Texas Education Agency)
- BACKGROUND:** Education Code, sec. 39.023 requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to adopt or develop appropriate criterion-referenced assessment instruments designed to assess essential knowledge and skills in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, and science.
- DIGEST:** SB 1308 would direct TEA to develop an auditing and performance monitoring methodology for contracts with outside vendors for services to develop or administer criterion-referenced assessment instruments required by state statute. The auditing and performance methodology would be used to verify compliance with contractual obligations.

The TEA would be required to ensure that all new and renewed contracts included a provision noting that the TEA or an agency designee could conduct periodic contract reviews to monitor vendor performance without advanced notice.

The TEA would adopt rules to administer the performance monitoring

process.

This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2013.