

SENATE BILL No. 596

By Committee on Ways and Means

3-30

9 AN ACT concerning schools; relating to accreditation; amending K.S.A.
10 2005 Supp. 72-6439 and repealing the existing section.

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12 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

13 New Section 1. (a) As used in this section:

14 (1) "Public agency" means the state of Kansas, a school district and
15 any department, agency, board, officer, employee, servant, contractor,
16 subcontractor, agent, or other instrumentality of the state or any school
17 district.

18 (2) "Public moneys" means any moneys received from a public
19 agency or the federal government.

20 (3) "State board" means the state board of education.

21 (b) No public agency shall expend any public moneys for the purpose
22 of adopting, implementing or enforcing school accreditation guidelines
23 or standards which require, or are based upon a requirement of, improve-
24 ment in student performance or student proficiency.

25 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the state
26 board from establishing school accreditation guidelines or standards
27 which establish, or which are based upon, goals of improvement in stu-
28 dent performance or student proficiency.

29 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2005 Supp. 72-6439 is hereby amended to read as
30 follows: 72-6439. (a) *Subject to the provisions of section 1, and amend-*
31 *ments thereto*, in order to accomplish the mission for Kansas education,
32 the state board of education shall design and adopt a school performance
33 accreditation system ~~based upon improvement in performance that~~ *which*
34 *reflects high academic standards and is measurable. The state board may*
35 *establish school accreditation standards which establish, or which are*
36 *based upon, goals of improvement in student performance or student pro-*
37 *ficiency.*

38 ~~(b) The state board of education shall provide for assessments in the~~
39 ~~core academic areas of mathematics, science, reading, writing, and social~~
40 ~~studies, and shall establish curriculum standards for such core academic~~
41 ~~areas. The assessments shall be administered at three grade levels, as~~
42 ~~determined by the state board. The curriculum standards shall be equal~~
43 ~~to the best standards and shall be reviewed at least every three years. The~~

1 ~~state board shall ensure compatibility between the statewide assessments~~
2 ~~and the curriculum standards. The state board shall establish curriculum~~
3 ~~standards which reflect high academic standards for the core academic~~
4 ~~areas of mathematics, science, reading, writing and social studies. The~~
5 ~~curriculum standards shall be reviewed at least every seven years. Noth-~~
6 ~~ing in this subsection shall be construed in any manner so as to impinge~~
7 ~~upon any district's authority to determine its own curriculum.~~

8 (c) *The state board shall provide for statewide assessments in the core*
9 *academic areas of mathematics, science, reading, writing and social stud-*
10 *ies. The board shall ensure compatibility between the statewide assess-*
11 *ments and the curriculum standards established pursuant to subsection*
12 *(b). Such assessments shall be administered at three grade levels, as de-*
13 *termined by the board.* The state board of education shall determine
14 performance levels on the statewide assessments, the achievement of
15 which represents ~~excellence~~ *high academic standards* in the academic
16 area at the grade level to which the assessment applies. The state board
17 should specify ~~the measure of excellence~~ *high academic standards* both
18 for individual performance and school performance on the assessments.

19 (d) Each school in every district shall establish a school site council
20 composed of the principal and representatives of teachers and other
21 school personnel, parents of pupils attending the school, the business
22 community, and other community groups. School site councils shall be
23 responsible for providing advice and counsel in evaluating state, school
24 district, and school site performance goals and objectives and in deter-
25 mining the methods that should be employed at the school site to meet
26 these goals and objectives. Site councils may make recommendations and
27 proposals to the school board regarding budgetary items and school dis-
28 trict matters, including but not limited to, identifying and implementing
29 the best practices for developing efficient and effective administrative and
30 management functions. Site councils also may help school boards analyze
31 the unique environment of schools, enhance the efficiency and maximize
32 limited resources, including outsourcing arrangements and cooperative
33 opportunities as a means to address limited budgets.

34 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2005 Supp. 72-6439 is hereby repealed.

35 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
36 publication in the Kansas register.