

1 level become increasingly less likely to succeed at each
2 successively higher grade level and later in life and, therefore,
3 it is critically important to ensure that additional intervention
4 strategies are available to reinforce the preparation of students
5 who are not prepared fully; and

6 Whereas, Student proficiency in reading, language arts and
7 mathematics in grades 3 through 11 is currently assessed through
8 the state summative assessment (currently known as the WESTEST2),
9 and the results of this assessment indicate that substantial
10 numbers of students have not adequately mastered these subjects
11 at their grade level; and

12 Whereas, The state places considerable weight on the results
13 of the state summative assessment as a measure of whether schools
14 and school systems are fully preparing students for success at
15 the next grade level, and the results have consequences for
16 schools and school systems, but routine strategies to reinforce
17 the preparation of students whose scores indicate that they are
18 not prepared fully are lacking; and

19 Whereas, Because the additional effort required to provide
20 additional intervention strategies may be substantial, there is
21 a need to: First, ensure that the data on student performance on
22 the state summative assessment accurately reflects the true level
23 of each student's mastery of the content (and not a lack of
24 student engagement in performing to the best of their ability

1 because the assessment has no consequences for the students
2 themselves); and also to ensure that the additional intervention
3 is focused on those students who truly need additional assistance
4 and not those whose true level of proficiency is above the level
5 reflected on this particular assessment; therefore, be it

6 *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

7 That the Joint Committee on Government and Finance is hereby
8 requested to conduct a study on methods to help instill within
9 students the importance of performing to the best of their
10 ability on the state summative assessment; to provide routine
11 strategies for additional intervention that reinforces the
12 preparation of students whose assessment scores indicate that
13 they are not prepared for success at the next grade level; and to
14 ensure that the additional intervention is provided for those
15 students who truly need additional preparation and that students
16 are exempted whose true level of proficiency is above the level
17 reflected on this particular assessment; and be it

18 *Further Resolved,* That as a part of the study, input is
19 sought from teachers, administrators, county boards of education
20 and parents on the various methods to achieve these objectives
21 and their potential educational and financial impact; and

22 *Further Resolved,* That the Joint Committee on Government and
23 Finance is requested to report to the regular session of the
24 Legislature, 2012, on its findings, conclusions and

1 recommendations, together with drafts of any legislation
2 necessary to effectuate its recommendations; and be it

3 *Further Resolved,* That the expenses necessary to conduct
4 this study, to prepare a report and draft necessary legislation
5 are requested to be paid from legislative appropriations to the
6 Joint Committee on Government and Finance.