



## **Issue Brief** – Moratorium on State Testing

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### **Background**

Over the past several years, TN has experienced many assessment changes. New standards were put in place, new assessments were created, and a new testing vendor was selected. During the first year of TNReady testing, the online platform failed. During the most recent year, some tests were scored incorrectly. This directly impacted students and teachers. Additionally, the current system does not provide results until the following school year.

Until measures are established to verify that all data associated with existing assessments is accurate and timely, the state department of education and the state board of education should not mandate any additional assessments. This concern arises from the fact that some non-tested subjects currently have end of course exams being field tested. While districts should have the ability to voluntarily participate in additional assessments, the state should not be mandating additional tests when the current system has so many issues.

Legislation that simply prevents the state from mandating any additional assessments will benefit parents, students, and teachers. It will also ensure that the department works to implement a statewide assessment program that is accurate and timely.

### **TSBA Position - SUPPORT**

TSBA urges the General Assembly to enact legislation that places a moratorium on the State Department of Education and State Board of Education from mandating any additional assessments from those mandated in the 2016-2017 school year until measures are set in place to verify that all data associated with existing assessments is accurate and timely.