



COLORADO
Department of
Higher Education



University of Colorado
Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus



Attachment D

HB20-1407 College Admission Use of National Test Score

sponsored by Representatives Kipp and Baisley and Senator Story

The Colorado Department of Higher Education and the institutions noted via logo above, **respectfully ask for your support of HB20-1407**. This bill assists the state's efforts to increase credential completion and erase equity gaps in higher education amidst the pandemic crisis.

C.R.S. 23-1-113 requires that Colorado public four-year institutions of higher education consider national assessment scores (i.e. ACT or SAT) in the admission process for first-time freshmen. Local Education Providers administer the SAT to Colorado high school juniors in the spring. However, **high school juniors had their SAT exam dates cancelled this past spring** in College Board's (makers of SAT) response to COVID-19.

These juniors are the high school graduating class of 2021. The SAT exam could be rescheduled in the fall 2020 for these students **during or even after many of them students will be applying for college admission**. Requiring that our graduating class of 2021 submit SAT scores as part of admission consideration could:

- add unnecessary stress during an already stressful process and during a disorienting pandemic era period
- result in a decrease in students pursuing higher education
- disproportionately impact populations that do not perform well on the SAT

This statutory change remains optional for institutions. Those institutions that choose to waive the exams for eligibility consideration will be able to make informed admission decisions by utilizing other proven academic measures, such as:

- high school grade-point average (GPA)
- grades in a mix of rigorous academic courses (as represented in Colorado's Higher Education Admission Recommendations or HEAR)
- successful completion of Concurrent Enrollment courses

As many research studies have proven, high school GPA is the **single best predictor** of student success and credential attainment. Informed admission decisions can be made without the use of national standardized exams. Further, strong test performers will not be penalized as if an applicant does want their test score to be considered as part of the admission process, they can choose to do so.

We respectfully ask for your support of this legislation for Colorado's students.

SUBMITTED WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Committee Senate State, Veterans, & Military Affairs
Meeting Date 06/10/2020 Upon Adjournment

Registered	Bill Number	First Name	Last Name	Position on Bill	Representing	Status	Testifying	Text of Testimony
6/10/2020 9:43	HB20-1407	Chloe	Mugg	For	CO Department of Higher Education	Open	Uploaded file	