
STATE OF INDIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
INDIANAPOLIS

EXECUTIVE ORDER:15-04

FOR: EMERGENCY REVIEW OF THE 2014-15 INDIANA STATEWIDE TESTING FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS (ISTEP)

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS.

WHEREAS, the Indiana Department of Education announced in recent weeks that the time required to administer the 2014-15 ISTEP test will more than double over previous years; and

WHEREAS, tests of this extraordinary length can create significant anxiety for Hoosier students, families and educators; and

WHEREAS, tests of this extraordinary length cause significant disruption of school activities as teachers and administrators redistribute resources to accommodate the expanded testing schedule; and

WHEREAS, the intent of this Order is to direct the Office of Management and Budget and other Indiana executive branch agencies as needed to coordinate the retention of a nationally recognized assessment expert or experts to examine Indiana's 2014-15 ISTEP test to shorten the test and lessen the testing burden on Indiana's children, families, schools, teachers and administrators without weakening the accountability required by law, and make appropriate recommendations to the Office of the Governor, the Indiana Department of Education and the Indiana State Board of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael R. Pence, Governor of the State of Indiana by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Indiana Constitution and the laws of the State, do hereby direct and order:

1. The Office of Management and Budget to coordinate the retention of a nationally recognized expert or experts in educational assessment by and on behalf of the State of Indiana to analyze the 2014-15 ISTEP assessment and to make recommendations to the Office of the Governor, the Indiana Department of Education, and the Indiana State Board of Education, to shorten the test and lessen the testing burden of the 2014-15 ISTEP test on Indiana's children, families, schools, teachers and administrators without weakening the accountability required by Indiana and federal law.
2. All other executive branch agencies, instrumentalities and personnel of the State of Indiana to assist in the execution of this Order.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, Michael R. Pence, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Indiana on this 9th day of February, 2015.

Michael R. Pence
Governor of Indiana

SEAL
ATTEST: Connie Lawson
Secretary of State

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