

**ACTION ALERT**  
**STOP A BAD BILL FROM BECOMING LAW!!**  
**AB 751 (O'DONNELL) SAT/ACT INSTEAD OF THE SBAC**  
**INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

AB-751(O'Donnell) passed off the Senate Floor and is now on its way to Governor Newsom. The bill would allow LEAs to administer the SAT/ACT in lieu of the grade eleven Smarter Balanced Assessment Summative Assessment (SBAC). Last year a similar bill was vetoed by Governor Brown due to significant concerns expressed by advocates, other stakeholders and the California Department of Education (CDE).

Please send letters **NOW** to Gov. Newsom and his legislative team requesting his veto on the bill! Letters need to be forwarded by September 20, 2019!

Below is a Sample letter for your use. Please personalize as much as possible and do not forget to sign the letter! Thank you so much for your support on this important action!!

**SAMPLE LETTER**

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of California  
State Capitol, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Sacramento CA 95814

**RE: AB 751 (O'Donnell) Pupil Assessments: Pathways to College Act**  
**Position: Requesting A Veto**

Dear Governor Newsom,

I am writing this letter to respectfully request your veto of AB 751 (O'Donnell) Pupil Assessments: Pathways to College Act.

Allowing schools to administer the SAT/ACT in lieu of the grade 11 SBAC is a grave mistake! After investing millions of dollars on our current assessment and accountability system, it is difficult to understand why the state would choose to digress from the direction taken all these years! Teachers, administrators, students and their parents have a better understanding now on the "ins and outs" of the SBAC and on the School Dashboard. There is no need to change this. It is unclear how the SAT and ACT scores will be included in the Dashboard and how will this information be relayed to parents.

Allowing schools to choose which assessment to administer in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade *may* result in increased college admissions but there is no way to determine this because the bill does not require schools to report how many students took the SAT or ACT and of those students, how

many actually attended a college or university! Currently, schools that administer the SAT or ACT provide opportunities to their students to take practice tests, improving their chances of obtaining higher scores on the SAT or ACT. However, the bill does not require schools to provide practice tests nor does it provide the funding. So not all students will be given this opportunity, only those students who attend schools where providing practice tests is not a financial problem.

Lastly, research shows that scores on the SAT and ACT do not predict college success, especially for students of color. Performance on these exams restricts access for students who could otherwise succeed in higher education. We believe a better approach to increasing college admissions is to eliminate the SAT and ACT in determining student admissions.

It is for these reasons I am respectfully requesting your veto AB 751 (O'Donnell).

Sincerely,

Name and Title (if appropriate)