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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Hershel Lyons

DATE: May 18, 2015

SUBJECT: Preliminary Technical Assistance on House Bill 7069

On May 6, the Florida Department of Education presented information on House Bill 7069 to the Florida Organization of Instructional Leaders (FOIL). Part of this presentation included questions and discussion with school districts on implementation scenarios. Based on this discussion, we are pleased to provide the FOIL presentation with updated information at <http://www.fldoe.org/schools/k-12-public-schools/foil.shtml>.

One of the pieces of information we did not have final for the FOIL presentation is the question of how Florida Standards Assessments End-of-Course (EOC) exam results in Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry should factor into students' course grades (as applicable given their ninth grade cohort), since those results will not be released until the validity study required by House Bill 7069 is completed.

For the 2014-2015 school year only, because of the unavailability of independently verified statewide assessment results in Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry, the statutory requirements to include these results in the final course grade are inoperative. As a result, school districts should calculate final course grades and make promotion decisions without regard to the 30 percent requirement that typically applies. The absence of EOC results alone in these courses should not result in a grade of incomplete.

Districts may choose to establish a policy regarding recalculating course grades when scores are available. If this recommendation is applied, the policy should be applied district-wide to all students for whom the recalculation results in an advantage.

As a reminder, the 30 percent requirement still applies for EOC results in Biology I, U.S. History and Civics, as those results will be released in June.

Additional technical assistance on specific topics is forthcoming. Thank you for your continued support as we work together in the best interest of students.

HERSHEL LYONS
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS