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**Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105**

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**The Background:**

To become a licensed educator in Tennessee, individuals must demonstrate both content and pedagogical competencies.

This item deletes various requirements with an end date of August 2019 and adds additional assessment options for educators seeking a Spanish or French endorsement.

Changes between first and final reading include:

- Adding the regenerated version of the Teaching Reading: Elementary assessment, which is required for multiple endorsement areas. The existing Teaching Reading: Elementary Education assessment will be completely phased out in August 2020 by ETS.
- Adding back an option for educators seeking middle grades mathematics (grades 6-8) endorsement to take either the Praxis II content exam or the Pearson NES Middle Grades and Early Secondary assessment, based on recommendations from educator preparation programs to State Board staff.
- Clarifying that individuals seeking to teach part-time on an adjunct or adjunct occupational license are not required to take pedagogical or specialty content area assessments.
- Removing edTPA cut score requirements that referenced 2019 as they are out of date.

**The Fiscal Analysis Impact:**

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

**Policy Justification:**

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

**The Recommendation:**

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.