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SECRETARY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

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GOVERNOR

March 14, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Superintendents, Charter School Administrators, District Test Coordinators  
**FROM:** Arsenio Romero, Ph.D., Secretary of Public Education Department DS  
AR  
**RE:** HB171 Change to Demonstration of Competency Graduation Requirements

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This memorandum announces a change to demonstration of competency (DOC) requirements.

The passing of House Bill 171 (HB171) in the 2024 legislative session amends current law to update New Mexico's high school graduation requirements to no longer require students to complete DOCs in core academic subjects (i.e., mathematics, reading and language arts, writing, social studies, and science) in order to receive a high school diploma.

The bill goes into effect May 15th, 2024. Please note that DOCs will not be required for students, including those students in cohort 2024, who are issued diplomas after May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

As a reminder, all high school students are required to participate in ESSA Title I federally required state assessments. Please refer to the [statewide test assignment guidelines](#) and page 2 of the [current assessment schedule](#).

For questions regarding this memorandum, please email [PED.Assessment@ped.nm.gov](mailto:PED.Assessment@ped.nm.gov).

cc: Amanda DeBell, Deputy Secretary of Teaching, Learning and Innovation  
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