

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**SYNOPSIS AGENDA/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

<b>CODE:</b>	PL-07
<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Policy and Legislative
<b>DATE:</b>	August 9, 2016

**SUBJECT/TITLE**

Waiver Request Procedures for the General Appropriations Act, 2016 S.C. Acts 284, Proviso 1.88 (Proviso 1.88) (SDE: Technology Technical Assistance)

**PURPOSE OF REPORT/REGULATION/ITEM**

The purpose of this item is to present the State Board of Education (SBE) with a proposal for new waiver request procedures pursuant to Proviso 1.88.

**CRITICAL FACTS**

S.C. Code, Ann. § 59-18-325(C)(1)(g) (Supp. 2014) amended the Education Accountability Act (EAA) to require that assessments be administered “to all students in a computer-based format by the school year 2016–17.” Concerns were expressed to the General Assembly that not all districts would be ready to conduct online assessments this coming school year as required by the law. Proviso 1.88 was approved and enacted by the Governor on July 13, 2016. Proviso 1.88 states in part:

*For the current fiscal year districts and individual public charter schools may request a waiver from the State Board of Education from the requirement that all assessments be administered online.*

Attached to this synopsis is a proposed form for submittal of these waivers to the SBE. The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) proposes that all waiver requests be in writing, signed by the local superintendent, and approved by the local school board. The waiver form includes a request for the specific reasons why the assessment cannot be administered online during the 2016–17 school year. It also includes a plan to address the conditions causing the waiver request.

Written waiver requests will be sent to Darlene Prevatt, Team Leader, State Accountability.

