

Action Alert

SB185 is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Education and Health committee at **8:30am Thursday, January 19**. SB 185 would require testing of 3rd graders only in Reading and Math.

Why is this important?

Nearly 20% of Virginia's 3rd graders fail the 3rd grade reading test. Studies show that 50% of those children who fail that test will fail school.

Today, Virginia administers 4 SOL tests to 3rd graders - Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies.

SB 185 eliminates the tests for Science and Social Studies so students can spend the entire year getting a good foundation in the core subjects of Reading & Math.

This recommendation comes out of a [JLARC study](#) on 3rd grade reading.

Our 3rd grade Reading test scores have flat-lined and we need to do something different to help ensure of children's success in school.

Members of this committee include Martin (Chair), Saslaw, Lucas, Howell, Newman, Blevins, Locke, Barker, Northam, John Miller, Smith, McWaters, Black, Carrico, and Garrett. Please call these legislators, especially if you are a constituent, and ask them to vote in **FAVOR** of this very important bill. Messages can be left after hours on their voice mail.

To find out your legislator click [here](#)

This will also give you the telephone number to call your Senator at the General Assembly Building in Richmond.