2015 Legislation Addressing College and Career Readiness Standards (and Related Policies)

NCSL began tracking legislation related to college and career readiness standards, which refers to the statewide academic content standards adopted by nearly all states, in 2011. These bills include those specifically addressing standards, policies intended to implement standards or policies aligned to standards, e.g., statewide assessments, accountability systems tied to standards and assessments, appropriations for implementation, etc.

Assessments garnered the greatest attention of all the college and career readiness standards aligned policies combined in 2015 legislative sessions (632 bills out of 757). One likely explanation is that most states administered new assessments aligned to college and career readiness standards (or the Common Core) in spring 2015, and most states had committed tying students' performance on these tests to new accountability systems.

Legislatures sought to redress public concerns over assessments, including concerns over the time spent testing or the use of assessment data, by introducing bills that would delay the use of assessment results for accountability purposes, create opt out flexibility for school districts or parents, or establish a formal review of assessment and accountability practices within the state. For information on these bills, please visit www.CCRSlegislation.info.