

1 **SHB 2848 - H AMDS 878 FAILED 2-13-98**

2 By Representative ____

3 On page 1, strike everything after the enacting clause and insert
4 the following:

5 Sec. 1. RCW 28A.630.885 and 1997 c 268 s 1 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The Washington commission on student learning is hereby
8 established. The primary purposes of the commission are to identify
9 the knowledge and skills all public school students need to know and be
10 able to do based on the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210, to
11 develop student assessment and school accountability systems, to review
12 current school district data reporting requirements and make
13 recommendations on what data is necessary for the purposes of
14 accountability and meeting state information needs, and to take other
15 steps necessary to develop a performance-based education system. The
16 commission shall include three members of the state board of education,
17 three members appointed by the governor before July 1, 1992, and five
18 members appointed no later than June 1, 1993, by the governor elected
19 in the November 1992 election. The governor shall appoint a chair from
20 the commission members, and fill any vacancies in gubernatorial
21 appointments that may occur. The state board of education shall fill
22 any vacancies of state board of education appointments that may occur.
23 In making the appointments, educators, business leaders, and parents
24 shall be represented, and nominations from state-wide education,
25 business, and parent organizations shall be requested. Efforts shall
26 be made to ensure that the commission reflects the racial and ethnic
27 diversity of the state's K-12 student population and that the major
28 geographic regions in the state are represented. Appointees shall be
29 qualified individuals who are supportive of educational restructuring,
30 who have a positive record of service, and who will devote sufficient
31 time to the responsibilities of the commission to ensure that the
32 objectives of the commission are achieved.

33 (2) The commission shall establish advisory committees.
34 Membership of the advisory committees shall include, but not
35 necessarily be limited to, professionals from the office of the
36 superintendent of public instruction and the state board of education,

1 and other state and local educational practitioners and student
2 assessment specialists.

3 (3) The commission, with the assistance of the advisory
4 committees, shall:

5 (a) Develop essential academic learning requirements based on the
6 student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210. Essential academic learning
7 requirements shall be developed, to the extent possible, for each of
8 the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210. Goals one and two shall
9 be considered primary. Essential academic learning requirements for
10 RCW 28A.150.210(1), goal one, and the mathematics component of RCW
11 28A.150.210(2), goal two, shall be completed no later than March 1,
12 1995. Essential academic learning requirements that incorporate the
13 remainder of RCW 28A.150.210 (2), (3), and (4), goals two, three, and
14 four, shall be completed no later than March 1, 1996. To the maximum
15 extent possible, the commission shall integrate goal four and the
16 knowledge and skill areas in the other goals in the development of the
17 essential academic learning requirements;

18 (b)(i) The commission shall present to the state board of
19 education and superintendent of public instruction a state-wide
20 academic assessment system for use in the elementary, middle, and high
21 school years designed to determine if each student has mastered the
22 essential academic learning requirements identified in (a) of this
23 subsection. The academic assessment system shall include a variety of
24 assessment methods, including criterion-referenced and performance-
25 based measures. Performance standards for determining if a student has
26 successfully completed an assessment shall be initially determined by
27 the commission in consultation with the advisory committees required in
28 subsection (2) of this section.

29 (ii) The assessment system shall be designed so that the results
30 under the assessment system are used by educators as tools to evaluate
31 instructional practices, and to initiate appropriate educational
32 support for students who have not mastered the essential academic
33 learning requirements at the appropriate periods in the student's
34 educational development.

35 (iii) Assessments measuring the essential academic learning
36 requirements developed for RCW 28A.150.210(1) and the mathematics
37 component of RCW 28A.150.210(2) referred to in this section as reading,
38 writing, communications, and mathematics shall be developed and

1 initially implemented by the commission before transferring the
2 assessment system to the superintendent of public instruction on June
3 30, 1999. The elementary assessments for reading, writing,
4 communications, and mathematics shall be available for use by school
5 districts no later than the 1996-97 school year, the middle school
6 assessment no later than the 1997-98 school year, and the high school
7 assessment no later than the 1998-99 school year, unless the
8 legislature takes action to delay or prevent implementation of the
9 assessment system and essential academic learning requirements.
10 Assessments measuring the essential academic learning requirements
11 developed for the science component of RCW 28A.150.210(2) at the middle
12 school and high school levels shall be available for use by districts
13 no later than the ~~((1998-99))~~1999-2000 school year unless the
14 legislature takes action to delay or prevent implementation of the
15 assessment system and essential academic learning requirements.

16 The completed assessments and assessments still in development
17 shall be transferred to the superintendent of public instruction by
18 June 30, 1999, unless the legislature takes action to delay
19 implementation of the assessment system and essential academic learning
20 requirements. The superintendent shall continue the development of
21 assessments on the following schedule: The history, civics, and
22 geography assessments at the middle and high school levels shall be
23 available for use by districts no later than [the] 2000-01 school year;
24 the arts assessment for middle and high school levels shall be
25 available for use by districts no later than [the] 2000-01 school year;
26 and the health and fitness assessments for middle and high school
27 levels shall be available no later than the 2001-02 school year. The
28 elementary science assessment shall be available for use by districts
29 not later than the 2001-02 school year. The commission or the
30 superintendent, as applicable, shall upon request, provide
31 opportunities for the education committees of the house of
32 representatives and the senate to review the assessments and proposed
33 modifications to the essential academic learning requirements before
34 the modifications are adopted. By December 15, 1998, the commission on
35 student learning shall recommend to the appropriate committees of the
36 legislature a revised timeline for implementing these assessments and
37 when the school districts should be required to participate. All
38 school districts shall be required to participate in the history,

1 civics, geography, arts, health, fitness, and elementary science
2 assessments in the third year after the assessments are available to
3 school districts.

4 To the maximum extent possible, the commission shall integrate
5 knowledge and skill areas in development of the assessments.

6 (iv) Assessments for goals three and four of RCW 28A.150.210 shall
7 be integrated in the essential academic learning requirements and
8 assessments for goals one and two. Before the 1997-98 school year, the
9 elementary assessment system in reading, writing, communications, and
10 mathematics shall be optional. School districts that desire to
11 participate before the 1997-98 school year shall notify the commission
12 on student learning in a manner determined by the commission.
13 Beginning in the 1997-98 school year, school districts shall be
14 required to participate in the elementary assessment system for
15 reading, writing, communications, and mathematics. Before the 2000-01
16 school year, participation by school districts in the middle school and
17 high school assessment system for reading, writing, communications,
18 mathematics, and science shall be optional. School districts that
19 desire to participate before the 1998-99 school year shall notify the
20 commission on student learning in a manner determined by the commission
21 on student learning. Schools that desire to participate after the
22 1998-99 school year, shall notify the superintendent of public
23 instruction in a manner determined by the superintendent. Beginning in
24 the 2000-01 school year, all school districts shall be required to
25 participate in the assessment system for reading, writing,
26 communications, mathematics, and science.

27 (v) The commission on student learning may modify the essential
28 academic learning requirements and the assessments for reading,
29 writing, communications, mathematics, and science, as needed, before
30 June 30, 1999. The commission shall, upon request, provide
31 opportunities for the education committees of the house of
32 representatives and the senate to review the assessments and proposed
33 modifications to the essential academic learning requirements before
34 the modifications are adopted.

35 (vi) The commission shall develop assessments that are directly
36 related to the essential academic learning requirements, and are not
37 biased toward persons with different learning styles, racial or ethnic
38 backgrounds, or on the basis of gender;

1 (c) After a determination is made by the state board of education
2 that the high school assessment system has been implemented and that it
3 is sufficiently reliable and valid, successful completion of the high
4 school assessment shall lead to a certificate of mastery. The
5 certificate of mastery shall be obtained by most students at about the
6 age of sixteen, and is evidence that the student has successfully
7 mastered the essential academic learning requirements during his or her
8 educational career. The certificate of mastery shall be required for
9 graduation but shall not be the only requirement for graduation. The
10 commission shall make recommendations to the state board of education
11 regarding the relationship between the certificate of mastery and high
12 school graduation requirements. Upon achieving the certificate of
13 mastery, schools shall provide students with the opportunity to pursue
14 career and educational objectives through educational pathways that
15 emphasize integration of academic and vocational education.
16 Educational pathways may include, but are not limited to, programs such
17 as work-based learning, school-to-work transition, tech prep,
18 vocational-technical education, running start, and preparation for
19 technical college, community college, or university education;

20 (d) Consider methods to address the unique needs of special
21 education students when developing the assessments in (b) and (c) of
22 this subsection;

23 (e) Consider methods to address the unique needs of highly capable
24 students when developing the assessments in (b) and (c) of this
25 subsection;

26 (f) Develop recommendations on the time, support, and resources,
27 including technical assistance, needed by schools and school districts
28 to help students achieve the essential academic learning requirements.
29 These recommendations shall include an estimate for the legislature,
30 superintendent of public instruction, and governor on the expected cost
31 of implementing the academic assessment system;

32 (g) Develop recommendations for consideration by the higher
33 education coordinating board for adopting college and university
34 entrance requirements for public school students that are consistent
35 with the essential academic learning requirements and the certificate
36 of mastery;

37 (h) Review current school district data reporting requirements for
38 the purposes of accountability and meeting state information needs.

1 The commission on student learning shall report recommendations to the
2 joint select committee on education restructuring by September 15,
3 1996, on:

4 (i) What data is necessary to compare how school districts are
5 performing before the essential academic learning requirements and the
6 assessment system are implemented with how school districts are
7 performing after the essential academic learning requirements and the
8 assessment system are implemented; and

9 (ii) What data is necessary pertaining to school district reports
10 under the accountability systems developed by the commission on student
11 learning under this section;

12 (i) Recommend to the legislature, governor, state board of
13 education, and superintendent of public instruction:

14 (i) A state-wide accountability system to monitor and evaluate
15 accurately and fairly at elementary, middle, and high schools the level
16 of learning occurring in individual schools and school districts with
17 regard to the goals included in RCW 28A.150.210 (1) through (4). The
18 accountability system must assess each school individually against its
19 own baseline, schools with similar characteristics, and schools state-
20 wide. The system shall include school-site, school district, and
21 state-level accountability reports;

22 (ii) A school assistance program to help schools and school
23 districts that are having difficulty helping students meet the
24 essential academic learning requirements as measured by performance on
25 the elementary, middle school, and high school assessments;

26 (iii) A system to intervene in schools and school districts in
27 which significant numbers of students persistently fail to learn the
28 essential academic learning requirements or meet the standards
29 established for the elementary, middle school, and high school
30 assessments; and

31 (iv) An awards program to provide incentives to school staff to
32 help their students learn the essential academic learning requirements,
33 with each school being assessed individually against its own baseline,
34 schools with similar characteristics, and the state-wide average.
35 Incentives shall be based on the rate of percentage change of students
36 achieving the essential academic learning requirements and progress on
37 meeting the state-wide average. School staff shall determine how the
38 awards will be spent.

1 The commission shall make recommendations regarding a state-wide
2 accountability system for reading in grades kindergarten through four
3 by November 1, 1997. Recommendations for an accountability system in
4 the other subject areas and grade levels shall be made no later than
5 June 30, 1999;

6 (j) Report annually by December 1st to the legislature, the
7 governor, the superintendent of public instruction, and the state board
8 of education on the progress, findings, and recommendations of the
9 commission; and

10 (k) Make recommendations to the legislature and take other actions
11 necessary or desirable to help students meet the student learning
12 goals.

13 (4) The commission shall coordinate its activities with the state
14 board of education and the office of the superintendent of public
15 instruction.

16 (5) The commission shall seek advice broadly from the public and
17 all interested educational organizations in the conduct of its work,
18 including holding periodic regional public hearings.

19 (6) The commission shall select an entity to provide staff support
20 and the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
21 provide administrative oversight and be the fiscal agent for the
22 commission. The commission may direct the office of the superintendent
23 of public instruction to enter into subcontracts, within the
24 commission's resources, with school districts, teachers, higher
25 education faculty, state agencies, business organizations, and other
26 individuals and organizations to assist the commission in its
27 deliberations.

28 (7) Members of the commission shall be reimbursed for travel
29 expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

30 (8)(a) By September 30, 1997, the commission on student learning,
31 the state board of education, and the superintendent of public
32 instruction shall jointly present recommendations to the education
33 committees of the house of representatives and the senate regarding the
34 high school assessments, the certificate of mastery, and high school
35 graduation requirements.

36 In preparing recommendations, the commission on student learning
37 shall convene an ad hoc working group to address questions, including:

1 (i) What type of document shall be used to identify student
2 performance and achievement and how will the document be described?

3 (ii) Should the students be required to pass the high school
4 assessments in all skill and content areas, or only in select skill and
5 content areas, to graduate?

6 (iii) How will the criteria for establishing the standards for
7 passing scores on the assessments be determined?

8 (iv) What timeline should be used in phasing-in the assessments as
9 a graduation requirement?

10 (v) What options may be used in demonstrating how the results of
11 the assessments will be displayed in a way that is meaningful to
12 students, parents, institutions of higher education, and potential
13 employers?

14 (vi) Are there other or additional methods by which the
15 assessments could be used to identify achievement such as endorsements,
16 standards of proficiency, merit badges, or levels of achievement?

17 (vii) Should the assessments and certificate of mastery be used to
18 satisfy college or university entrance criteria for public school
19 students? If yes, how should these methods be phased-in?

20 (b) The ad hoc working group shall report its recommendations to
21 the commission on student learning, the state board of education, and
22 the superintendent of public instruction by June 15, 1997. The
23 commission shall report the ad hoc working group's recommendations to
24 the education committees of the house of representatives and senate by
25 July 15, 1997. Final recommendations of the commission on student
26 learning, the state board of education, and the superintendent of
27 public instruction shall be presented to the education committees of
28 the house of representatives and the senate by September 30, 1997.

29 (9) The Washington commission on student learning shall expire on
30 June 30, 1999.-

31 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after learning;- strike the
32 remainder of the title and insert and amending 28A.630.885.-

EFFECT: The Commission on Student Learning must make the middle school and high school science assessments available no later than the 1999-2000 school year. All other provisions of the bill are

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removed.