

2 **SSB 5634** - H COMM AMD **ADOPTED 04/07/99**
3 By Committee on Education

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that it is critical
8 for the success of the public school system and for the greatest
9 achievement of each individual student that all educators hold, and act
10 upon, high expectations for the academic achievement of every student.
11 The state's education reforms emphasize higher standards and
12 performance, not just "seat time" in school. No student should
13 graduate from high school with a diploma if the student is unable to
14 read. Promoting students from grade to grade without demonstrating
15 appropriate competencies does no service to them.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) By the beginning of the 2000-01 school year, all school boards
19 shall adopt a policy, or amend any existing local policy if necessary,
20 regarding promotion and retention of students.

21 (2) The district policy shall be adopted at a public meeting of the
22 school board and shall:

23 (a) Provide for parental notification when a student is identified
24 as being at risk of retention. This notice shall be provided as early
25 in the school year, and as early in their school careers, as
26 practicable. The policy shall provide a student's parent or guardian
27 the opportunity to consult with the teacher or teachers responsible for
28 the decision to promote or retain the student; and

29 (b) Indicate the manner in which opportunities for remedial
30 instruction are available to students who are recommended for retention
31 or who are identified as being at risk for retention."

EFFECT: Creates an intent section and requires that the new or amended policy be done by the beginning of the 2000-01 school year. Makes references to "student" consistent (changes "child" and "pupil")

to "student") and requires school districts to amend existing retention and promotion policies only if necessary.

--- **END** ---