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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2803**

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**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**2000 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Lambert, Koster, Benson, Talcott, Cox, D. Schmidt, Esser, Lantz and Rockefeller)

Read first time 02/08/2000. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington assessments of student learning;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 28A.655 RCW; and creating a new  
3 section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.655  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The legislature finds that the Washington assessments of  
8 student learning for elementary, middle, and high school years are an  
9 important tool for students, parents, teachers, schools, and the state.  
10 These assessments are so important that the legislature encourages all  
11 students in the state to participate in the assessments, which are  
12 required of public school students and voluntary for students attending  
13 private schools and students receiving home-based education. The  
14 assessments let students and their parents know the student's progress  
15 in learning the skills and knowledge the state deems necessary to  
16 become a responsible citizen and successfully live, learn, and work in  
17 the twenty-first century.

18 (2) Students receiving home-based education under chapter 28A.200  
19 RCW may voluntarily take the Washington assessments of student learning

1 through the local school district at district expense as part of the  
2 district's ancillary services. The school district shall not regulate  
3 these students simply because they take the assessments.

4 (3)(a) Individual students attending private schools under chapter  
5 28A.195 RCW may take the Washington assessments of student learning  
6 through the local school district at district expense as part of the  
7 district's ancillary services.

8 (b) If a significant number of students who attend the same private  
9 school under chapter 28A.195 RCW wish to take the Washington  
10 assessments of student learning, the assessment contractor may provide  
11 the assessments at the private school and may agree to have the private  
12 school administer the assessments. The superintendent shall pay the  
13 assessment contractor the cost of the test itself, including processing  
14 the test to determine the results, for each student taking the  
15 assessments under this subsection (3)(b). The superintendent shall not  
16 pay for any costs the private school may incur in administering the  
17 assessments at the private school, such as staff or school  
18 administrative costs.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If any provision of this act or its  
20 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
21 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
22 persons or circumstances is not affected.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of this  
24 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by  
25 June 30, 2000, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and  
26 void.

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