
HOUSE BILL 1240

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Schindler, Quall, Talcott, Pearson, Cox, Keiser, Campbell, D. Schmidt and Haigh

Read first time 01/22/2001. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington assessment of student learning;
2 amending RCW 28A.230.195 and 28A.655.090; creating new sections; and
3 providing an effective date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds and declares:

6 (1) Washington has been following a path of education reform since
7 the implementation of chapter 336, Laws of 1993;

8 (2) Washington's students will be held to higher standards than
9 ever before, standards they must meet in order to receive a high school
10 diploma;

11 (3) Parents or guardians often have the strongest influence on a
12 child's learning and development and should be welcomed to participate
13 in the education of their child;

14 (4) Parents or guardians should have access to the scored
15 Washington assessment of student learning booklet used by their child
16 for this state-mandated test. Giving parents or guardians access to
17 the scored test booklets will allow parents or guardians to be active
18 participants in the education of their child. Not only will parents or
19 guardians have a better understanding of what their child is learning

1 in school, they will also have a clear picture of how curriculum is
2 being directed in their school building to meet the state's new
3 standards.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.230.195 and 1999 c 373 s 603 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) If students' scores on the test or assessments under RCW
7 28A.230.190, 28A.230.230, and (~~(28A.630.885)~~) 28A.655.060 indicate that
8 students need help in identified areas, the school district shall
9 evaluate its instructional practices and make appropriate adjustments.

10 (2) Each school district shall notify the parents of each student
11 of their child's performance on the test and assessments conducted
12 under this chapter.

13 (3) After data are complete and accurate, the writing portion of
14 the Washington assessment of student learning test booklets shall be
15 redistributed to schools. Schools shall make the writing portion of
16 each student's test booklet available to the student, the student's
17 parent or guardian, and teacher.

18 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.655.090 and 1999 c 388 s 301 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (1) By September 10, 1998, and by September 10th each year
21 thereafter, the superintendent of public instruction shall report to
22 schools, school districts, and the legislature on the results of the
23 Washington assessment of student learning and state-mandated norm-
24 referenced standardized tests.

25 (2) The reports shall include the assessment results by school and
26 school district, and include changes over time. For the Washington
27 assessment of student learning, results shall be reported as follows:

28 (a) The percentage of students meeting the standards;

29 (b) The percentage of students performing at each level of the
30 assessment; and

31 (c) A learning improvement index that shows changes in student
32 performance within the different levels of student learning reported on
33 the Washington assessment of student learning.

34 (3) The reports shall contain data regarding the different
35 characteristics of schools, such as poverty levels, percent of English
36 as a second language students, dropout rates, attendance, percent of
37 students in special education, and student mobility so that districts

1 and schools can learn from the improvement efforts of other schools and
2 districts with similar characteristics.

3 (4) The reports shall contain student scores on mandated tests by
4 comparable Washington schools of similar characteristics.

5 (5) The reports shall contain information on public school choice
6 options available to students, including vocational education.

7 (6) The reports shall be posted on the superintendent of public
8 instruction's internet web site.

9 (7) To protect the privacy of students, the results of schools and
10 districts that test fewer than ten students in a grade level shall not
11 be reported. In addition, in order to ensure that results are reported
12 accurately, the superintendent of public instruction shall maintain the
13 confidentiality of statewide data files until the superintendent
14 determines that the data are complete and accurate.

15 (8) After data are complete and accurate, the writing portion of
16 the Washington assessment of student learning test booklets shall be
17 redistributed to schools. Schools shall make the writing portion of
18 each student's test booklet available to the student, the student's
19 parent or guardian, and teacher.

20 (9) The superintendent of public instruction shall monitor the
21 percentage and number of special education and limited English-
22 proficient students exempted from taking the assessments by schools and
23 school districts to ensure the exemptions are in compliance with
24 exemption guidelines.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** By September 1, 2001, the office of the
26 superintendent of public instruction shall report to the governor and
27 the fiscal and education committees of the legislature on the estimated
28 cost of returning the entire test booklet to parents and teachers.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 2 and 3 of this act take effect
30 September 1, 2002.

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