

2SSB 5638 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Education

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "**Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.655.061 and 2004 c 19 s 101 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The high school assessment system shall include but need not be
6 limited to the Washington assessment of student learning, opportunities
7 for a student to retake the content areas of the assessment in which
8 the student was not successful, (~~and if approved by the legislature~~
9 ~~pursuant to subsection (11) of this section,~~) one or more objective
10 alternative assessments for a student to demonstrate achievement of
11 state academic standards, and any appeals process. The objective
12 alternative assessments for each content area shall be (~~comparable~~)
13 equivalent in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must
14 demonstrate on the Washington assessment of student learning for each
15 content area.

16 (2) Subject to the conditions in this section, a certificate of
17 academic achievement shall be obtained by most students at about the
18 age of sixteen, and is evidence that the students have successfully met
19 the state standard in the content areas included in the certificate.
20 With the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW
21 28A.155.045, acquisition of the certificate is required for graduation
22 from a public high school but is not the only requirement for
23 graduation.

24 (3) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008, with the exception
25 of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, a student who
26 meets the state standards on the reading, writing, and mathematics
27 content areas of the high school Washington assessment of student
28 learning shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. If a
29 student does not successfully meet the state standards in one or more
30 content areas required for the certificate of academic achievement,

1 then the student may retake the assessment in the content area up to
2 four times at no cost to the student. If the student successfully
3 meets the state standards on a retake of the assessment then the
4 student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. Once
5 objective alternative assessments are (~~authorized~~) implemented
6 pursuant to subsection (11) of this section, a student may use the
7 objective alternative assessments to demonstrate that the student
8 successfully meets the state standards for that content area if the
9 student has (~~retaken~~) taken the Washington assessment of student
10 learning (~~at least~~) once. If the student successfully meets the
11 state standards on the objective alternative assessments then the
12 student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. The
13 student's transcript shall note whether the certificate of academic
14 achievement was acquired (~~by means of the Washington assessment of~~
15 ~~student learning or by an alternative assessment~~)).

16 (4) Beginning with the graduating class of 2010, a student must
17 meet the state standards in science in addition to the other content
18 areas required under subsection (3) of this section on the Washington
19 assessment of student learning or the objective alternative assessments
20 in order to earn a certificate of academic achievement.

21 (5) The state board of education may not require the acquisition of
22 the certificate of academic achievement for students in home-based
23 instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW, for students enrolled in private
24 schools under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or for students satisfying the
25 provisions of RCW 28A.155.045.

26 (6) A student may retain and use the highest result from each
27 successfully completed content area of the high school assessment. A
28 student may combine content area results from the Washington assessment
29 of student learning and any subsequent retakes of the assessment and
30 results from any alternative assessments to demonstrate achievement of
31 state academic standards.

32 (7) Beginning with the graduating class of (~~2006, the highest~~
33 ~~scale score and level achieved in each content area on the high school~~
34 ~~Washington assessment of student learning shall be displayed on a~~
35 ~~student's transcript. In addition, beginning with the graduating class~~
36 ~~of 2008, each student shall receive a scholar's designation on his or~~
37 ~~her transcript for~~) 2008, a student's transcript will note whether the
38 student has obtained the certificate of academic achievement or the

1 certificate of individual achievement. In addition, the transcript
2 will note each content area in which the student achieves level four
3 the first time the student takes that content area assessment.

4 (8) Beginning in 2006, school districts must make available to
5 students the following options:

6 (a) To retake the Washington assessment of student learning up to
7 four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the
8 state standards if the student is enrolled in a public school; or

9 (b) To retake the Washington assessment of student learning up to
10 four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the
11 state standards if the student is enrolled in a high school completion
12 program at a community or technical college. The superintendent of
13 public instruction and the state board for community and technical
14 colleges shall jointly identify means by which students in these
15 programs can be assessed.

16 (9) Students who achieve the standard in a content area of the high
17 school assessment but who wish to improve their results shall pay for
18 retaking the assessment, using a uniform cost determined by the
19 superintendent of public instruction.

20 (10) Subject to available funding, the superintendent shall pilot
21 opportunities for retaking the high school assessment beginning in the
22 2004-05 school year. Beginning no later than September 2006,
23 opportunities to retake the assessment at least twice a year shall be
24 available to each school district.

25 (11)(a) The office of the superintendent of public instruction
26 shall develop options for implementing objective alternative
27 assessments(~~(, which may include an appeals process,)~~) for students to
28 demonstrate achievement of the state academic standards. The objective
29 alternative assessments shall be (~~(comparable)~~) valid and reliable and
30 equivalent in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must
31 demonstrate on the Washington assessment of student learning and be
32 objective in its determination of student achievement of the state
33 standards. Before any objective alternative assessments are used by a
34 student to demonstrate that the student has met the state standards in
35 a content area required to obtain a certificate, the (~~(legislature~~
36 ~~shall formally approve the use of any objective alternative assessments~~
37 ~~through the omnibus appropriations act or by statute or concurrent~~
38 ~~resolution)~~) superintendent of public instruction shall provide to the

1 education committees of the legislature an opportunity to review any
2 and all options developed and planned for implementation by January
3 15th of the school year before the school year planned for
4 implementation.

5 (b) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
6 pilot two or more alternative assessments in the 2005-06 school year,
7 with the goal of implementing at least one alternative assessment in
8 the 2006-07 school year. The superintendent of public instruction
9 shall direct school districts to make available for student use any
10 alternative assessments reviewed by the education committees of the
11 legislature and deemed adequate by the superintendent of public
12 instruction for implementation. The implementation shall begin with
13 options that are complete and, to the extent funds are appropriated,
14 the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall continue
15 to develop, pilot, and implement additional alternative assessments.
16 In its development and implementation of alternative assessments, the
17 office of the superintendent of public instruction shall consult with
18 parents, administrators, practicing classroom teachers including
19 teachers in career and technical education, practicing principals,
20 employers, tribal representatives from federally recognized tribes of
21 Washington state and tribes that have signed the Washington state
22 centennial accord, appropriate agencies, professional organizations,
23 assessment experts, and other interested parties.

24 ~~(12) ((By December 15, 2004, the house of representatives and~~
25 ~~senate education committees shall obtain information and conclusions~~
26 ~~from recognized, independent, national assessment experts regarding the~~
27 ~~validity and reliability of the high school Washington assessment of~~
28 ~~student learning for making individual student high school graduation~~
29 ~~determinations))~~ The office of the superintendent of public instruction
30 shall develop appeals processes for use by students no later than the
31 2007-08 school year. The appeals processes shall be developed with
32 criteria that can be consistently applied throughout the state.

33 (13) To help assure continued progress in academic achievement as
34 a foundation for high school graduation and to assure that students are
35 on track for high school graduation, each school district shall prepare
36 plans for students as provided in this subsection (13).

37 (a) Student learning plans are required for eighth through twelfth
38 grade students who ~~((were not successful))~~ did not score the level of

1 proficient or above on any or all of the content areas of the
2 Washington assessment for student learning during the previous school
3 year. The plan shall include the courses, competencies, and other
4 steps needed to be taken by the student to meet state academic
5 standards and stay on track for graduation. This requirement shall be
6 phased in as follows:

7 (i) Beginning no later than the 2004-05 school year ninth grade
8 students as described in this subsection (13)(a) shall have a plan.

9 (ii) Beginning no later than the 2005-06 school year and every year
10 thereafter eighth grade students as described in this subsection
11 (13)(a) shall have a plan.

12 (iii) The parent or guardian shall be notified, preferably through
13 a parent conference, of the student's results on the Washington
14 assessment of student learning, actions the school intends to take to
15 improve the student's skills in any content area in which the student
16 was (~~unsuccessful~~) not proficient, strategies to help them improve
17 their student's skills, and the content of the student's plan.

18 (iv) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported to the
19 student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments to the
20 plan made as necessary.

21 (b) Beginning with the 2005-06 school year and every year
22 thereafter, all fifth grade students who (~~were not successful~~) did
23 not score the level of proficient or above in one or more of the
24 content areas of the fourth grade Washington assessment of student
25 learning shall have a student learning plan.

26 (i) The parent or guardian of a student described in this
27 subsection (13)(b) shall be notified, preferably through a parent
28 conference, of the student's results on the Washington assessment of
29 student learning, actions the school intends to take to improve the
30 student's skills in any content area in which the student was
31 (~~unsuccessful~~) not proficient, and provide strategies to help them
32 improve their student's skills.

33 (ii) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported to the
34 student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments to the
35 plan made as necessary.

36 (14) Beginning in the 2005-06 school year and every year
37 thereafter, each public high school shall notify students and parents,
38 in the primary language of parents to the extent practicable, of the

1 options under the high school assessment system and any appeals
2 processes for students to demonstrate achievement of the state academic
3 standards.

4 (15) Beginning in the 2005-06 school year and every year
5 thereafter, each public high school shall notify students and parents,
6 in the primary language of parents to the extent practicable, of the
7 different courses and programs in career and technical education and
8 those offered through area skill centers that provide students the
9 skills and knowledge in those content areas assessed by the high school
10 assessment system and included in the certificate of academic
11 achievement.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.305.220 and 2004 c 19 s 108 are each amended to
13 read as follows:

14 (1) The state board of education shall develop for use by all
15 public school districts a standardized high school transcript. The
16 state board of education shall establish clear definitions for the
17 terms "credits" and "hours" so that school programs operating on the
18 quarter, semester, or trimester system can be compared.

19 (2) The standardized high school transcript shall include (~~the~~
20 ~~following information:~~

21 ~~(a) The highest scale score and level achieved in each content area~~
22 ~~on the high school Washington assessment of student learning or other~~
23 ~~high school measures successfully completed by the student as provided~~
24 ~~by RCW 28A.655.061 and 28A.155.045;~~

25 ~~(b) All scholar designations as provided by RCW 28A.655.061;~~

26 ~~(c))~~ a notation of whether the student has earned a certificate of
27 individual achievement or a certificate of academic achievement ((by
28 means of the Washington assessment of student learning or by an
29 alternative assessment)) and a notation for each content area in which
30 a student achieved a level four the first time the student took that
31 content area assessment.

32 (3) Transcripts are important documents to students who will apply
33 for admission to postsecondary institutions of higher education.
34 Transcripts are also important to students who will seek employment
35 upon or prior to graduation from high school. It is recognized that
36 student transcripts may be the only record available to employers in
37 their decision-making processes regarding prospective employees. The

1 superintendent of public instruction shall require school districts to
2 inform annually all high school students that prospective employers may
3 request to see transcripts and that the prospective employee's decision
4 to release transcripts can be an important part of the process of
5 applying for employment."

6 Correct the title.

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