

SHB 1987 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education

ADOPTED AS AMENDED 04/12/2005

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

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

5 By January 15, 2006, the office of the superintendent of public  
6 instruction, as part of any feasibility study of options for the  
7 alternative assessments under RCW 28A.655.061(11), shall review the  
8 course requirements and assessments in one or more representative  
9 career and technical programs that lead to industry certification to  
10 determine the alignment of the courses and assessments with the  
11 essential academic learning requirements measured in the high school  
12 Washington assessment of student learning. The purpose of the review  
13 is to determine if the certifications can be used as evidence that a  
14 student has met the standards measured by the Washington assessment of  
15 student learning. The review also shall evaluate the statewide  
16 availability and use of the certifications. As part of the review, the  
17 superintendent shall make a determination of the extent to which the  
18 certifications are equivalent in rigor to the reading, writing,  
19 mathematics, or science Washington assessments of student learning, and  
20 whether they should be used as alternative assessments. The  
21 superintendent also shall develop a process for reviewing additional  
22 industry certification programs after the initial review.

23 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.655.061 and 2004 c 19 s 101 are each amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (1) The high school assessment system shall include but need not be  
26 limited to the Washington assessment of student learning, opportunities  
27 for a student to retake the content areas of the assessment in which  
28 the student was not successful, (~~and if approved by the legislature~~  
29 ~~pursuant to subsection (11) of this section,~~) one or more objective

1 alternative assessments for a student to demonstrate achievement of  
2 state academic standards, and any appeals process. The objective  
3 alternative assessments for each content area shall be (~~comparable~~)  
4 equivalent in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must  
5 demonstrate on the Washington assessment of student learning for each  
6 content area.

7 (2) Subject to the conditions in this section, a certificate of  
8 academic achievement shall be obtained by most students at about the  
9 age of sixteen, and is evidence that the students have successfully met  
10 the state standard in the content areas included in the certificate.  
11 With the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW  
12 28A.155.045, acquisition of the certificate is required for graduation  
13 from a public high school but is not the only requirement for  
14 graduation.

15 (3) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008, with the exception  
16 of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, a student who  
17 meets the state standards on the reading, writing, and mathematics  
18 content areas of the high school Washington assessment of student  
19 learning shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. If a  
20 student does not successfully meet the state standards in one or more  
21 content areas required for the certificate of academic achievement,  
22 then the student may retake the assessment in the content area up to  
23 four times at no cost to the student. If the student successfully  
24 meets the state standards on a retake of the assessment then the  
25 student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. Once  
26 objective alternative assessments are (~~authorized~~) implemented  
27 pursuant to subsection (11) of this section, a student may use the  
28 objective alternative assessments to demonstrate that the student  
29 successfully meets the state standards for that content area if the  
30 student has retaken the Washington assessment of student learning at  
31 least once. If the student successfully meets the state standards on  
32 the objective alternative assessments then the student shall earn a  
33 certificate of academic achievement. The student's transcript shall  
34 note whether the certificate of academic achievement was acquired by  
35 means of the Washington assessment of student learning or by an  
36 alternative assessment.

37 (4) Beginning with the graduating class of 2010, a student must  
38 meet the state standards in science in addition to the other content

1 areas required under subsection (3) of this section on the Washington  
2 assessment of student learning or the objective alternative assessments  
3 in order to earn a certificate of academic achievement.

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

9 (6) A student may retain and use the highest result from each  
10 successfully completed content area of the high school assessment. A  
11 student may combine content area results from the Washington assessment  
12 of student learning and any subsequent retakes of the assessment and  
13 results from any alternative assessments to demonstrate achievement of  
14 state academic standards.

15 (7) Beginning with the graduating class of 2006, the highest scale  
16 score and level achieved in each content area on the high school  
17 Washington assessment of student learning shall be displayed on a  
18 student's transcript. In addition, beginning with the graduating class  
19 of 2008, each student shall receive a scholar's designation on his or  
20 her transcript for each content area in which the student achieves  
21 level four the first time the student takes that content area  
22 assessment.

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

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

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

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

1 (10) Subject to available funding, the superintendent shall pilot  
2 opportunities for retaking the high school assessment beginning in the  
3 2004-05 school year. Beginning no later than September 2006,  
4 opportunities to retake the assessment at least twice a year shall be  
5 available to each school district.

6 (11)(a) The office of the superintendent of public instruction  
7 shall develop options for implementing objective alternative  
8 assessments(~~(, which may include an appeals process,)~~) for students to  
9 demonstrate achievement of the state academic standards. The objective  
10 alternative assessments shall be (~~(comparable)~~) equivalent in rigor to  
11 the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the  
12 Washington assessment of student learning and be objective in its  
13 determination of student achievement of the state standards. Before  
14 any objective alternative assessments are used by a student to  
15 demonstrate that the student has met the state standards in a content  
16 area required to obtain a certificate, the (~~(legislature shall formally~~  
17 ~~approve the use of any objective alternative assessments through the~~  
18 ~~omnibus appropriations act or by statute or concurrent resolution)~~)  
19 superintendent of public instruction shall provide to the education  
20 committees of the legislature an opportunity to review any and all  
21 options developed and planned for implementation by January 15th of the  
22 school year before the school year planned for implementation.

23 (b) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
24 pilot two or more alternative assessments in the 2005-06 school year,  
25 with the goal of implementing at least one alternative assessment in  
26 the 2006-07 school year. The superintendent of public instruction  
27 shall direct school districts to make available for student use any  
28 alternative assessments reviewed by the education committees of the  
29 legislature and deemed adequate by the superintendent of public  
30 instruction for implementation. The implementation shall begin with  
31 options that are complete and, to the extent funds are appropriated,  
32 the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall continue  
33 to develop, pilot, and implement additional alternative assessments.  
34 In its development and implementation of alternative assessments, the  
35 office of the superintendent of public instruction shall consult with  
36 parents, administrators, practicing classroom teachers including  
37 teachers in career and technical education, practicing principals,  
38 employers, tribal representatives from federally recognized tribes of

1 Washington state and tribes that have signed the Washington state  
2 centennial accord, appropriate agencies, professional organizations,  
3 assessment experts, and other interested parties.

4 (12) (~~By December 15, 2004, the house of representatives and~~  
5 ~~senate education committees shall obtain information and conclusions~~  
6 ~~from recognized, independent, national assessment experts regarding the~~  
7 ~~validity and reliability of the high school Washington assessment of~~  
8 ~~student learning for making individual student high school graduation~~  
9 ~~determinations)) The office of the superintendent of public instruction  
10 shall develop appeals processes for use by students no later than the  
11 2007-08 school year. The appeals processes shall be developed with  
12 criteria that can be consistently applied throughout the state.~~

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

17 (a) Student learning plans are required for eighth through twelfth  
18 grade students who (~~were not successful~~) did not score the level of  
19 proficient or above on any or all of the content areas of the  
20 Washington assessment for student learning during the previous school  
21 year. The plan shall include the courses, competencies, and other  
22 steps needed to be taken by the student to meet state academic  
23 standards and stay on track for graduation. This requirement shall be  
24 phased in as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

6 (i) The parent or guardian of a student described in this  
7 subsection (13)(b) shall be notified, preferably through a parent  
8 conference, of the student's results on the Washington assessment of  
9 student learning, actions the school intends to take to improve the  
10 student's skills in any content area in which the student was  
11 (~~unsuccessful~~) not proficient, and provide strategies to help them  
12 improve their student's skills.

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

16 (14) Beginning in the 2005-06 school year and every year  
17 thereafter, each public high school shall notify students and parents,  
18 in the primary language of parents to the extent practicable, of the  
19 options under the high school assessment system and any appeals  
20 processes for students to demonstrate achievement of the state academic  
21 standards.

22 (15) Beginning in the 2005-06 school year and every year  
23 thereafter, each public high school shall notify students and parents,  
24 in the primary language of parents to the extent practicable, of the  
25 different courses and programs in career and technical education and  
26 those offered through area skill centers that provide students the  
27 skills and knowledge in those content areas assessed by the high school  
28 assessment system and included in the certificate of academic  
29 achievement."

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30 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "assessments;" strike the

1 remainder of the title and insert "and adding a new section to chapter  
2 28A.655 RCW."

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