

2SSB 5638 - S AMD 107

By Senator Hargrove

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 (6) A student may retain and use the highest result from each
26 successfully completed content area of the high school assessment.

27 (7) Beginning with the graduating class of 2006, the highest scale
28 score and level achieved in each content area on the high school
29 Washington assessment of student learning shall be displayed on a
30 student's transcript. In addition, beginning with the graduating class
31 of 2008, each student shall receive a scholar's designation on his or
32 her transcript for each content area in which the student achieves
33 level four the first time the student takes that content area
34 assessment.

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

37 (a) To retake the Washington assessment of student learning up to

1 four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the
2 state standards if the student is enrolled in a public school; or

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

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

14 (10) Subject to available funding, the superintendent shall pilot
15 opportunities for retaking the high school assessment beginning in the
16 2004-05 school year. Beginning no later than September 2006,
17 opportunities to retake the assessment at least twice a year shall be
18 available to each school district.

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

32 (12) By December 15, 2004, the house of representatives and senate
33 education committees shall obtain information and conclusions from
34 recognized, independent, national assessment experts regarding the
35 validity and reliability of the high school Washington assessment of
36 student learning for making individual student high school graduation
37 determinations.

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

5 (a) Student learning plans are required for eighth through twelfth
6 grade students who were not successful on any or all of the content
7 areas of the Washington assessment for student learning during the
8 previous school year. The plan shall include the courses,
9 competencies, and other steps needed to be taken by the student to meet
10 state academic standards and stay on track for graduation. This
11 requirement shall be phased in as follows:

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

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

17 (iii) The parent or guardian shall be notified, preferably through
18 a parent conference, of the student's results on the Washington
19 assessment of student learning, actions the school intends to take to
20 improve the student's skills in any content area in which the student
21 was unsuccessful, strategies to help them improve their student's
22 skills, and the content of the student's plan.

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

26 (b) Beginning with the 2005-06 school year and every year
27 thereafter, all fifth grade students who were not successful in one or
28 more of the content areas of the fourth grade Washington assessment of
29 student learning shall have a student learning plan.

30 (i) The parent or guardian of a student described in this
31 subsection (13)(b) shall be notified, preferably through a parent
32 conference, of the student's results on the Washington assessment of
33 student learning, actions the school intends to take to improve the
34 student's skills in any content area in which the student was
35 unsuccessful, and provide strategies to help them improve their
36 student's skills.

37 (ii) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported to the

1 student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments to the
2 plan made as necessary.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.155.045 and 2004 c 19 s 104 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 Beginning with the graduating class of 2008, students served under
6 this chapter, who are not appropriately assessed by the high school
7 Washington assessment system as defined in RCW 28A.655.061, even with
8 accommodations, may earn a certificate of individual achievement. The
9 certificate may be earned using multiple ways to demonstrate skills and
10 abilities commensurate with their individual education programs. The
11 determination of whether the high school assessment system is
12 appropriate shall be made by the student's individual education program
13 team. (~~For these students, the certificate of individual achievement~~
14 ~~is required for graduation from a public high school, but need not be~~
15 ~~the only requirement for graduation.)) When measures other than the
16 high school assessment system as defined in RCW 28A.655.061 are used,
17 the measures shall be in agreement with the appropriate educational
18 opportunity provided for the student as required by this chapter. The
19 superintendent of public instruction shall develop the guidelines for
20 determining which students should not be required to participate in the
21 high school assessment system and which types of assessments are
22 appropriate to use.~~

23 When measures other than the high school assessment system as
24 defined in RCW 28A.655.061 are used for high school graduation
25 purposes, the student's high school transcript shall note whether that
26 student has earned a certificate of individual achievement.

27 Nothing in this section shall be construed to deny a student the
28 right to participation in the high school assessment system as defined
29 in RCW 28A.655.061, and, upon successfully meeting the high school
30 standard, receipt of the certificate of academic achievement.

31 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.230.090 and 2005 c 205 s 3 are each amended to
32 read as follows:

33 (1) The state board of education shall establish high school
34 graduation requirements or equivalencies for students.

35 (a) Any course in Washington state history and government used to

1 fulfill high school graduation requirements shall consider including
2 information on the culture, history, and government of the American
3 Indian peoples who were the first inhabitants of the state.

4 ~~(b) ((The certificate of academic achievement requirements under
5 RCW 28A.655.061 or the certificate of individual achievement
6 requirements under RCW 28A.155.045 are required for graduation from a
7 public high school but are not the only requirements for graduation.~~

8 ~~(c))~~ Any decision on whether a student has met the state board's
9 high school graduation requirements for a high school and beyond plan
10 shall remain at the local level.

11 (2) In recognition of the statutory authority of the state board of
12 education to establish and enforce minimum high school graduation
13 requirements, the state board shall periodically reevaluate the
14 graduation requirements and shall report such findings to the
15 legislature in a timely manner as determined by the state board.

16 (3) Pursuant to any requirement for instruction in languages other
17 than English established by the state board of education or a local
18 school district, or both, for purposes of high school graduation,
19 students who receive instruction in American sign language or one or
20 more American Indian languages shall be considered to have satisfied
21 the state or local school district graduation requirement for
22 instruction in one or more languages other than English.

23 (4) If requested by the student and his or her family, a student
24 who has completed high school courses before attending high school
25 shall be given high school credit which shall be applied to fulfilling
26 high school graduation requirements if:

27 (a) The course was taken with high school students, if the academic
28 level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth
29 grade classes, and the student has successfully passed by completing
30 the same course requirements and examinations as the high school
31 students enrolled in the class; or

32 (b) The academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for
33 seventh and eighth grade classes and the course would qualify for high
34 school credit, because the course is similar or equivalent to a course
35 offered at a high school in the district as determined by the school
36 district board of directors.

37 (5) Students who have taken and successfully completed high school

1 courses under the circumstances in subsection (4) of this section shall
2 not be required to take an additional competency examination or perform
3 any other additional assignment to receive credit.

4 (6) At the college or university level, five quarter or three
5 semester hours equals one high school credit."

2SSB 5638 - S AMD

By Senator Hargrove

6 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "assessments;" strike the
7 remainder of the title and insert "and amending RCW 28A.655.061,
8 28A.155.045, and 28A.230.090."

--- END ---