
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2485

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Hunter, Jarrett, Talcott and Tom)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to college placement tests for high school
2 students; adding a new section to chapter 28A.230 RCW; and creating a
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that too many students
6 graduate from high school and find themselves academically unprepared
7 for postsecondary study, including students who thought they were
8 enrolled in a college preparatory program while in high school. The
9 legislature further finds that some students, particularly those whose
10 parents did not attend college, do not pursue postsecondary study
11 because they are unaware they have the potential to succeed in higher
12 education. Therefore, the legislature intends to make college
13 placement tests widely available in high schools and encourage high
14 school students, their parents, and their teachers to use the tests as
15 a tool for planning and preparing for their future.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall reimburse school

1 districts, from funds appropriated for this purpose, for college
2 placement tests that districts annually offer to students in tenth or
3 eleventh grade. Districts shall encourage but may not require students
4 to take the test. A district intending to offer a college placement
5 test under this section shall consult with a local community or
6 technical college or other public institution of higher education in
7 the region before selecting a test.

8 (2) Students in home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW
9 may participate with students at the public school in college placement
10 tests offered by a district. If the district is reimbursed for the
11 college placement test under this section, students in home-based
12 instruction shall not be charged for participating in the test.

13 (3) The college placement tests shall serve to assist students,
14 parents, and teachers in the planning and selection of appropriate high
15 school courses and to gauge student readiness for postsecondary study,
16 including dual enrollment programs. Results of the tests and relevant
17 student, school, and district characteristics shall be compiled by the
18 superintendent of public instruction to permit research and analysis,
19 including analysis using the unique student identifier, and shall be
20 made available to the parents of those students tested. Aggregate
21 results shall be made available to the public and the legislature.

22 (4) For the purposes of this section, "college placement test"
23 means a test designed to provide diagnostic information comparing a
24 student's knowledge and skills in a particular content area to the
25 knowledge and skills typically required for postsecondary study in that
26 area and used to place students into appropriate levels of
27 postsecondary courses.

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