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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6475**

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**State of Washington**

**59th Legislature**

**2006 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education (originally sponsored by Senators McAuliffe, Schmidt, Eide, Weinstein, Haugen, Berkey, Kastama, Shin, Kohl-Welles and Rasmussen; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction)

READ FIRST TIME 01/23/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing alternative methods of assessment  
2 and appeal processes for the certificate of academic achievement; and  
3 adding a new section to chapter 28A.655 RCW.

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

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

7 (1) Under RCW 28A.655.061, beginning in the 2006-07 school year,  
8 the superintendent of public instruction shall implement two objective  
9 alternative assessment methods for students to demonstrate achievement  
10 of the state standards in content areas in which the student did not  
11 meet the standard on the high school Washington assessment of student  
12 learning. A student may access one or both of these alternatives if  
13 the student meets applicable eligibility criteria in RCW 28A.655.061.  
14 In addition to the eligibility criteria in RCW 28A.655.061, the  
15 superintendent of public instruction may require additional eligibility  
16 criteria.

17 (2) The alternative methods shall include:

18 (a) A combination of a student's grades in applicable courses and

1 the student's highest score on the high school Washington assessment of  
2 student learning; and

3 (b) An evaluation of a collection of work samples. The evaluation  
4 of the work samples shall be conducted at the state level or regionally  
5 under the supervision of the office of the superintendent of public  
6 instruction using uniform scoring criteria.

7 (3) The superintendent of public instruction shall implement:

8 (a) By June 1, 2006, a process for students to appeal the score  
9 they received on the high school assessment; and

10 (b) By January 1, 2007, guidelines and appeal processes for waiving  
11 specific requirements in RCW 28A.655.061 pertaining to the certificate  
12 of academic achievement and to the certificate of individual  
13 achievement for students who: (i) Transfer to a Washington public  
14 school in their junior or senior year with the intent of obtaining a  
15 public high school diploma, or (ii) have special, unavoidable  
16 circumstances.

17 (4)(a) The superintendent of public instruction shall study the  
18 feasibility of using existing mathematics assessments in languages  
19 other than English as an additional alternative assessment option. The  
20 study shall include an estimation of the cost of translating the tenth  
21 grade mathematics assessment into other languages and scoring the  
22 assessments should they be implemented.

23 (b) The superintendent of public instruction shall begin  
24 development of an additional alternative assessment option for  
25 mathematics that: Presents the mathematics essential learnings in  
26 segments for assessment; is comparable in content and rigor to the  
27 tenth grade mathematics assessment when all segments are considered  
28 together; is reliable and valid; and can be used to determine a  
29 student's academic performance level.

30 (c) The superintendent of public instruction shall issue reports to  
31 the legislature by January 2007, on the results of the study in (a) of  
32 this subsection and the development status of (b) of this subsection.

33 (5) The superintendent of public instruction may adopt rules to  
34 implement this section.

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