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HOUSE BILL 2781

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Wallace, Chase, Sells, Conway, Morrell, Haigh,  
Hankins, and Santos

Read first time 01/16/08. Referred to Committee on Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to enhancing Washington state history and  
2 government course requirements for high school graduation; adding a new  
3 section to chapter 28A.230 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The study of the state's history and  
6 government is vital to providing a well-rounded education to students.  
7 It is important for students to have a firm understanding of where we  
8 have come from as a state and the institutions that guide and serve  
9 citizens of the state. It is equally important to provide students  
10 with context for the information that enables them to apply it to the  
11 present and future, with an understanding of Washington's place in our  
12 country and the broader global community.

13            The legislature finds that the current high school graduation  
14 requirements for coursework in Washington state history and government  
15 should be enhanced to ensure students understand the complex issues of  
16 today's world and Washington's place in the global community. It is  
17 therefore the intent of the legislature to modernize high school  
18 graduation requirements for coursework in Washington state history and  
19 government.

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

3        Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, school districts shall  
4    ensure that any course in Washington state history and government  
5    offered to fulfill high school requirements includes, but is not  
6    limited to, the following content:

7        (1) Commerce in Washington state and Washington's place in a global  
8    economy;

9        (2) The Constitution of the state of Washington and Washington  
10   state politics;

11        (3) Washington state geography; and

12        (4) Washington state history and culture.

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