

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**HOUSE BILL 2781**

60th Legislature  
2008 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 8, 2008  
Yeas 89 Nays 4

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 4, 2008  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

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**President of the Senate**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 2781** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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HOUSE BILL 2781

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2008 Regular Session

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. Educators are encouraged to incorporate instruction on  
11   the meaning and history of the pledge of allegiance into existing  
12   coursework on state politics. The superintendent of public instruction  
13   shall adopt rules to provide guidance for complying with this  
14   subsection;

15        (3) Washington state geography; and

16        (4) Washington state history and culture.

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