

ESSB 6604 - H AMD 1646

By Representative Maxwell

ADOPTED 3/11/2010

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3
4 "Sec. 1. RCW 28A.655.061 and 2009 c 524 s 5 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

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

16 (2) Subject to the conditions in this section, a certificate of
17 academic achievement shall be obtained by most students at about the
18 age of sixteen, and is evidence that the students have successfully
19 met the state standard in the content areas included in the
20 certificate. With the exception of students satisfying the provisions
21 of RCW 28A.155.045 or 28A.655.0611, acquisition of the certificate is
22 required for graduation from a public high school but is not the only
23 requirement for graduation.

24 (3) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008, with the
25 exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, a
26 student who meets the state standards on the reading, writing, and
27 mathematics content areas of the high school Washington assessment of

1 student learning shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. If
2 a student does not successfully meet the state standards in one or
3 more content areas required for the certificate of academic
4 achievement, then the student may retake the assessment in the content
5 area up to four times at no cost to the student. If the student
6 successfully meets the state standards on a retake of the assessment
7 then the student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement.
8 Once objective alternative assessments are authorized pursuant to
9 subsection (10) of this section, a student may use the objective
10 alternative assessments to demonstrate that the student successfully
11 meets the state standards for that content area if the student has
12 taken the Washington assessment of student learning at least once. If
13 the student successfully meets the state standards on the objective
14 alternative assessments then the student shall earn a certificate of
15 academic achievement.

16 (4) Beginning no later than with the graduating class of 2013, a
17 student must meet the state standards in science in addition to the
18 other content areas required under subsection (3) of this section on
19 the Washington assessment of student learning or the objective
20 alternative assessments in order to earn a certificate of academic
21 achievement. The state board of education may adopt a rule that
22 implements the requirements of this subsection (4) beginning with a
23 graduating class before the graduating class of 2013, if the state
24 board of education adopts the rule by September 1st of the freshman
25 school year of the graduating class to which the requirements of this
26 subsection (4) apply. The state board of education's authority under
27 this subsection (4) does not alter the requirement that any change in
28 performance standards for the tenth grade assessment must comply with
29 RCW 28A.305.130.

30 (5) The state board of education may not require the acquisition
31 of the certificate of academic achievement for students in home-based
32 instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW, for students enrolled in
33 private schools under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or for students satisfying
34 the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045.

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

3 (7) School districts must make available to students the following
4 options:

5 (a) To retake the Washington assessment of student learning up to
6 four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the
7 state standards if the student is enrolled in a public school; or

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

15 (8) Students who achieve the standard in a content area of the
16 high school assessment but who wish to improve their results shall pay
17 for retaking the assessment, using a uniform cost determined by the
18 superintendent of public instruction.

19 (9) Opportunities to retake the assessment at least twice a year
20 shall be available to each school district.

21 (10)(a) The office of the superintendent of public instruction
22 shall develop options for implementing objective alternative
23 assessments, which may include an appeals process for students'
24 scores, for students to demonstrate achievement of the state academic
25 standards. The objective alternative assessments shall be comparable
26 in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate
27 on the Washington assessment of student learning and be objective in
28 its determination of student achievement of the state standards.
29 Before any objective alternative assessments in addition to those
30 authorized in RCW 28A.655.065 or (b) of this subsection are used by a
31 student to demonstrate that the student has met the state standards in
32 a content area required to obtain a certificate, the legislature shall
33 formally approve the use of any objective alternative assessments
34

1 through the omnibus appropriations act or by statute or concurrent
2 resolution.

3 (b)(i) A student's score on the mathematics, reading or English,
4 or writing portion of the SAT or the ACT may be used as an objective
5 alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that a
6 student has met or exceeded the state standards for the certificate of
7 academic achievement. The state board of education shall identify the
8 scores students must achieve on the relevant portion of the SAT or ACT
9 to meet or exceed the state standard in the relevant content area on
10 the Washington assessment of student learning. The state board of
11 education shall identify the first scores by December 1, 2007. After
12 the first scores are established, the state board may increase but not
13 decrease the scores required for students to meet or exceed the state
14 standards.

15 (ii) Until August 31, 2008, a student's score on the mathematics
16 portion of the PSAT may be used as an objective alternative assessment
17 under this section for demonstrating that a student has met or
18 exceeded the state standard for the certificate of academic
19 achievement. The state board of education shall identify the score
20 students must achieve on the mathematics portion of the PSAT to meet
21 or exceed the state standard in that content area on the Washington
22 assessment of student learning.

23 (iii) A student who scores at least a three on the grading scale
24 of one to five for selected AP examinations may use the score as an
25 objective alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating
26 that a student has met or exceeded state standards for the certificate
27 of academic achievement. A score of three on the AP examinations in
28 calculus or statistics may be used as an alternative assessment for
29 the mathematics portion of the Washington assessment of student
30 learning. A score of three on the AP examinations in English language
31 and composition may be used as an alternative assessment for the
32 writing portion of the Washington assessment of student learning. A
33 score of three on the AP examinations in English literature and
34 composition, macroeconomics, microeconomics, psychology, United States

1 history, world history, United States government and politics, or
2 comparative government and politics may be used as an alternative
3 assessment for the reading portion of the Washington assessment of
4 student learning.

5 (11) By December 15, 2004, the house of representatives and senate
6 education committees shall obtain information and conclusions from
7 recognized, independent, national assessment experts regarding the
8 validity and reliability of the high school Washington assessment of
9 student learning for making individual student high school graduation
10 determinations.

11 (12) To help assure continued progress in academic achievement as
12 a foundation for high school graduation and to assure that students
13 are on track for high school graduation, each school district shall
14 prepare plans for and notify students and their parents or legal
15 guardians as provided in this subsection (~~((12))~~).

16 (~~((a))~~) Student learning plans are required for eighth (~~through~~
17 ~~twelfth~~) grade students who were not successful on any or all of the
18 content areas of the (~~Washington~~) state assessment (~~for student~~
19 ~~learning~~) during the previous school year or who may not be on track
20 to graduate due to credit deficiencies or absences. The parent or
21 legal guardian shall be notified about the information in the student
22 learning plan, preferably through a parent conference and at least
23 annually. To the extent feasible, schools serving English language
24 learner students and their parents shall translate the plan into the
25 primary language of the family. The plan shall include the following
26 information as applicable:

27 (~~((i))~~) (a) The student's results on the (~~Washington~~) state
28 assessment (~~of student learning~~);

29 (~~((ii))~~) (b) If the student is in the transitional bilingual
30 program, the score on his or her Washington language proficiency test
31 II;

32 (~~((iii))~~) (c) Any credit deficiencies;

33 (~~((iv))~~) (d) The student's attendance rates over the previous two
34 years;

1 ~~((v))~~ (e) The student's progress toward meeting state and local
2 graduation requirements;

3 ~~((vi))~~ (f) The courses, competencies, and other steps needed to
4 be taken by the student to meet state academic standards and stay on
5 track for graduation;

6 ~~((vii))~~ (g) Remediation strategies and alternative education
7 options available to students, including informing students of the
8 option to continue to receive instructional services after grade
9 twelve or until the age of twenty-one;

10 ~~((viii))~~ (h) The alternative assessment options available to
11 students under this section and RCW 28A.655.065;

12 ~~((ix))~~ (i) School district programs, high school courses, and
13 career and technical education options available for students to meet
14 graduation requirements; and

15 ~~((x))~~ (j) Available programs offered through skill centers or
16 community and technical colleges, including the college high school
17 diploma options under RCW 28B.50.535.

18 ~~((b) All fifth grade students who were not successful in one or
19 more of the content areas of the fourth grade Washington assessment of
20 student learning shall have a student learning plan.~~

21 ~~(i) The parent or guardian of the student shall be notified,
22 preferably through a parent conference, of the student's results on
23 the Washington assessment of student learning, actions the school
24 intends to take to improve the student's skills in any content area in
25 which the student was unsuccessful, and provide strategies to help
26 them improve their student's skills.~~

27 ~~(ii) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported to the
28 student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments to the
29 plan made as necessary.))"~~

30

31 Correct the title.

32

EFFECT: Removes all provisions of the bill except the repeal of
the requirement that school districts prepare Student Learning
Plans for 5th and 9th through 12th grade students who are not

successful on state assessments or not on track to graduate.
Retains the requirement that districts prepare these plans for 8th
grade students.

--- END ---