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HOUSE BILL 1015

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Representatives McCoy, Santos, Hunt, Appleton, Moscoso, Klippert, Ryu, Sells, Stanford, Haigh, Tharinger, Kirby, Ormsby, and Pollet

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- 1 AN ACT Relating to reducing costs by reducing state assessment 2. requirements; amending RCW 28A.155.170, 28A.165.025, 28A.195.010, 28A.200.010, 28A.230.090, 28A.230.122, 3 28A.230.125, 28A.305.130, 28A.655.066, 4 28A.600.310, 28A.655.061, 28A.655.068, 28A.655.185, 28A.655.200, and 28A.655.070; reenacting and amending RCW 28B.15.067; 5 6 creating a new section; and repealing RCW 28A.155.045, 28A.180.100, 7 28A.600.405, 28A.655.0611, 28A.655.063, 28A.655.065, and 28B.50.534.
- 8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 9 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds that in the area of 10 student performance assessments, a balance must be found between 11 accountability and cost. The federal government mandates student testing in reading and mathematics at grades three through eight and 12 13 high school, plus testing in science at elementary, middle, and high 14 Over the years, Washington has incrementally added more 15 requirements for students and schools, starting with a writing 16 assessment, and then establishing two high school mathematics 17 assessments. Washington also requires students to meet the state 18 standard on assessments in four different subjects for purposes of high 19 school graduation, which necessitates making provisions for retakes,

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- multiple test administrations during the year, and alternative assessment options. Given the financial challenges facing the state and school districts, the legislature finds that corrective action is needed to reduce the cost and burden of testing, and therefore intends to base student and school accountability on only those assessment requirements that are mandated under federal law.
- 7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.155.170 and 2007 c 318 s 2 are each amended to 8 read as follows:

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- (1) Beginning July 1, 2007, each school district that operates a high school shall establish a policy and procedures that permit any student who is receiving special education or related services under an individualized education program pursuant to state and federal law and who will continue to receive such services between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one to participate in the graduation ceremony and activities after four years of high school attendance with his or her age-appropriate peers and receive a certificate of attendance.
- (2) Participation in a graduation ceremony and receipt of a certificate of attendance under this section does not preclude a student from continuing to receive special education and related services under an individualized education program beyond the graduation ceremony.
- 22 (3) A student's participation in a graduation ceremony and receipt 23 of a certificate of attendance under this section shall not be 24 construed as the student's receipt of ((either:
 - (a))) a high school diploma pursuant to RCW 28A.230.120((; or
- 26 (b) A certificate of individual achievement pursuant to RCW 27 28A.155.045)).
- 28 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.165.025 and 2009 c 556 s 1 are each amended to 29 read as follows:
- (1) A participating school district shall submit the district's plan for using learning assistance funds to the office of the superintendent of public instruction for approval, to the extent required under subsection (2) of this section. The program plan must identify the program activities to be implemented from RCW 28A.165.035 and implement all of the elements in (a) through (h) of this subsection. The school district plan shall include the following:

- (a) District and school-level data on reading((, writing,)) and mathematics achievement as reported pursuant to chapter 28A.655 RCW and relevant federal law;
- (b) Processes used for identifying the underachieving students to be served by the program, including the identification of school or program sites providing program activities;
- (c) How accelerated learning plans are developed and implemented for participating students. Accelerated learning plans may be developed as part of existing student achievement plan process such as student plans for achieving state high school graduation standards, individual student academic plans, or the achievement plans for groups of students. Accelerated learning plans shall include:
 - (i) Achievement goals for the students;

- 14 (ii) Roles of the student, parents, or guardians and teachers in the plan;
- 16 (iii) Communication procedures regarding student accomplishment; 17 and
 - (iv) Plan reviews and adjustments processes;
- 19 (d) How state level and classroom assessments are used to inform 20 instruction;
 - (e) How focused and intentional instructional strategies have been identified and implemented;
 - (f) How highly qualified instructional staff are developed and supported in the program and in participating schools;
 - (g) How other federal, state, district, and school resources are coordinated with school improvement plans and the district's strategic plan to support underachieving students; and
 - (h) How a program evaluation will be conducted to determine direction for the following school year.
 - (2) If a school district has received approval of its plan once, it is not required to submit a plan for approval under RCW 28A.165.045 or this section unless the district has made a significant change to the plan. If a district has made a significant change to only a portion of the plan the district need only submit a description of the changes made and not the entire plan. Plans or descriptions of changes to the plan must be submitted by July 1st as required under this section. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall establish guidelines for what a "significant change" is.

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1 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.195.010 and 2009 c 548 s 303 are each amended to read as follows:

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The legislature hereby recognizes that private schools should be subject only to those minimum state controls necessary to insure the health and safety of all the students in the state and to insure a sufficient basic education to meet usual graduation requirements. The state, any agency or official thereof, shall not restrict or dictate any specific educational or other programs for private schools except as hereinafter in this section provided.

Principals of private schools or superintendents of private school districts shall file each year with the state superintendent of public instruction a statement certifying that the minimum requirements hereinafter set forth are being met, noting any deviations. review of the statement, the state superintendent will notify schools or school districts of those deviations which must be corrected. case of major deviations, the school or school district may request and the state board of education may grant provisional status for one year in order that the school or school district may take action to meet the requirements. The state board of education shall not require private school students to meet the student learning goals, ((obtain a certificate of academic achievement, or a certificate of individual achievement to graduate from high school,)) to master the essential academic learning requirements, or to be assessed pursuant to RCW ((28A.655.061)) <u>28A.655.070</u>. However, private schools may choose, on a voluntary basis, to have their students master these essential academic learning requirements((7)) or take the assessments((7))obtain a certificate of academic achievement or a certificate of individual achievement)). Minimum requirements shall be as follows:

- (1) The minimum school year for instructional purposes shall consist of no less than one hundred eighty school days or the equivalent in annual minimum instructional hour offerings, with a school-wide annual average total instructional hour offering of one thousand hours for students enrolled in grades one through twelve, and at least four hundred fifty hours for students enrolled in kindergarten.
 - (2) The school day shall be the same as defined in RCW 28A.150.203.
- 37 (3) All classroom teachers shall hold appropriate Washington state 38 certification except as follows:

(a) Teachers for religious courses or courses for which no counterpart exists in public schools shall not be required to obtain a state certificate to teach those courses.

- (b) In exceptional cases, people of unusual competence but without certification may teach students so long as a certified person exercises general supervision. Annual written statements shall be submitted to the office of the superintendent of public instruction reporting and explaining such circumstances.
- (4) An approved private school may operate an extension program for parents, guardians, or persons having legal custody of a child to teach children in their custody. The extension program shall require at a minimum that:
- (a) The parent, guardian, or custodian be under the supervision of an employee of the approved private school who is certified under chapter 28A.410 RCW;
- (b) The planning by the certified person and the parent, guardian, or person having legal custody include objectives consistent with this subsection and subsections (1), (2), (5), (6), and (7) of this section;
- (c) The certified person spend a minimum average each month of one contact hour per week with each student under his or her supervision who is enrolled in the approved private school extension program;
- (d) Each student's progress be evaluated by the certified person; and
 - (e) The certified employee shall not supervise more than thirty students enrolled in the approved private school's extension program.
 - (5) Appropriate measures shall be taken to safeguard all permanent records against loss or damage.
- (6) The physical facilities of the school or district shall be adequate to meet the program offered by the school or district: PROVIDED, That each school building shall meet reasonable health and fire safety requirements. A residential dwelling of the parent, guardian, or custodian shall be deemed to be an adequate physical facility when a parent, guardian, or person having legal custody is instructing his or her child under subsection (4) of this section.
- (7) Private school curriculum shall include instruction of the basic skills of occupational education, science, mathematics, language, social studies, history, health, reading, writing, spelling, and the

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development of appreciation of art and music, all in sufficient units for meeting state board of education graduation requirements.

(8) Each school or school district shall be required to maintain up-to-date policy statements related to the administration and operation of the school or school district.

All decisions of policy, philosophy, selection of books, teaching material, curriculum, except as in subsection (7) of this section provided, school rules and administration, or other matters not specifically referred to in this section, shall be the responsibility of the administration and administrators of the particular private school involved.

- **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.200.010 and 2004 c 19 s 107 are each amended to 13 read as follows:
- 14 (1) Each parent whose child is receiving home-based instruction 15 under RCW 28A.225.010(4) shall have the duty to:
 - (a) File annually a signed declaration of intent that he or she is planning to cause his or her child to receive home-based instruction. The statement shall include the name and age of the child, shall specify whether a certificated person will be supervising the instruction, and shall be written in a format prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction. Each parent shall file the statement by September 15th of the school year or within two weeks of the beginning of any public school quarter, trimester, or semester with the superintendent of the public school district within which the parent resides or the district that accepts the transfer, and the student shall be deemed a transfer student of the nonresident district. Parents may apply for transfer under RCW 28A.225.220;
 - (b) Ensure that test scores or annual academic progress assessments and immunization records, together with any other records that are kept relating to the instructional and educational activities provided, are forwarded to any other public or private school to which the child transfers. At the time of a transfer to a public school, the superintendent of the local school district in which the child enrolls may require a standardized achievement test to be administered and shall have the authority to determine the appropriate grade and course level placement of the child after consultation with parents and review of the child's records; and

(c) Ensure that a standardized achievement test approved by the state board of education is administered annually to the child by a qualified individual or that an annual assessment of the student's academic progress is written by a certificated person who is currently working in the field of education. The state board of education shall not require these children to meet the student learning goals, master the essential academic learning requirements, ((to)) or take the assessments((, or to obtain a certificate of academic achievement or a certificate of individual achievement pursuant to RCW 28A.655.061 and 28A.155.045)) under RCW 28A.655.070. The standardized administered or the annual academic progress assessment written shall be made a part of the child's permanent records. If, as a result of the annual test or assessment, it is determined that the child is not making reasonable progress consistent with his or her age or stage of development, the parent shall make a good faith effort to remedy any deficiency.

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- (2) Failure of a parent to comply with the duties in this section shall be deemed a failure of such parent's child to attend school without valid justification under RCW 28A.225.020. Parents who do comply with the duties set forth in this section shall be presumed to be providing home-based instruction as set forth in RCW 28A.225.010(4).
- 22 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.230.090 and 2011 c 203 s 2 are each amended to 23 read as follows:
 - (1) The state board of education shall establish high school graduation requirements or equivalencies for students, except as provided in RCW 28A.230.122 and except those equivalencies established by local high schools or school districts under RCW 28A.230.097. The purpose of a high school diploma is to declare that a student is ready for success in postsecondary education, gainful employment, and citizenship, and is equipped with the skills to be a lifelong learner.
 - (a) Any course in Washington state history and government used to fulfill high school graduation requirements shall consider including information on the culture, history, and government of the American Indian peoples who were the first inhabitants of the state.
 - (b) ((The certificate of academic achievement requirements under RCW 28A.655.061 or the certificate of individual achievement

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requirements under RCW 28A.155.045 are required for graduation from a public high school but are not the only requirements for graduation.

- (c)) Any decision on whether a student has met the state board's high school graduation requirements for a high school and beyond plan shall remain at the local level.
- (2)(a) In recognition of the statutory authority of the state board of education to establish and enforce minimum high school graduation requirements, the state board shall periodically reevaluate the graduation requirements and shall report such findings to the legislature in a timely manner as determined by the state board.
- (b) The state board shall reevaluate the graduation requirements for students enrolled in vocationally intensive and rigorous career and technical education programs, particularly those programs that lead to a certificate or credential that is state or nationally recognized. The purpose of the evaluation is to ensure that students enrolled in these programs have sufficient opportunity to ((earn a certificate of academic achievement)) meet the state's essential academic learning requirements, complete the program and earn the program's certificate or credential, and complete other state and local graduation requirements.
- (c) The state board shall forward any proposed changes to the high school graduation requirements to the education committees of the legislature for review and to the quality education council established under RCW 28A.290.010. The legislature shall have the opportunity to act during a regular legislative session before the changes are adopted through administrative rule by the state board. Changes that have a fiscal impact on school districts, as identified by a fiscal analysis prepared by the office of the superintendent of public instruction, shall take effect only if formally authorized and funded by the legislature through the omnibus appropriations act or other enacted legislation.
- (3) Pursuant to any requirement for instruction in languages other than English established by the state board of education or a local school district, or both, for purposes of high school graduation, students who receive instruction in American sign language or one or more American Indian languages shall be considered to have satisfied the state or local school district graduation requirement for instruction in one or more languages other than English.

(4) If requested by the student and his or her family, a student who has completed high school courses before attending high school shall be given high school credit which shall be applied to fulfilling high school graduation requirements if:

- (a) The course was taken with high school students, if the academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth grade classes, and the student has successfully passed by completing the same course requirements and examinations as the high school students enrolled in the class; or
- (b) The academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth grade classes and the course would qualify for high school credit, because the course is similar or equivalent to a course offered at a high school in the district as determined by the school district board of directors.
- (5) Students who have taken and successfully completed high school courses under the circumstances in subsection (4) of this section shall not be required to take an additional competency examination or perform any other additional assignment to receive credit.
- 19 (6) At the college or university level, five quarter or three 20 semester hours equals one high school credit.
- **Sec. 7.** RCW 28A.230.122 and 2011 c 203 s 1 are each amended to 22 read as follows:
 - (1) A student who fulfills the requirements specified in subsection (3) of this section toward completion of an international baccalaureate diploma programme is considered to have satisfied state minimum requirements for graduation from a public high school, except that ((\div)
 - (a) The provisions of RCW 28A.655.061 regarding the certificate of academic achievement or RCW 28A.155.045 regarding the certificate of individual achievement apply to students under this section; and
 - $\frac{(b)}{(b)}$) the provisions of RCW 28A.230.170 regarding study of the United States Constitution and the Washington state Constitution apply to students under this section.
 - (2) School districts may require students under this section to complete local graduation requirements that are in addition to state minimum requirements before issuing a high school diploma under RCW 28A.230.120. However, school districts are encouraged to waive local

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requirements as necessary to encourage students to pursue an international baccalaureate diploma.

- (3) To receive a high school diploma under this section, a student must complete and pass all required international baccalaureate diploma programme courses as scored at the local level; pass all internal assessments as scored at the local level; successfully complete all required projects and products as scored at the local level; and complete the final examinations administered by the international baccalaureate organization in each of the required subjects under the diploma programme.
- **Sec. 8.** RCW 28A.230.125 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 11 s 130 are each 12 amended to read as follows:
 - ((\(\frac{1+}{1+}\))) The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with the four-year institutions as defined in RCW 28B.76.020, the state board for community and technical colleges, and the workforce training and education coordinating board, shall develop for use by all public school districts a standardized high school transcript. The superintendent shall establish clear definitions for the terms "credits" and "hours" so that school programs operating on the quarter, semester, or trimester system can be compared.
- 21 (((2) The standardized high school transcript shall include a 22 notation of whether the student has earned a certificate of individual 23 achievement or a certificate of academic achievement.))
- Sec. 9. RCW 28A.305.130 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 6 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

The purpose of the state board of education is to provide advocacy and strategic oversight of public education; implement a standards-based accountability framework that creates a unified system of increasing levels of support for schools in order to improve student academic achievement; provide leadership in the creation of a system that personalizes education for each student and respects diverse cultures, abilities, and learning styles; and promote achievement of the goals of RCW 28A.150.210. In addition to any other powers and duties as provided by law, the state board of education shall:

(1) Hold regularly scheduled meetings at such time and place within

the state as the board shall determine and may hold such special meetings as may be deemed necessary for the transaction of public business;

- (2) Form committees as necessary to effectively and efficiently conduct the work of the board;
- (3) Seek advice from the public and interested parties regarding the work of the board;
 - (4) For purposes of statewide accountability:

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- (a) Adopt and revise performance improvement goals in reading, ((writing,)) science, and mathematics, by subject and grade level, once assessments in these subjects are required statewide; academic and technical skills, as appropriate, in secondary career and technical education programs; and student attendance, as the board deems appropriate to improve student learning. The goals shall be consistent with student privacy protection provisions of RCW 28A.655.090(7) and shall not conflict with requirements contained in Title I of the federal elementary and secondary education act of 1965, or the requirements of the Carl D. Perkins vocational education act of 1998, each as amended. The goals may be established for all students, economically disadvantaged students, limited English proficient students, students with disabilities, and students from disproportionately academically underachieving racial The board may establish school and school district goals addressing high school graduation rates and dropout reduction goals for students in grades seven through twelve. The board shall adopt the goals by rule. However, before each goal is implemented, the board shall present the goal to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate for the committees' review and comment in a time frame that will permit the legislature to take statutory action on the goal if such action is deemed warranted by the legislature;
 - (b) Identify the scores students must achieve in order to meet the standard on the statewide student assessment ((and, for high school students, to obtain a certificate of academic achievement)). The board shall also determine student scores that identify levels of student performance below and beyond the standard. ((The board shall consider the incorporation of the standard error of measurement into the decision regarding the award of the certificates.)) The board shall

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set such performance standards and levels in consultation with the superintendent of public instruction and after consideration of any recommendations that may be developed by any advisory committees that may be established for this purpose. ((The legislature shall be advised of the initial performance standards for the high school statewide student assessment. Any changes recommended by the board in the performance standards for the high school assessment shall be presented to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate by November 30th of the school year in which the changes will take place to permit the legislature to take statutory action before the changes are implemented if such action is deemed warranted by the legislature.)) The legislature shall be advised of the initial performance standards and any changes made to the ((elementary level performance standards and the middle school level)) performance standards. The board must provide an explanation of and rationale for all initial performance standards and any changes, for all grade levels of the statewide student assessment. If the board changes performance standards for any grade level or subject, the superintendent of public instruction must recalculate the results from the previous ten years of administering that assessment regarding students below, meeting, and beyond the state standard, to the extent that this data is available, and post a comparison of the original and recalculated results on the superintendent's web site;

- (c) Annually review the assessment reporting system to ensure fairness, accuracy, timeliness, and equity of opportunity, especially with regard to schools with special circumstances and unique populations of students, and a recommendation to the superintendent of public instruction of any improvements needed to the system; and
- (d) Include in the biennial report required under RCW 28A.305.035, information on the progress that has been made in achieving goals adopted by the board;
- (5) Accredit, subject to such accreditation standards and procedures as may be established by the state board of education, all private schools that apply for accreditation, and approve, subject to the provisions of RCW 28A.195.010, private schools carrying out a program for any or all of the grades kindergarten through twelve. However, no private school may be approved that operates a kindergarten

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program only and no private school shall be placed upon the list of accredited schools so long as secret societies are knowingly allowed to exist among its students by school officials;

- (6) Articulate with the institutions of higher education, workforce representatives, and early learning policymakers and providers to coordinate and unify the work of the public school system;
- (7) Hire an executive director and an administrative assistant to reside in the office of the superintendent of public instruction for administrative purposes. Any other personnel of the board shall be appointed as provided by RCW 28A.300.020. The board may delegate to the executive director by resolution such duties as deemed necessary to efficiently carry on the business of the board including, but not limited to, the authority to employ necessary personnel and the authority to enter into, amend, and terminate contracts on behalf of the board. The executive director, administrative assistant, and all but one of the other personnel of the board are exempt from civil service, together with other staff as now or hereafter designated as exempt in accordance with chapter 41.06 RCW; and
- 19 (8) Adopt a seal that shall be kept in the office of the 20 superintendent of public instruction.
- **Sec. 10.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2012 c 229 s 702 are each amended to 22 read as follows:
 - (1) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not yet received the credits required for the award of a high school diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may apply to a participating institution of higher education to enroll in courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education. A student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a public high school for the sole purpose of participating in courses or programs offered by institutions of higher education shall not be counted by the school district in any required state or federal accountability reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed a declaration of intent to provide home-based instruction and the student received home-based instruction during the school year before the school year in which the student intends to participate in courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education. Students receiving home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW and students attending private

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schools approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW shall not be required to 1 2 meet the student learning goals((, obtain a certificate of academic achievement or a certificate of individual achievement to graduate from 3 high school,)) or to master the essential academic 4 requirements. However, students are eligible to enroll in courses or 5 programs in participating universities only if the board of directors 6 of the student's school district has decided to participate in the 7 8 Participating institutions of higher program. education, consultation with school districts, may establish admission standards 9 10 for these students. If the institution of higher education accepts a secondary school pupil for enrollment under this 11 12 institution of higher education shall send written notice to the pupil 13 and the pupil's school district within ten days of acceptance. The notice shall indicate the course and hours of enrollment for that 14 15 pupil.

- (2)(a) In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and 28B.15.041:
 - (i) Running start students shall pay to the community or technical college all other mandatory fees as established by each community or technical college and, in addition, the state board for community and technical colleges may authorize a fee of up to ten percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and 28B.15.041; and
 - (ii) All other institutions of higher education operating a running start program may charge running start students a fee of up to ten percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and 28B.15.041 in addition to technology fees.
 - (b) The fees charged under this subsection (2) shall be prorated based on credit load.
 - (3)(a) The institutions of higher education must make available fee waivers for low-income running start students. Each institution must establish a written policy for the determination of low-income students before offering the fee waiver. A student shall be considered low income and eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that the student is currently qualified to receive free or reduced-price lunch. Acceptable documentation of low-income status may also include, but is not limited to, documentation that a student has been deemed eligible for free or reduced-price lunches in the last five years, or other criteria established in the institution's policy.

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(b) Institutions of higher education, in collaboration with relevant student associations, shall aim to have students who can benefit from fee waivers take advantage of these waivers. Institutions shall make every effort to communicate to students and their families the benefits of the waivers and provide assistance to students and their families on how to apply. Information about waivers shall, to the greatest extent possible, be incorporated into financial aid counseling, admission information, and individual billing statements. Institutions also shall, to the greatest extent possible, use all means of communication, including but not limited to web sites, online catalogues, admission and registration forms, mass e-mail messaging, social media, and outside marketing to ensure that information about waivers is visible, compelling, and reaches the maximum number of students and families that can benefit.

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- (4) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the institution of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent college student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and nonvocational students. The superintendent of public instruction shall separately calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic education under RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of making such payments and for granting school districts seven percent thereof to offset program related costs. The calculations and allocations shall be based upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time equivalent high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260, excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable rules adopted under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public instruction, participating institutions of higher education, and the state board for community and technical colleges shall consult on the calculation and distribution of the funds. The funds received by the institution of higher education from the school district shall not be deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the institution of higher education. A student enrolled under this subsection shall be counted for the purpose of meeting enrollment targets in accordance with terms and conditions specified in the omnibus appropriations act.
- (5) The state board for community and technical colleges, in collaboration with the other institutions of higher education that participate in the running start program and the office of the superintendent of public instruction, shall identify, assess, and

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report on alternatives for providing ongoing and adequate financial support for the program. Such alternatives shall include but are not limited to student tuition, increased support from local school districts, and reallocation of existing state financial support among the community and technical college system to account for differential running start enrollment levels and impacts. The state board for community and technical colleges shall report the assessment of alternatives to the governor and to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the legislature by September 1, 2010.

- **Sec. 11.** RCW 28A.655.061 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 22 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) ((The high school assessment system shall include but need not be limited to the statewide student assessment, opportunities for a student to retake the content areas of the assessment in which the student was not successful, and, if approved by the legislature pursuant to subsection (10) of this section, one or more objective alternative assessments for a student to demonstrate achievement of state academic standards. The objective alternative assessments for each content area shall be comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the statewide student assessment for each content area.
- (2) Subject to the conditions in this section, a certificate of academic achievement shall be obtained by most students at about the age of sixteen, and is evidence that the students have successfully met the state standard in the content areas included in the certificate. With the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045 or 28A.655.0611, acquisition of the certificate is required for graduation from a public high school but is not the only requirement for graduation.
- (3) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008, with the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, a student who meets the state standards on the reading, writing, and mathematics content areas of the high school statewide student assessment shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. If a student does not successfully meet the state standards in one or more content areas required for the certificate of academic achievement, then the student may retake the assessment in the content area up to four times at no

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cost to the student. If the student successfully meets the state standards on a retake of the assessment then the student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. Once objective alternative assessments are authorized pursuant to subsection (10) of this section, a student may use the objective alternative assessments to demonstrate that the student successfully meets the state standards for that content area if the student has taken the statewide student assessment at least once. If the student successfully meets the state standards on the objective alternative assessments then the student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement.

- (4) Beginning with the graduating class of 2015, a student must meet the state standards in science in addition to the other content areas required under subsection (3) of this section on the statewide student assessment or the objective alternative assessments in order to earn a certificate of academic achievement.
- (5) The state board of education may not require the acquisition of the certificate of academic achievement for students in home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW, for students enrolled in private schools under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or for students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045.
- (6) A student may retain and use the highest result from each successfully completed content area of the high school assessment.
- (7) School districts must make available to students the following options:
- (a) To retake the statewide student assessment up to four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the state standards if the student is enrolled in a public school; or
- (b) To retake the statewide student assessment up to four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the state standards if the student is enrolled in a high school completion program at a community or technical college. The superintendent of public instruction and the state board for community and technical colleges shall jointly identify means by which students in these programs can be assessed.
- (8) Students who achieve the standard in a content area of the high school assessment but who wish to improve their results shall pay for retaking the assessment, using a uniform cost determined by the superintendent of public instruction.

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

(10)(a) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall develop options for implementing objective alternative assessments, which may include an appeals process for students' scores, for students to demonstrate achievement of the state academic standards. The objective alternative assessments shall be comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the statewide student assessment and be objective in its determination of student achievement of the state standards. Before any objective alternative assessments in addition to those authorized in RCW 28A.655.065 or (b) of this subsection are used by a student to demonstrate that the student has met the state standards in a content area required to obtain a certificate, the legislature shall formally approve the use of any objective alternative assessments through the omnibus appropriations act or by statute or concurrent resolution.

(b)(i) A student's score on the mathematics, reading or English, or writing portion of the SAT or the ACT may be used as an objective alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that a student has met or exceeded the state standards for the certificate of academic achievement. The state board of education shall identify the scores students must achieve on the relevant portion of the SAT or ACT to meet or exceed the state standard in the relevant content area on the statewide student assessment. A student's score on the science portion of the ACT or the science subject area tests of the SAT may be used as an objective alternative assessment under this section as soon as the state board of education determines that sufficient data is available to identify reliable equivalent scores for the science content area of the statewide student assessment. After the first scores are established, the state board may increase but not decrease the scores required for students to meet or exceed the state standards.

(ii) A student who scores at least a three on the grading scale of one to five for selected AP examinations may use the score as an objective alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that a student has met or exceeded state standards for the certificate of academic achievement. A score of three on the AP examinations in calculus or statistics may be used as an alternative assessment for the mathematics portion of the statewide student assessment. A score of

three on the AP examinations in English language and composition may be used as an alternative assessment for the writing portion of the statewide student assessment. A score of three on the AP examinations in English literature and composition, macroeconomics, microeconomics, psychology, United States history, world history, United States government and politics, or comparative government and politics may be used as an alternative assessment for the reading portion of the statewide student assessment. A score of three on the AP examination in biology, physics, chemistry, or environmental science may be used as an alternative assessment for the science portion of the statewide student assessment.

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

(12))) To help assure continued progress in academic achievement as a foundation for high school graduation ((and to assure that students are on track for high school graduation)), each school district shall prepare plans for and notify students and their parents or legal guardians as provided in this ((subsection)) section. Student learning plans are required for eighth grade students who were not successful on any or all of the content areas of the state assessment during the previous school year or who may not be on track to graduate due to credit deficiencies or absences. The parent or legal guardian shall be notified about the information in the student learning plan, preferably through a parent conference and at least annually. To the extent feasible, schools serving English language learner students and their parents shall translate the plan into the primary language of the family.

- (2) The plan shall include the following information as applicable:
- (a) The student's results on the state assessment;
- 34 (b) If the student is in the transitional bilingual program, the 35 score on his or her Washington language proficiency test II;
 - (c) Any credit deficiencies;

(d) The student's attendance rates over the previous two years;

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

- (f) The courses, competencies, and other steps needed to be taken by the student to meet state academic standards ((and stay on track for graduation));
- (g) Remediation strategies and alternative education options available to students, including informing students of the option to continue to receive instructional services after grade twelve or until the age of twenty-one;
- (h) ((The alternative assessment options available to students under this section and RCW 28A.655.065;
- (i)) School district programs, high school courses, and career and technical education options available for students to meet graduation requirements; and
- 15 (((j))) <u>(i)</u> 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.
- **Sec. 12.** RCW 28A.655.066 and 2011 c 25 s 2 are each amended to 19 read as follows:
 - (1)(a) In consultation with the state board of education, the superintendent of public instruction shall develop statewide end-of-course assessments for high school mathematics that measure student achievement of the state mathematics standards as provided in this section. The superintendent shall take steps to ensure that the language of the assessments is responsive to a diverse student population. The assessments shall be implemented statewide in the 2010-11 school year.
 - (b) The superintendent shall develop end-of-course assessments for the first year of high school mathematics that include the standards common to algebra I and integrated mathematics I ((and for the second year of high school mathematics that include the standards common to geometry and integrated mathematics II)). The assessments under this subsection (1)(b) shall be used to demonstrate that a student meets the state standard on the mathematics content area of the high school ((Washington)) statewide student assessment ((of student learning)) for purposes of ((RCW 28A.655.061)) state and federal accountability.

(c) The superintendent of public instruction shall also develop subtests for the end-of-course assessments that measure standards for the first ((two)) year((s)) of high school mathematics that are unique to algebra $I((\tau))$ and integrated mathematics $I((\tau))$ and integrated mathematics $I((\tau))$ and integrated mathematics of the subtests shall be reported at the student, teacher, school, and district level.

- (2) ((For the graduating classes of 2013 and 2014 and for purposes of the certificate of academic achievement under RCW 28A.655.061, a student may use: (a) Results from the end-of-course assessment for the first year of high school mathematics or the results from the end-of-course assessment for the second year of high school mathematics; or (b) results from a high school mathematics retake assessment.
- (3) Beginning with the graduating class of 2015 and for purposes of the certificate of academic achievement under RCW 28A.655.061, the mathematics content area of the Washington assessment of student learning shall be assessed using the end-of-course assessment for the first year of high school mathematics plus the end-of-course assessment for the second year of high school mathematics, or results from a high school mathematics retake assessment for the end-of-course assessments in which the student did not meet the standard.
- (4) All of the objective alternative assessments available to students under RCW 28A.655.061 and 28A.655.065 shall be available to any student who has taken the sequence of end-of-course assessments once but does not meet the state mathematics standard on the sequence of end-of-course assessments.
- (5))) The superintendent of public instruction shall report at least annually or more often if necessary to keep the education committees of the legislature informed on each step of the development and implementation process under this section.
- **Sec. 13.** RCW 28A.655.068 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 22 s 3 are each 31 amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Beginning in the 2011-12 school year, the statewide high school assessment in science shall be an end-of-course assessment for biology that measures the state standards for life sciences, in addition to systems, inquiry, and application as they pertain to life sciences.
 - (2) ((The superintendent of public instruction may develop science

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end-of-course assessments in subjects in addition to biology for purposes of RCW 28A.655.061, when so directed by the legislature.

- (3)) The superintendent of public instruction may participate with consortia of multiple states as common student learning standards and assessments in science are developed. The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with the state board of education, may modify the essential academic learning requirements and statewide student assessments in science, including the high school assessment, according to the multistate common student learning standards and assessments as long as the education committees of the legislature have opportunities for review before the modifications are adopted, as provided under RCW 28A.655.070.
- ((4) The statewide high school assessment under this section shall be used to demonstrate that a student meets the state standards in the science content area of the statewide student assessment for purposes of RCW 28A.655.061.))
- Sec. 14. RCW 28A.655.185 and 2005 c 495 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) It is the intent of the legislature, through the creation of the apple award, to honor and reward students in Washington's public elementary schools who have shown significant improvement in their school's results on the ((Washington)) statewide student assessment ((of student learning)).
 - (2) The apple award program is created to honor and reward public elementary schools that have the greatest combined average increase in the percentage of students meeting the fourth grade reading((τ)) and mathematics((τ)) standards on the ((washington)) statewide student assessment ((washington)) each school year. The program shall be administered by the state board of education.
 - (3) Within the amounts appropriated for this purpose, each school that receives an apple award shall be provided with a twenty-five thousand dollar grant to be used for capital construction purposes that have been selected by students in the school and approved by the district's school directors. The funds may be used exclusively for capital construction projects on school property or on other public property in the community, city, or county in which the school is located.

Sec. 15. RCW 28A.655.200 and 2009 c 539 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

- (1) The legislature intends to permit school districts to offer norm-referenced assessments, make diagnostic tools available to school districts, and provide funding for diagnostic assessments to enhance student learning at all grade levels and provide early intervention before the high school ((Washington)) statewide student assessment ((of student learning)).
- (2) In addition to the diagnostic assessments provided under this section, school districts may, at their own expense, administer norm-referenced assessments to students.
- (3) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this purpose, the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall post on its web site for voluntary use by school districts, a guide of diagnostic assessments. The assessments in the guide, to the extent possible, shall include the characteristics listed in subsection (4) of this section.
- (4) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this purpose, beginning September 1, 2007, the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall make diagnostic assessments in reading, ((writing,)) mathematics, and science in elementary, middle, and high school grades available to school districts. Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall also provide funding to school districts for administration of diagnostic assessments to help improve student learning, identify academic weaknesses, enhance student planning and guidance, and develop targeted instructional strategies to assist students before the high school ((Washington)) statewide student assessment ((of student learning)). To the greatest extent possible, the assessments shall be:
 - (a) Aligned to the state's grade level expectations;
 - (b) Individualized to each student's performance level;
- 33 (c) Administered efficiently to provide results either immediately 34 or within two weeks;
- 35 (d) Capable of measuring individual student growth over time and 36 allowing student progress to be compared to other students across the 37 country;
 - (e) Readily available to parents; and

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1 (f) Cost-effective.

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- 2 (5) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall 3 offer training at statewide and regional staff development activities 4 in:
 - (a) The interpretation of diagnostic assessments; and
- 6 (b) Application of instructional strategies that will increase 7 student learning based on diagnostic assessment data.
- 8 **Sec. 16.** RCW 28A.655.070 and 2008 c 163 s 2 are each amended to 9 read as follows:
 - (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop essential academic learning requirements that identify the knowledge and skills all public school students need to know and be able to do based on the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210, develop student assessments, and implement the accountability recommendations and requests regarding assistance, rewards, and recognition of the state board of education.
 - (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall:
 - (a) Periodically revise the essential academic learning requirements, as needed, based on the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210. Goals one and two shall be considered primary. To the maximum extent possible, the superintendent shall integrate goal four and the knowledge and skill areas in the other goals in the essential academic learning requirements; and
 - Review and prioritize the essential academic (b) learning requirements and identify, with clear and concise descriptions, the grade level content expectations to be assessed on the ((Washington)) statewide student assessment ((of student learning)) and used for state or federal accountability purposes. The review, prioritization, and identification shall result in more focus and targeting with an emphasis on depth over breadth in the number of grade level content expectations assessed at each grade level. Grade level content expectations shall be articulated over the grades as a sequence of expectations and performances that are logical, build with increasing depth after foundational knowledge and skills are acquired, and reflect, where appropriate, the sequential nature of the discipline. The office of the superintendent of public instruction, within seven working days, shall post on its web site any grade level content

expectations provided to an assessment vendor for use in constructing the ((\text{Washington})) statewide student assessment ((\text{of student} \\ \text{learning})).

- (3)(a) In consultation with the state board of education, the superintendent of public instruction shall maintain and continue to develop and revise a statewide academic assessment system in the content areas of reading, ((writing,)) mathematics, and science for use in the elementary, middle, and high school years designed to determine if each student has mastered the essential academic learning requirements identified in subsection (1) of this section. School districts shall administer the assessments under guidelines adopted by the superintendent of public instruction. The academic assessment system may include a variety of assessment methods, including criterion-referenced and performance-based measures.
- (b) Effective with the 2009 administration of the ((\text{Washington})) statewide student assessment ((of student learning)), the superintendent shall redesign the assessment in the content areas of reading, mathematics, and science in all grades except high school by shortening test administration and reducing the number of short answer and extended response questions.
- (4) If the superintendent proposes any modification to the essential academic learning requirements or the statewide assessments, then the superintendent shall, upon request, provide opportunities for the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate to review the assessments and proposed modifications to the essential academic learning requirements before the modifications are adopted.
- (5) The assessment system shall be designed so that the results under the assessment system are used by educators as tools to evaluate instructional practices, and to initiate appropriate educational support for students who have not mastered the essential academic learning requirements at the appropriate periods in the student's educational development.
- (6) By September 2007, the results for reading and mathematics shall be reported in a format that will allow parents and teachers to determine the academic gain a student has acquired in those content areas from one school year to the next.
- (7) To assist parents and teachers in their efforts to provide educational support to individual students, the superintendent of

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public instruction shall provide as much individual student performance information as possible within the constraints of the assessment system's item bank. The superintendent shall also provide to school districts:

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- (a) Information on classroom-based and other assessments that may provide additional achievement information for individual students; and
- (b) A collection of diagnostic tools that educators may use to evaluate the academic status of individual students. The tools shall be designed to be inexpensive, easily administered, and quickly and easily scored, with results provided in a format that may be easily shared with parents and students.
- (8) To the maximum extent possible, the superintendent shall integrate knowledge and skill areas in development of the assessments.
- (9) Assessments for goals three and four of RCW 28A.150.210 shall be integrated in the essential academic learning requirements and assessments for goals one and two.
- (10) The superintendent shall develop assessments that are directly related to the essential academic learning requirements, and are not biased toward persons with different learning styles, racial or ethnic backgrounds, or on the basis of gender.
- 21 (11) The superintendent shall consider methods to address the 22 unique needs of special education students when developing the 23 assessments under this section.
 - (12) The superintendent shall consider methods to address the unique needs of highly capable students when developing the assessments under this section.
- 27 (13) The superintendent shall post on the superintendent's web site 28 lists of resources and model assessments in social studies, the arts, 29 and health and fitness.
- 30 **Sec. 17.** RCW 28B.15.067 and 2012 2nd sp.s. c 7 s 914 and 2012 c 31 228 s 6 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- 32 (1) Tuition fees shall be established under the provisions of this 33 chapter.
- 34 (2) Beginning in the 2011-12 academic year, reductions or increases 35 in full-time tuition fees shall be as provided in the omnibus 36 appropriations act for resident undergraduate students at community and 37 technical colleges. The governing boards of the state universities,

regional universities, and The Evergreen State College; and the state 1 2 board for community and technical colleges may reduce or increase fulltime tuition fees for all students other than resident undergraduates, 3 including nonresident students, summer school students, and students in 4 other self-supporting degree programs. Percentage increases in full-5 time tuition may exceed the fiscal growth factor. Except during the 6 7 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, the state board for community and technical 8 colleges may pilot or institute differential tuition models. The board 9 may define scale, scope, and rationale for the models.

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- (3)(a) Beginning with the 2011-12 academic year and through the end of the 2014-15 academic year, the governing boards of the state universities, the regional universities, and The Evergreen State College may reduce or increase full-time tuition fees for all students, including summer school students and students in other self-supporting degree programs. Percentage increases in full-time tuition fees may exceed the fiscal growth factor. Reductions or increases may be made for all or portions of an institution's programs, campuses, courses, or students; however, during the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, reductions or increases in tuition must be uniform among resident undergraduate students.
- (b) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic year, the governing boards of the state universities, the regional universities, and The Evergreen State College shall consult with student associations or organizations with undergraduate and graduate representatives regarding the impacts of potential tuition increases. Each governing board shall make public its proposal for tuition and fee increases twenty-one days before the governing board of the institution considers adoption and allow opportunity for public comment. However, the requirement to make public a proposal for tuition and fee increases twenty-one days before the governing board considers adoption shall not apply if the omnibus appropriations act has not passed the legislature by May 15th. Governing boards shall be required to provide data regarding the percentage of students receiving financial aid, the sources of aid, and the percentage of total costs of attendance paid for by aid.
- (c) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic year, the state board for community and technical college system shall consult with existing student associations or organizations with

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undergraduate student representation regarding the impacts of potential tuition increases. The state board for community and technical colleges shall provide data regarding the percentage of students receiving financial aid, the sources of aid, and the percentage of total costs of attendance paid for by aid.

- (4) Beginning with the 2015-16 academic year through the 2018-19 academic year, the governing boards of the state universities, regional universities, and The Evergreen State College may set tuition for resident undergraduates as follows:
- (a) If state funding for a college or university falls below the state funding provided in the operating budget for fiscal year 2011, the governing board may increase tuition up to the limits set in (d) of this subsection, reduce enrollments, or both;
- (b) If state funding for a college or university is at least at the level of state funding provided in the operating budget for fiscal year 2011, the governing board may increase tuition up to the limits set in (d) of this subsection and shall continue to at least maintain the actual enrollment levels for fiscal year 2011 or increase enrollments as required in the omnibus appropriations act;
- (c) If state funding is increased so that combined with resident undergraduate tuition the sixtieth percentile of the total per-student funding at similar public institutions of higher education in the global challenge states under RCW 28B.15.068 is exceeded, the governing board shall decrease tuition by the amount needed for the total per-student funding to be at the sixtieth percentile under RCW 28B.15.068; and
- (d) The amount of tuition set by the governing board for an institution under this subsection (4) may not exceed the sixtieth percentile of the resident undergraduate tuition of similar public institutions of higher education in the global challenge states.
- (5) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply to high school students enrolling in participating institutions of higher education under RCW 28A.600.300 through 28A.600.400.
- (6) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply to eligible students enrolling in a dropout reengagement program through an interlocal agreement between a school district and a community or technical college under RCW 28A.175.100 through 28A.175.110.

(7) ((The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply to eligible students enrolling in a community or technical college participating in the pilot program under RCW 28B.50.534 for the purpose of obtaining a high school diploma.

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- (8))) Beginning in the 2019-20 academic year, reductions or increases in full-time tuition fees for resident undergraduates at four-year institutions of higher education shall be as provided in the omnibus appropriations act.
- $((\frac{(9)}{(9)}))$ The legislative advisory committee to the committee on advanced tuition payment established in RCW 28B.95.170 shall:
- 11 (a) Review the impact of differential tuition rates on the funded 12 status and future unit price of the Washington advanced college tuition 13 payment program; and
 - (b) No later than January 14, 2013, make a recommendation to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the legislature regarding how differential tuition should be addressed in order to maintain the ongoing solvency of the Washington advanced college tuition payment program.
- 19 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 18.** The following acts or parts of acts are 20 each repealed:
- 21 (1) RCW 28A.155.045 (Certificate of individual achievement) and 22 2007 c 354 s 3 & 2004 c 19 s 104;
- 23 (2) RCW 28A.180.100 (Continuing education plan for older students) 24 and 2004 c 19 s 105;
 - (3) RCW 28A.600.405 (Participation in high school completion pilot program--Eligible students--Funding allocations--Rules--Information for students and parents) and 2012 1st sp.s. c 10 s 4 & 2007 c 355 s 4;
- 28 (4) RCW 28A.655.0611 (Graduation without certificate of academic 29 achievement or certificate of individual achievement) and 2009 c 17 s 30 1 & 2007 c 354 s 4;
- 31 (5) RCW 28A.655.063 (Objective alternative assessments--32 Reimbursement of costs--Testing fee waivers) and 2007 c 354 s 7 & 2006 33 c 115 s 5;
- 34 (6) RCW 28A.655.065 (Objective alternative assessment methods--35 Appeals from assessment scores--Waivers and appeals from assessment 36 requirements--Rules) and 2009 c 556 s 19, 2008 c 170 s 205, 2007 c 354 37 s 6, & 2006 c 115 s 1; and

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- 1 (7) RCW 28B.50.534 (High school completion pilot program) and 2007 2 c 355 s 3.
 - --- END ---