
Education Committee

HB 2429

Brief Description: Concerning the provision of assessment results to students and their parents or guardians.

Sponsors: Representatives Caldier, Reykdal, Magendanz, Ortiz-Self, Young, McBride, McCaslin, Muri, Kilduff, Pollet and Santos.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop a process for, and school districts to provide, notification to students and their parents or guardians with the results of certain state assessments, no later than the subsequent June 15th after the student takes the assessment.

Hearing Date: 1/26/16

Staff: Megan Wargacki (786-7194).

Background:

Statewide Student Assessment System.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI), in consultation with the State Board of Education (SBE), is authorized to maintain and revise a statewide academic assessment system to measure student knowledge and skills on state learning standards and to use for purposes of state and federal accountability. The state assessment system must cover the content areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and science for elementary, middle, and high school years. The federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act requires states to assess students based on state learning standards in reading and mathematics in each of grades 3 through 8 and one high school grade, as well as in at least one grade in elementary, middle, and high school in science.

In 2013 the SPI was directed to implement student assessments developed with a multistate consortium in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics, beginning in the 2014-15 school year. (Washington is part of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, known as SBAC.)

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The SPI was also directed to use test items from the SBAC assessments to develop a tenth grade ELA assessment and modify the Algebra I and Geometry end of course assessments for use through the transition period.

The SBE is responsible for establishing the performance scores that students must meet on state assessments. The scores established for purposes of graduation may be different from the scores used for the purpose of determining career and college readiness. The SBE approved scores for college and career readiness on SBAC assessments in January 2015. In August 2015 the SBE approved the scores for graduation on the SBAC assessments. The SBE plans on reviewing the scores for graduation again in August 2016 and also plans on approving scores for graduation on alternatives to the SBAC assessments.

Summary of Bill:

The SPI must develop and implement a process for ensuring that school districts are able to provide students and their parents or guardians with the results of the state assessments listed below, no later than the subsequent June 15th after the student takes the assessment.

For the following state assessments taken during or after the 2016-17 school year, school districts must provide students and their parents or guardians with the results of the assessments no later than the subsequent June 15th after the student takes the assessment:

- the tenth grade ELA assessment developed by the SPI using resources from the multistate consortium;
- the ELA assessment developed with the multistate consortium; and
- the comprehensive mathematics assessment developed with the multistate consortium.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.