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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1079**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Ortiz-Self, Rude, McEntire, Reed, Shavers, Callan, Simmons, Rule, Nance, Berg, and Reeves)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to supporting remote testing options for students  
2 enrolled in online school programs; adding a new section to chapter  
3 28A.250 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that students  
6 enrolled in online school programs are required to travel to  
7 designated testing sites for state assessments. This travel can  
8 impose significant burdens on students and families, including  
9 requiring parents or guardians to take time off from work, travel  
10 long distances, and incur costs for accommodations and meals.

11 As a result of these burdens, some parents have chosen to excuse  
12 their students from taking state assessments. These choices, however,  
13 impact the ability of educators and the state to measure the academic  
14 progress of these students.

15 The legislature finds that to ensure equitable access to state  
16 assessments and to uphold their integrity, the state must permit  
17 remote testing options for students enrolled in online school  
18 programs that align with the students' online instruction  
19 environments.

20 The legislature, therefore, intends to expressly permit school  
21 districts to offer remote testing options for students enrolled in

1 online education programs to reduce barriers to assessment  
2 participation, and maintain fairness, equity, and security in the  
3 assessment process.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.250  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) Beginning in the 2027-28 school year, school districts with  
7 online school programs may provide all students within those programs  
8 with the ability to complete statewide assessments remotely.

9 (2)(a) By April 1, 2027, the office of the superintendent of  
10 public instruction shall develop or review and update as necessary  
11 assessment administration and security policies to support remote  
12 testing options for students enrolled in online school programs  
13 including the remote administration of statewide academic  
14 assessments. The policies required by this subsection (2), at a  
15 minimum, must address:

- 16 (i) Required qualifications for testing personnel;
- 17 (ii) The maximum ratio of students to proctors;
- 18 (iii) Requirements for remote testing environments, including  
19 restrictions on access to devices and persons, and procedures for  
20 monitoring students completing tests;
- 21 (iv) Device and network requirements; and
- 22 (v) Parental consent and agreement forms.

23 (b) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
24 periodically review and revise as necessary the policies required by  
25 this subsection (2).

26 (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
27 adopt and revise as necessary rules to implement this section. When  
28 adopting rules in accordance with this section, the office of the  
29 superintendent of public instruction is encouraged to consider  
30 utilizing pilot rule making as provided in RCW 34.05.310.

31 (4) For the purposes of this section, "device" means any  
32 electronic equipment, including computers, tablets, and smartphones,  
33 used for test administration.

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