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**SENATE BILL 6178**

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**State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1992 Regular Session**

**By Senators Bailey, Erwin, Oke, Barr and Nelson**

Read first time 01/20/92. Referred to Committee on Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to better schools; amending RCW 28A.410.040,  
2 28A.410.050, 28A.410.030, 28A.405.220, 28A.150.040, 41.59.020,  
3 41.56.030, 28A.225.220, 28A.150.230, and 28A.230.090; adding new  
4 sections to chapter 28A.320 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 28A.230  
5 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28A.150 RCW; and creating a new  
6 section.

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

8            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**            (1) The legislature finds that:

9            (a) Academic achievement of Washington students can and should be  
10 improved;

11            (b) Student success, in large part, depends on parents'  
12 involvement, both at home and at school, in the education of their  
13 child;

1 (c) Many school districts across the state are engaged in efforts  
2 to reevaluate and restructure their local education programs;

3 (d) State support can help sustain and accelerate the momentum of  
4 educational restructuring initiatives.

5 (2) The legislature recognizes that the public education system, as  
6 the foundation of our society, faces critical issues that reflect the  
7 public's increasing concern regarding the effectiveness and  
8 accountability of our public schools. The legislature finds that these  
9 issues can be addressed by:

10 (a) Increasing public confidence in the professional preparation  
11 and training of educators;

12 (b) Establishing rights and responsibilities of parents to  
13 knowledgeably participate in the education of their children;

14 (c) Measuring and reporting student achievement in a manner that  
15 encourages accountability to and understanding by the public;

16 (d) Increasing the broad powers and accountability of school  
17 boards; and

18 (e) Establishing a state-level panel to monitor and report on the  
19 progress of educational reform and restructuring efforts throughout the  
20 state.

21 PART I

22 ENHANCING THE TEACHING PROFESSION

23 **Sec. 101.** RCW 28A.410.040 and 1990 c 33 s 406 are each amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (1) The state board of education shall adopt rules providing that,  
26 except as provided in this section, all individuals qualifying for an  
27 initial-level teaching certificate after August 31, 1992, shall possess  
28 a baccalaureate degree in the arts, sciences, and/or humanities and  
29 have fulfilled the requirements for teacher certification pursuant to

1 RCW 28A.305.130 (1) and (2). (~~The state board of education shall~~  
2 ~~develop and adopt rules establishing baccalaureate degree equivalency~~  
3 ~~standards for certification of vocational instructors performing~~  
4 ~~instructional duties and acquiring initial level certification after~~  
5 ~~August 31, 1992.~~) However, candidates for grades preschool through  
6 eight certificates shall have fulfilled the requirements for a major as  
7 part of their baccalaureate degree. If the major is in early childhood  
8 education, elementary education, or special education, the candidate  
9 must have at least thirty quarter hours or twenty semester hours in one  
10 academic field.

11 (2) (~~The state board of education shall study the impact of~~  
12 ~~eliminating the major in education under subsection (1) of this section~~  
13 ~~and submit a report to the legislature by January 15, 1990. The report~~  
14 ~~shall include a recommendation on whether the major in education under~~  
15 ~~subsection (1) of this section should be eliminated.~~

16 (3)) The initial certificate shall be valid for (~~two years.~~

17 (4) ~~Certificate holders may renew the certificate for a three year~~  
18 ~~period by providing proof of acceptance and enrollment in an approved~~  
19 ~~masters degree program. A second renewal, for a period of two years,~~  
20 ~~may be granted upon recommendation of the degree granting institution~~  
21 ~~and if the certificate holder can demonstrate substantial progress~~  
22 ~~toward the completion of the masters degree and that the degree will be~~  
23 ~~completed within the two year extension period. Under no circumstances~~  
24 ~~may an initial certificate be valid for)) a period of no more than  
25 seven years. The initial certificate may be reinstated pursuant to  
26 state board of education rules.~~

27 **Sec. 102.** RCW 28A.410.050 and 1989 c 29 s 2 are each amended to  
28 read as follows:

1       ~~((1) The state board of education shall implement rules providing~~  
2 ~~that all teachers performing instructional duties and acquiring~~  
3 ~~professional level certificate status after August 31, 1992, shall~~  
4 ~~possess, as a requirement of professional status, a masters degree in~~  
5 ~~teaching, or a masters degree in the arts, sciences, and/or humanities.~~

6       (2)) The state board of education shall develop and adopt rules  
7 establishing baccalaureate and masters degree equivalency standards for  
8 vocational instructors performing instructional duties and acquiring  
9 ~~((professional level))~~ certification after August 31, 1992.

10       **Sec. 103.** RCW 28A.410.030 and 1991 c 116 s 21 are each amended to  
11 read as follows:

12       (1) The state board of education shall require a ~~((uniform))~~ state  
13 ~~((admission))~~ entrance to practice examination ~~((for teacher~~  
14 ~~certification candidates))~~. Commencing August 31, 1993, ~~((teacher~~  
15 ~~certification))~~ candidates completing a teacher preparation program and  
16 applying for initial teacher certification shall be required by the  
17 state board of education to pass an ~~((admission))~~ entrance to practice  
18 examination before being granted an initial certificate.

19       (2) The examination shall include essay questions and test  
20 ~~((knowledge and competence in subjects including, but not limited to,))~~  
21 the person's:

22       (a) Knowledge of subject matter; and

23       (b) Knowledge in instructional skills, classroom management, and  
24 student behavior and development. ~~((The examination shall consist~~  
25 ~~primarily of essay questions.))~~

26       (3) The state board of education shall adopt such rules under  
27 chapter 34.05 RCW as may be necessary to implement this section. The  
28 state board rules shall include provisions for handling those cases in

1 which a candidate for certification passes only one part of the  
2 examination under subsection (2) of this section.

3       **Sec. 104.** RCW 28A.405.220 and 1990 c 33 s 391 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5       Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 28A.405.210, every person  
6 employed by a school district in a teaching or other nonsupervisory  
7 certificated position shall be subject to nonrenewal of employment  
8 contract as provided in this section during the first three years of  
9 employment by such district, unless the employee has previously  
10 completed at least three years of certificated employment in another  
11 school district in the state of Washington, in which case the employee  
12 shall be subject to nonrenewal of employment contract pursuant to this  
13 section during the first year of employment with the new district.  
14 Employees as defined in this section shall hereinafter be referred to  
15 as "provisional employees".

16       In the event the superintendent of the school district determines  
17 that the employment contract of any provisional employee should not be  
18 renewed by the district for the next ensuing term such provisional  
19 employee shall be notified thereof in writing on or before May 15th  
20 preceding the commencement of such school term, which notification  
21 shall state the reason or reasons for such determination. Such notice  
22 shall be served upon the provisional employee personally, or by  
23 certified or registered mail, or by leaving a copy of the notice at the  
24 place of his or her usual abode with some person of suitable age and  
25 discretion then resident therein. The determination of the  
26 superintendent shall be subject to the evaluation requirements of RCW  
27 28A.405.100.

28       Every such provisional employee so notified, at his or her request  
29 made in writing and filed with the superintendent of the district

1 within ten days after receiving such notice, shall be given the  
2 opportunity to meet informally with the superintendent for the purpose  
3 of requesting the superintendent to reconsider his or her decision.  
4 Such meeting shall be held no later than ten days following the receipt  
5 of such request, and the provisional employee shall be given written  
6 notice of the date, time and place of meeting at least three days prior  
7 thereto. At such meeting the provisional employee shall be given the  
8 opportunity to refute any facts upon which the superintendent's  
9 determination was based and to make any argument in support of his or  
10 her request for reconsideration.

11 Within ten days following the meeting with the provisional  
12 employee, the superintendent shall either reinstate the provisional  
13 employee or shall submit to the school district board of directors for  
14 consideration at its next regular meeting a written report recommending  
15 that the employment contract of the provisional employee be nonrenewed  
16 and stating the reason or reasons therefor. A copy of such report  
17 shall be delivered to the provisional employee at least three days  
18 prior to the scheduled meeting of the board of directors. In taking  
19 action upon the recommendation of the superintendent, the board of  
20 directors shall consider any written communication which the  
21 provisional employee may file with the secretary of the board at any  
22 time prior to that meeting.

23 The board of directors shall notify the provisional employee in  
24 writing of its final decision within ten days following the meeting at  
25 which the superintendent's recommendation was considered. The decision  
26 of the board of directors to nonrenew the contract of a provisional  
27 employee shall be final and not subject to appeal.

28 This section applies to any person employed by a school district in  
29 a teaching or other nonsupervisory certificated position after June 25,  
30 1976. This section provides the exclusive means for nonrenewing the

1 employment contract of a provisional employee and no other provision of  
2 law shall be applicable thereto, including, without limitation, RCW  
3 28A.405.210 and chapter 28A.645 RCW.

4 PART II

5 PARENT'S RIGHTS

6 **Sec. 201.** RCW 28A.150.040 and 1990 c 33 s 101 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The school year shall begin on the first day of September and  
9 end with the last day of August: PROVIDED, That any school district  
10 may elect to commence the minimum annual school term as required under  
11 RCW 28A.150.220 in the month of August of any calendar year and in such  
12 case the operation of a school district for such period in August shall  
13 be credited by the superintendent of public instruction to the  
14 succeeding school year for the purpose of the allocation and  
15 distribution of state funds for the support of such school district.

16 (2) By May 30 of each year, the board of directors of each school  
17 district shall, following a public hearing, establish the schedule of  
18 days for students to attend school during the succeeding school year.  
19 The days so designated shall be employee work days and shall not be  
20 subject to collective bargaining. However, employee work days beyond  
21 those scheduled for student attendance may be a subject of collective  
22 bargaining.

23 **Sec. 202.** RCW 41.59.020 and 1989 c 11 s 11 are each amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 As used in this chapter:

26 (1) The term "employee organization" means any organization, union,  
27 association, agency, committee, council, or group of any kind in which

1 employees participate, and which exists for the purpose, in whole or in  
2 part, of collective bargaining with employers.

3 (2) The term "collective bargaining" or "bargaining" means the  
4 performance of the mutual obligation of the representatives of the  
5 employer and the exclusive bargaining representative to meet at  
6 reasonable times in light of the time limitations of the budget-making  
7 process, and to bargain in good faith in an effort to reach agreement  
8 with respect to the wages, hours, and terms and conditions of  
9 employment: PROVIDED, That prior law, practice or interpretation shall  
10 be neither restrictive, expansive, nor determinative with respect to  
11 the scope of bargaining. A written contract incorporating any  
12 agreements reached shall be executed if requested by either party. The  
13 obligation to bargain does not compel either party to agree to a  
14 proposal or to make a concession.

15 In the event of a dispute between an employer and an exclusive  
16 bargaining representative over the matters that are terms and  
17 conditions of employment, the commission shall decide which item(s) are  
18 mandatory subjects for bargaining and which item(s) are nonmandatory.  
19 The schedule of days for students to attend school, as established by  
20 the school district board of directors under RCW 28A.150.040, shall not  
21 be a subject of collective bargaining.

22 (3) The term "commission" means the public employment relations  
23 commission established by RCW 41.58.010.

24 (4) The terms "employee" and "educational employee" means any  
25 certificated employee of a school district, except:

26 (a) The chief executive officer of the employer.

27 (b) The chief administrative officers of the employer, which shall  
28 mean the superintendent of the district, deputy superintendents,  
29 administrative assistants to the superintendent, assistant  
30 superintendents, and business manager. Title variation from all

1 positions enumerated in this subsection (b) may be appealed to the  
2 commission for determination of inclusion in, or exclusion from, the  
3 term "educational employee".

4 (c) Confidential employees, which shall mean:

5 (i) Any person who participates directly on behalf of an employer  
6 in the formulation of labor relations policy, the preparation for or  
7 conduct of collective bargaining, or the administration of collective  
8 bargaining agreements, except that the role of such person is not  
9 merely routine or clerical in nature but calls for the consistent  
10 exercise of independent judgment; and

11 (ii) Any person who assists and acts in a confidential capacity to  
12 such person.

13 (d) Unless included within a bargaining unit pursuant to RCW  
14 41.59.080, any supervisor, which means any employee having authority,  
15 in the interest of an employer, to hire, assign, promote, transfer,  
16 layoff, recall, suspend, discipline, or discharge other employees, or  
17 to adjust their grievances, or to recommend effectively such action, if  
18 in connection with the foregoing the exercise of such authority is not  
19 merely routine or clerical in nature but calls for the consistent  
20 exercise of independent judgment, and shall not include any persons  
21 solely by reason of their membership on a faculty tenure or other  
22 governance committee or body. The term "supervisor" shall include only  
23 those employees who perform a preponderance of the above-specified acts  
24 of authority.

25 (e) Unless included within a bargaining unit pursuant to RCW  
26 41.59.080, principals and assistant principals in school districts.

27 (5) The term "employer" means any school district.

28 (6) The term "exclusive bargaining representative" means any  
29 employee organization which has:

1 (a) Been selected or designated pursuant to the provisions of this  
2 chapter as the representative of the employees in an appropriate  
3 collective bargaining unit; or

4 (b) Prior to January 1, 1976, been recognized under a predecessor  
5 statute as the representative of the employees in an appropriate  
6 collective bargaining or negotiations unit.

7 (7) The term "person" means one or more individuals, organizations,  
8 unions, associations, partnerships, corporations, boards, committees,  
9 commissions, agencies, or other entities, or their representatives.

10 (8) The term "nonsupervisory employee" means all educational  
11 employees other than principals, assistant principals and supervisors.

12 **Sec. 203.** RCW 41.56.030 and 1991 c 363 s 119 are each amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 As used in this chapter:

15 (1) "Public employer" means any officer, board, commission,  
16 council, or other person or body acting on behalf of any public body  
17 governed by this chapter as designated by RCW 41.56.020, or any  
18 subdivision of such public body. For the purposes of this section, the  
19 public employer of district court employees for wage-related matters is  
20 the respective county legislative authority, or person or body acting  
21 on behalf of the legislative authority, and the public employer for  
22 nonwage-related matters is the judge or judge's designee of the  
23 respective district court.

24 (2) "Public employee" means any employee of a public employer  
25 except any person (a) elected by popular vote, or (b) appointed to  
26 office pursuant to statute, ordinance or resolution for a specified  
27 term of office by the executive head or body of the public employer, or  
28 (c) whose duties as deputy, administrative assistant or secretary  
29 necessarily imply a confidential relationship to the executive head or

1 body of the applicable bargaining unit, or any person elected by  
2 popular vote or appointed to office pursuant to statute, ordinance or  
3 resolution for a specified term of office by the executive head or body  
4 of the public employer, or (d) who is a personal assistant to a  
5 district judge or court commissioner. For the purpose of (d) of this  
6 subsection, no more than one assistant for each judge or commissioner  
7 may be excluded from a bargaining unit.

8 (3) "Bargaining representative" means any lawful organization which  
9 has as one of its primary purposes the representation of employees in  
10 their employment relations with employers.

11 (4) "Collective bargaining" means the performance of the mutual  
12 obligations of the public employer and the exclusive bargaining  
13 representative to meet at reasonable times, to confer and negotiate in  
14 good faith, and to execute a written agreement with respect to  
15 grievance procedures and collective negotiations on personnel matters,  
16 including wages, hours and working conditions, which may be peculiar to  
17 an appropriate bargaining unit of such public employer, except that by  
18 such obligation neither party shall be compelled to agree to a proposal  
19 or be required to make a concession unless otherwise provided in this  
20 chapter. In the case of the Washington state patrol, "collective  
21 bargaining" shall not include wages and wage-related matters. In the  
22 case of employees of school districts, "collective bargaining" does not  
23 include the schedule of days for students to attend school, as  
24 established by the school district board of directors under RCW  
25 28A.150.040.

26 (5) "Commission" means the public employment relations commission.

27 (6) "Executive director" means the executive director of the  
28 commission.

29 (7) "Uniformed personnel" means (a) law enforcement officers as  
30 defined in RCW 41.26.030 as now or hereafter amended, of cities with a

1 population of fifteen thousand or more or law enforcement officers  
2 employed by the governing body of any county with a population of  
3 seventy thousand or more, or (b) fire fighters as that term is defined  
4 in RCW 41.26.030, as now or hereafter amended.

5 **Sec. 204.** RCW 28A.225.220 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 9 s 201 are each  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (1) Any board of directors may make agreements with adults choosing  
8 to attend school: PROVIDED, That unless such arrangements are approved  
9 by the state superintendent of public instruction, a reasonable tuition  
10 charge, fixed by the state superintendent of public instruction, shall  
11 be paid by such students as best may be accommodated therein.

12 (2) A district is strongly encouraged to honor the request of a  
13 parent or guardian for his or her child to attend a school in another  
14 district.

15 (3) A district shall release a student to a nonresident district  
16 that agrees to accept the student if:

17 (a) A financial, educational, safety, or health condition affecting  
18 the student would likely be reasonably improved as a result of the  
19 transfer; or

20 (b) Attendance at the school in the nonresident district is more  
21 accessible to the parent's place of work or to the location of child  
22 care; or

23 (c) There is a special hardship or detrimental condition.

24 (4) A district may deny the request of a resident student to  
25 transfer to a nonresident district if the release of the student would  
26 adversely affect the district's existing desegregation plan.

27 (5) For the purpose of helping a district assess the quality of its  
28 education program, a resident school district may request an optional  
29 exit interview or questionnaire with the parents or guardians of a

1 child transferring to another district. No parent or guardian may be  
2 forced to attend such an interview or complete the questionnaire.

3 (6) School districts may establish annual transfer fees for  
4 nonresident students enrolled under subsection (3) of this section and  
5 RCW 28A.225.225. However, the school district may not charge tuition  
6 if the student is attending a nonresident school district because of  
7 the location of child care. Until rules are adopted under section 202,  
8 chapter 9, Laws of 1990 1st ex. sess. for the calculation of the  
9 transfer fee, the transfer fee shall be calculated by the same formula  
10 as the fees authorized under section 10, chapter 130, Laws of 1969.  
11 These fees, if applied, shall be applied uniformly for all such  
12 nonresident students except as provided in this section. The  
13 superintendent of public instruction, from available funds, shall pay  
14 any transfer fees for low-income students assessed by districts under  
15 this section. All transfer fees must be paid over to the county  
16 treasurer within thirty days of its collection for the credit of the  
17 district in which such students attend. Reimbursement of a high school  
18 district for cost of educating high school pupils of a nonhigh school  
19 district shall not be deemed a transfer fee as affecting the  
20 apportionment of current state school funds.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 205.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 (1) The board of directors of each school district may exercise the  
24 following:

25 (a) The broad discretionary power to determine and adopt written  
26 policies not in conflict with other law that provide for the  
27 development and implementation of programs, activities, services, or  
28 practices that the board determines will:

1 (i) Promote the education of kindergarten through twelfth grade  
2 students in the public schools; or

3 (ii) Promote the effective, efficient, or safe management and  
4 operation of the school district;

5 (b) Such powers as are expressly authorized by law; and

6 (c) Such powers as are necessarily or fairly implied in the powers  
7 expressly authorized by law.

8 (2) Before adopting a policy under subsection (1)(a) of this  
9 section, the school district board of directors shall comply with the  
10 notice requirements of the open public meetings act, chapter 42.30 RCW,  
11 and shall in addition include in that notice a statement that sets  
12 forth or reasonably describes the proposed policy. The board of  
13 directors shall provide a reasonable opportunity for public written and  
14 oral comment and consideration of the comment by the board of  
15 directors.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 206.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320  
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) To ensure that the local community and electorate have access  
19 to information on the educational programs in the school districts,  
20 each school district's board of directors shall publish annually a  
21 school district accountability report. School districts shall have a  
22 copy of the accountability report available for public inspection at  
23 each school in the district, at the district office, and in public  
24 libraries, and shall send the report to newspapers of general  
25 circulation in the county in which the district is located.

26 (2) The accountability report shall include a brief statement of  
27 the mission of the school district; enrollment statistics including  
28 student demographics; expenditures per pupil for the school year; the  
29 average compensation for teachers and administrators; a summary of

1 student scores on college entrance examinations and on all state  
2 mandated tests; a concise annual budget report; the student drop-out,  
3 absenteeism, and graduation rates; and an invitation to all citizens to  
4 participate in all school activities. The published accountability  
5 report shall compare district, state, and national data whenever  
6 appropriate.

7 **Sec. 207.** RCW 28A.150.230 and 1991 c 61 s 1 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (1) It is the intent and purpose of this section to guarantee that  
10 each common school district board of directors, whether or not acting  
11 through its respective administrative staff, be held accountable for  
12 the proper operation of their district to the local community and its  
13 electorate. In accordance with the provisions of Title 28A RCW, as now  
14 or hereafter amended, each common school district board of directors  
15 shall be vested with the final responsibility for the setting of  
16 policies ensuring quality in the content and extent of its educational  
17 program and that such program provide students with the opportunity to  
18 achieve those skills which are generally recognized as requisite to  
19 learning.

20 (2) In conformance with the provisions of Title 28A RCW, as now or  
21 hereafter amended, it shall be the responsibility of each common school  
22 district board of directors to adopt policies to:

23 (a) Establish performance criteria and an evaluation process for  
24 its certificated personnel, including administrative staff, and for all  
25 programs constituting a part of such district's curriculum;

26 (b) Determine the final assignment of staff, certificated or  
27 classified, according to board enumerated classroom and program needs;

28 (c) Determine the amount of instructional hours necessary for any  
29 student to acquire a quality education in such district, in not less

1 than an amount otherwise required in RCW 28A.150.220, or rules and  
2 regulations of the state board of education;

3 (d) Determine the allocation of staff time, whether certificated or  
4 classified;

5 (e) Establish final curriculum standards consistent with law and  
6 rules and regulations of the state board of education, relevant to the  
7 particular needs of district students or the unusual characteristics of  
8 the district, and ensuring a quality education for each student in the  
9 district; and

10 (f) Evaluate teaching materials, including text books, teaching  
11 aids, handouts, or other printed material, in public hearing upon  
12 complaint by parents, guardians or custodians of students who consider  
13 dissemination of such material to students objectionable.

14 ~~((3) In keeping with the accountability purpose expressed in this  
15 section and to insure that the local community and electorate have  
16 access to information on the educational programs in the school  
17 districts, each school district's board of directors shall annually  
18 publish a descriptive guide to the district's common schools. This  
19 guide shall be made available at each school in the district for  
20 examination by the public. The guide shall include, but not be limited  
21 to, the following:~~

22 ~~(a) Criteria used for written evaluations of staff members pursuant  
23 to RCW 28A.405.100;~~

24 ~~(b) A summary of program objectives pursuant to RCW 28A.320.210;~~

25 ~~(c) Results of comparable testing for all schools within the  
26 district; and~~

27 ~~(d) Budget information which will include the following:~~

28 ~~(i) Student enrollment;~~

29 ~~(ii) Number of full time equivalent personnel per school in the  
30 district itemized according to classroom teachers, instructional~~

1 support, and building administration and support services, including  
2 itemization of such personnel by program;

3 (iii) Number of full time equivalent personnel assigned in the  
4 district to central administrative offices, itemized according to  
5 instructional support, building and central administration, and support  
6 services, including itemization of such personnel by program;

7 (iv) Total number of full time equivalent personnel itemized by  
8 classroom teachers, instructional support, building and central  
9 administration, and support services, including itemization of such  
10 personnel by program; and

11 (v) Special levy budget request presented by program and  
12 expenditure for purposes over and above those requirements identified  
13 in RCW 28A.150.220.))

14 PART III

15 STUDENT ASSESSMENT AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 301.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230  
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) If a student's scores on the test or assessments under RCW  
19 28A.230.190, 28A.230.230, and 28A.230.240 indicate the student needs  
20 more help in identified areas, the school district shall provide the  
21 student appropriate learning opportunities in the identified areas.

22 (2) Each school district shall notify the parents of each student  
23 of their child's performance on the test and assessments conducted  
24 under this chapter.

25 (3) The state board of education shall adopt rules establishing  
26 alternatives for special education students to receive a high school  
27 diploma.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 302.**    A new section is added to chapter 28A.230  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall prepare and  
4    conduct, with the assistance of local school districts, an annual  
5    assessment of all students in grade twelve.    The purpose of the  
6    assessment is to determine the competence of students in the subject  
7    matters of reading, writing, mathematics, language, science,  
8    technology, economics, history, geography, and reasoning and thinking  
9    skills.

10       (2) After October 1, 1998, no student may graduate from a high  
11    school in this state unless the student has successfully completed the  
12    assessment conducted under this section.

13       **Sec. 303.**    RCW 28A.230.090 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 9 s 301 are each  
14    amended to read as follows:

15       (1) The state board of education shall establish high school  
16    graduation requirements or equivalencies for students (~~who commence~~  
17    ~~the ninth grade subsequent to July 1, 1985, that meet or exceed the~~  
18    ~~following:~~

19    ~~————— SUBJECT ————— CREDITS~~

20    ~~English ————— 3~~

21    ~~Mathematics ————— 2~~

22    ~~Social Studies~~

23    ~~United States history~~

24    ~~————— and government ————— 1~~

25    ~~Washington state~~

26    ~~————— history and government ————— 1/2~~

27    ~~Contemporary world~~

1	<del>history, geography,</del>	
2	<del>and problems</del>	<del>1</del>
3	Science (1 credit	
4	<del>must be in</del>	
5	<del>laboratory science)</del>	<del>2</del>
6	Occupational Education	1
7	Physical Education	2
8	Electives	5 1/2
9	Total	18

10       ~~(2) For the purposes of this section one credit is equivalent to~~  
11 ~~one year of study.~~

12       ~~(3) The Washington state history and government requirement may be~~  
13 ~~fulfilled by students in grades seven or eight or both. Students who~~  
14 ~~have completed the Washington state history and government requirement~~  
15 ~~in grades seven or eight or both shall be considered to have fulfilled~~  
16 ~~the Washington state history and government requirement.~~

17       ~~(4) A candidate for graduation must have in addition earned a~~  
18 ~~minimum of 18 credits including all required courses. These credits~~  
19 ~~shall consist of the state requirements listed above and such~~  
20 ~~additional requirements and electives as shall be established by each~~  
21 ~~district)).~~

22       ~~((+5))~~ (2) In recognition of the statutory authority of the state  
23 board of education to establish and enforce minimum high school  
24 graduation requirements, the state board shall periodically reevaluate  
25 the graduation requirements and shall report such findings to the  
26 legislature in a timely manner as determined by the state board.

27       ~~((+6))~~ (3) Pursuant to any foreign language requirement  
28 established by the state board of education or a local school district,  
29 or both, for purposes of high school graduation, students who receive

1 instruction in sign language shall be considered to have satisfied the  
2 state or local school district foreign language graduation requirement.

3 ~~((+7))~~ (4) If requested by the student and his or her family, a  
4 student who has completed high school courses ~~((while in seventh and  
5 eighth grade))~~ before attending high school shall be given high school  
6 credit which shall be applied to fulfilling high school graduation  
7 requirements if:

8 (a) The course was taken with high school students and the student  
9 has successfully passed by completing the same course requirements and  
10 examinations as the high school students enrolled in the class; or

11 (b) The course would qualify for high school credit, because the  
12 course is similar or equivalent to a course offered at a high school in  
13 the district as determined by the school district board of directors.

14 ~~((+8))~~ (5) Students who have taken and successfully completed high  
15 school courses under the circumstances in subsection ~~((+7))~~ (4) of  
16 this section shall not be required to take an additional competency  
17 examination or perform any other additional assignment to receive  
18 credit. Subsection ~~((+7))~~ (4) of this section shall also apply to  
19 students enrolled in high school on April 11, 1990, who took the  
20 courses ~~((while they were in seventh and eighth grade))~~ before  
21 attending high school.

22 PART IV

23 EDUCATIONAL REFORM PROGRESS MONITORING

24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 401. A new section is added to chapter 28A.150  
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 (1) The Washington educational progress oversight panel is hereby  
27 established. The purpose of the panel is to report annually to the  
28 legislature and the governor on the progress of educational

1 restructuring efforts throughout the state. The report shall be  
2 delivered annually by January 10th and shall include:

3 (a) Information about legislative, executive, or state agency  
4 initiatives to support educational restructuring; and

5 (b) A compendium of:

6 (i) Educational restructuring efforts within each educational  
7 service district region of the state;

8 (ii) Activities and efforts of higher education institutions,  
9 including the community and technical colleges, in support of  
10 educational restructuring among the common schools of the state.

11 (2) The oversight panel shall be comprised of the following  
12 members:

13 (a) The superintendent of public instruction or the  
14 superintendent's designee;

15 (b) The president of the state board of education or the  
16 president's designee;

17 (c) The executive director of the Washington state school  
18 directors' association or the director's designee;

19 (d) The executive director of the state board for community and  
20 technical colleges or the director's designee;

21 (e) The executive director of the higher education coordinating  
22 board or the director's designee; and

23 (f) The executive director of the work force training and education  
24 coordinating board or the director's designee.

25 (3) Staffing and resources for the oversight panel shall be  
26 contributed by each of the agencies listed under subsection (2) of this  
27 section.