

ESSB 6604 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Education

ADOPTED AS AMENDED 03/02/2010

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

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

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

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

23 (3) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008, with the exception
24 of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, a student who
25 meets the state standards on the reading, writing, and mathematics
26 content areas of the high school Washington assessment of student
27 learning shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. If a
28 student does not successfully meet the state standards in one or more
29 content areas required for the certificate of academic achievement,
30 then the student may retake the assessment in the content area up to

1 four times at no cost to the student. If the student successfully
2 meets the state standards on a retake of the assessment then the
3 student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. Once
4 objective alternative assessments are authorized pursuant to subsection
5 (10) of this section, a student may use the objective alternative
6 assessments to demonstrate that the student successfully meets the
7 state standards for that content area if the student has taken the
8 Washington assessment of student learning at least once. If the
9 student successfully meets the state standards on the objective
10 alternative assessments then the student shall earn a certificate of
11 academic achievement.

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

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

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

33 (7) School districts must make available to students the following
34 options:

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

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

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

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

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

29 (b)(i) A student's score on the mathematics, reading or English, or
30 writing portion of the SAT or the ACT may be used as an objective
31 alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that a
32 student has met or exceeded the state standards for the certificate of
33 academic achievement. The state board of education shall identify the
34 scores students must achieve on the relevant portion of the SAT or ACT
35 to meet or exceed the state standard in the relevant content area on
36 the Washington assessment of student learning. The state board of
37 education shall identify the first scores by December 1, 2007. After

1 the first scores are established, the state board may increase but not
2 decrease the scores required for students to meet or exceed the state
3 standards.

4 (ii) Until August 31, 2008, a student's score on the mathematics
5 portion of the PSAT may be used as an objective alternative assessment
6 under this section for demonstrating that a student has met or exceeded
7 the state standard for the certificate of academic achievement. The
8 state board of education shall identify the score students must achieve
9 on the mathematics portion of the PSAT to meet or exceed the state
10 standard in that content area on the Washington assessment of student
11 learning.

12 (iii) A student who scores at least a three on the grading scale of
13 one to five for selected AP examinations may use the score as an
14 objective alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating
15 that a student has met or exceeded state standards for the certificate
16 of academic achievement. A score of three on the AP examinations in
17 calculus or statistics may be used as an alternative assessment for the
18 mathematics portion of the Washington assessment of student learning.
19 A score of three on the AP examinations in English language and
20 composition may be used as an alternative assessment for the writing
21 portion of the Washington assessment of student learning. A score of
22 three on the AP examinations in English literature and composition,
23 macroeconomics, microeconomics, psychology, United States history,
24 world history, United States government and politics, or comparative
25 government and politics may be used as an alternative assessment for
26 the reading portion of the Washington assessment of student learning.

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

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

1 ~~(a) Student learning plans are required for eighth through twelfth~~
2 ~~grade students who were not successful on any or all of the content~~
3 ~~areas of the Washington assessment for student learning during the~~
4 ~~previous school year or who may not be on track to graduate due to~~
5 ~~credit deficiencies or absences. The parent or legal guardian shall be~~
6 ~~notified about the information in the student learning plan, preferably~~
7 ~~through a parent conference and at least annually. To the extent~~
8 ~~feasible, schools serving English language learner students and their~~
9 ~~parents shall translate the plan into the primary language of the~~
10 ~~family. The plan shall include the following information as~~
11 ~~applicable:~~

12 ~~(i) The student's results on the Washington assessment of student~~
13 ~~learning;~~

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

16 ~~(iii) Any credit deficiencies;~~

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

18 ~~(v) The student's progress toward meeting state and local~~
19 ~~graduation requirements;~~

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

23 ~~(vii) Remediation strategies and alternative education options~~
24 ~~available to students, including informing students of the option to~~
25 ~~continue to receive instructional services after grade twelve or until~~
26 ~~the age of twenty-one;~~

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

29 ~~(ix) School district programs, high school courses, and career and~~
30 ~~technical education options available for students to meet graduation~~
31 ~~requirements; and~~

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

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

1 ~~(i) The parent or guardian of the student shall be notified,~~
2 ~~preferably through a parent conference, of the student's results on the~~
3 ~~Washington assessment of student learning, actions the school intends~~
4 ~~to take to improve the student's skills in any content area in which~~
5 ~~the student was unsuccessful, and provide strategies to help them~~
6 ~~improve their student's skills.~~

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

10 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Removes all provisions of the bill except the repeal of the requirement that school districts prepare Student Learning Plans for 5th and 8th through 12th grade students who are not successful on state assessments or not on track to graduate.

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