

# **HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS**

## **HB 1202**

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**Title:** *An act relating to high school credit equivalencies.*

**Brief Description:** *Adopting the recommendations of the task force examining high school credit equivalencies.*

**Sponsors:** *Representatives Quall, Dickerson, Poulsen, Smith, O'Brien, Costa, Ogden and Mason.*

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### **HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Meeting Date:** *January 28, 1997.*

**Bill Analysis Prepared by:** *Joe Hauth (786-7111).*

**Background:** *The Legislature has directed the State Board of Education to establish minimum high school graduation requirements or equivalencies. The State Board of Education originally defined 1 high school credit as 150 hours of planned in-school instruction, or 5 quarter or 3 semester hours of college or university level course work.*

*A high school student will normally earn 6 high school credits annually. A high school student attending college full-time would earn 9 high school credits.*

*In 1993, the State Board of Education modified the definition of high school credit equivalencies. Under the new definition, .75 high school credits equals 5 quarter or 3 semester hours of college or university level course work. A high school student attending college full-time will earn 6.75 high school credits. The State Board of Education has delayed implementing the new conversion rate until September, 1997. WAC 180-51-050.*

*In 1994, the Legislature directed the State Board of Education and the Higher Education Coordinating Board to convene a task force on curriculum issues, and to develop recommendations regarding credit equivalencies by December, 1994. The task force recommended unanimously that the State Board of Education maintain the definition that 1 high school credit is equal to 5 quarter or 3 semester hours of college or university level course work.*

**Summary of Bill:** *Credit equivalency is defined. One high school credit equals 5 quarter or 3 semester hours at the college or university level.*

*The obsolete requirement for the task force to report recommendations on credit equivalencies by December, 1994 is deleted.*

**Fiscal Note:** *Not requested.*

**Effective Date:** *Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.*