
HOUSE BILL 2115

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 1st Special Session
By Representatives Haigh and Dammeier

1 AN ACT Relating to legislative review of performance standards for
2 the statewide student assessment; amending RCW 28A.305.130; and
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.305.130 and 2009 c 548 s 502 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 The purpose of the state board of education is to provide advocacy
8 and strategic oversight of public education; implement a standards-
9 based accountability framework that creates a unified system of
10 increasing levels of support for schools in order to improve student
11 academic achievement; provide leadership in the creation of a system
12 that personalizes education for each student and respects diverse
13 cultures, abilities, and learning styles; and promote achievement of
14 the goals of RCW 28A.150.210. In addition to any other powers and
15 duties as provided by law, the state board of education shall:

16 (1) Hold regularly scheduled meetings at such time and place within
17 the state as the board shall determine and may hold such special
18 meetings as may be deemed necessary for the transaction of public
19 business;

1 (2) Form committees as necessary to effectively and efficiently
2 conduct the work of the board;

3 (3) Seek advice from the public and interested parties regarding
4 the work of the board;

5 (4) For purposes of statewide accountability:

6 (a) Adopt and revise performance improvement goals in reading,
7 writing, science, and mathematics, by subject and grade level, once
8 assessments in these subjects are required statewide; academic and
9 technical skills, as appropriate, in secondary career and technical
10 education programs; and student attendance, as the board deems
11 appropriate to improve student learning. The goals shall be consistent
12 with student privacy protection provisions of RCW 28A.655.090(7) and
13 shall not conflict with requirements contained in Title I of the
14 federal elementary and secondary education act of 1965, or the
15 requirements of the Carl D. Perkins vocational education act of 1998,
16 each as amended. The goals may be established for all students,
17 economically disadvantaged students, limited English proficient
18 students, students with disabilities, and students from
19 disproportionately academically underachieving racial and ethnic
20 backgrounds. The board may establish school and school district goals
21 addressing high school graduation rates and dropout reduction goals for
22 students in grades seven through twelve. The board shall adopt the
23 goals by rule. However, before each goal is implemented, the board
24 shall present the goal to the education committees of the house of
25 representatives and the senate for the committees' review and comment
26 in a time frame that will permit the legislature to take statutory
27 action on the goal if such action is deemed warranted by the
28 legislature;

29 (b) Identify the scores students must achieve in order to meet the
30 standard on the (~~Washington~~) statewide student assessment (~~of~~
31 ~~student—learning~~) and, for high school students, to obtain a
32 certificate of academic achievement. The board shall also determine
33 student scores that identify levels of student performance below and
34 beyond the standard. The board shall consider the incorporation of the
35 standard error of measurement into the decision regarding the award of
36 the certificates. The board shall set such performance standards and
37 levels in consultation with the superintendent of public instruction
38 and after consideration of any recommendations that may be developed by

1 any advisory committees that may be established for this purpose.
2 (~~The initial performance standards and any changes recommended by the~~
3 ~~board in the performance standards for the tenth grade assessment shall~~
4 ~~be presented to the education committees of the house of~~
5 ~~representatives and the senate by November 30th of the school year in~~
6 ~~which the changes will take place to permit the legislature to take~~
7 ~~statutory action before the changes are implemented if such action is~~
8 ~~deemed warranted by the legislature.~~) The legislature shall be
9 advised of the initial performance standards and any changes made to
10 the (~~elementary level~~) performance standards (~~and the middle school~~
11 ~~level performance standards~~) for all grade levels of the statewide
12 student assessment;

13 (c) Annually review the assessment reporting system to ensure
14 fairness, accuracy, timeliness, and equity of opportunity, especially
15 with regard to schools with special circumstances and unique
16 populations of students, and a recommendation to the superintendent of
17 public instruction of any improvements needed to the system; and

18 (d) Include in the biennial report required under RCW 28A.305.035,
19 information on the progress that has been made in achieving goals
20 adopted by the board;

21 (5) Accredite, subject to such accreditation standards and
22 procedures as may be established by the state board of education, all
23 private schools that apply for accreditation, and approve, subject to
24 the provisions of RCW 28A.195.010, private schools carrying out a
25 program for any or all of the grades kindergarten through twelve(~~+~~
26 ~~PROVIDED, That~~)). However, no private school may be approved that
27 operates a kindergarten program only(~~+~~ ~~PROVIDED FURTHER, That~~) and
28 no private school(~~s~~) shall be placed upon the list of accredited
29 schools so long as secret societies are knowingly allowed to exist
30 among its students by school officials;

31 (6) Articulate with the institutions of higher education, workforce
32 representatives, and early learning policymakers and providers to
33 coordinate and unify the work of the public school system;

34 (7) Hire an executive director and an administrative assistant to
35 reside in the office of the superintendent of public instruction for
36 administrative purposes. Any other personnel of the board shall be
37 appointed as provided by RCW 28A.300.020. The board may delegate to
38 the executive director by resolution such duties as deemed necessary to

1 efficiently carry on the business of the board including, but not
2 limited to, the authority to employ necessary personnel and the
3 authority to enter into, amend, and terminate contracts on behalf of
4 the board. The executive director, administrative assistant, and all
5 but one of the other personnel of the board are exempt from civil
6 service, together with other staff as now or hereafter designated as
7 exempt in accordance with chapter 41.06 RCW; and

8 (8) Adopt a seal that shall be kept in the office of the
9 superintendent of public instruction.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
11 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
12 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
13 immediately.

--- END ---