

2 SHB 2695 - H AMD 356

3 By Representative Elliott

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "Sec. 1. RCW 28A.630.885 and 1995 c 335 s 505 and 1995 c 209 s 1
8 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

9 (1) The Washington commission on student learning is hereby
10 established. The primary purposes of the commission are to identify
11 the knowledge and skills all public school students need to know and be
12 able to do based on the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210, to
13 develop student assessment and school accountability systems, to review
14 current school district data reporting requirements and make
15 recommendations on what data is necessary for the purposes of
16 accountability and meeting state information needs, and to take other
17 steps necessary to develop a performance-based education system. The
18 commission shall include three members of the state board of education,
19 three members appointed by the governor before July 1, 1992, and five
20 members appointed no later than June 1, 1993, by the governor elected
21 in the November 1992 election. The governor shall appoint a chair from
22 the commission members, and fill any vacancies in gubernatorial
23 appointments that may occur. The state board of education shall fill
24 any vacancies of state board of education appointments that may occur.
25 In making the appointments, educators, business leaders, and parents
26 shall be represented, and nominations from state-wide education,
27 business, and parent organizations shall be requested. Efforts shall
28 be made to ensure that the commission reflects the racial and ethnic
29 diversity of the state's K-12 student population and that the major
30 geographic regions in the state are represented. Appointees shall be
31 qualified individuals who are supportive of educational restructuring,
32 who have a positive record of service, and who will devote sufficient
33 time to the responsibilities of the commission to ensure that the
34 objectives of the commission are achieved.

35 (2) The commission shall establish advisory committees. Membership
36 of the advisory committees shall include, but not necessarily be
37 limited to, professionals from the office of the superintendent of

1 public instruction and the state board of education, and other state
2 and local educational practitioners and student assessment specialists.

3 (3) The commission, with the assistance of the advisory committees,
4 shall:

5 (a) Develop essential academic learning requirements based on the
6 student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210. Essential academic learning
7 requirements shall be developed, to the extent possible, for each of
8 the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210. Goals one and two shall
9 be considered primary. Essential academic learning requirements for
10 RCW 28A.150.210(1), goal one, and the mathematics component of RCW
11 28A.150.210(2), goal two, shall be completed no later than March 1,
12 1995. Essential academic learning requirements that incorporate the
13 remainder of RCW 28A.150.210 (2), (3), and (4), goals two, three, and
14 four, shall be completed no later than March 1, 1996. To the maximum
15 extent possible, the commission shall integrate goal four and the
16 knowledge and skill areas in the other goals in the development of the
17 essential academic learning requirements;

18 (b)(i) The commission shall present to the state board of education
19 and superintendent of public instruction a state-wide academic
20 assessment system for use in the elementary, middle, and high school
21 years designed to determine if each student has mastered the essential
22 academic learning requirements identified in (a) of this subsection.
23 The academic assessment system shall include a variety of assessment
24 methods that are criterion-referenced, including performance-based
25 measures (~~((that are criterion-referenced))~~). Performance standards for
26 determining if a student has successfully completed an assessment shall
27 be initially determined by the commission in consultation with the
28 advisory committees required in subsection (2) of this section.

29 (ii) The assessment system shall be designed so that the results
30 under the assessment system are used by educators as tools to evaluate
31 instructional practices, and to initiate appropriate educational
32 support for students who have not mastered the essential academic
33 learning requirements at the appropriate periods in the student's
34 educational development.

35 (iii) Assessments measuring the essential academic learning
36 requirements developed for RCW 28A.150.210(1), goal one, and the
37 mathematics component of RCW 28A.150.210(2), goal two, shall be
38 ~~((initially implemented by the state board of education and
39 superintendent of public instruction no later than the 1996-97 school~~

1 ~~year,~~) developed and initially implemented by the commission before
2 transferring the assessment system to the superintendent of public
3 instruction. For goal one and the mathematics component of goal two,
4 the elementary assessment shall be available for use by districts no
5 later than the 1996-97 school year, the middle grades assessment no
6 later than the 1997-98 school year, and the high school assessment no
7 later than the 1998-99 school year unless the legislature takes action
8 to delay or prevent implementation of the assessment system and
9 essential academic learning requirements. The assessment system shall
10 be transferred to the superintendent of public instruction no later
11 than June 30, 1999, for continued implementation. Assessments
12 measuring the essential academic learning requirements developed for
13 RCW 28A.150.210 (2) except mathematics, (3), and (4), goals two, three,
14 and four, shall be ((initially implemented by the state board of
15 education and)) developed and initially implemented by the commission
16 before transferring the assessments to the superintendent of public
17 instruction, unless the legislature takes action to delay or prevent
18 implementation of the assessment system and essential academic learning
19 requirements. The assessments shall be transferred to the
20 superintendent of public instruction no later than ((the 1998-99 school
21 year, unless the legislature takes action to delay or prevent
22 implementation of the assessment system and essential academic learning
23 requirements)) June 30, 1999, for continued implementation.

24 The goal two assessments, except mathematics, shall not include
25 state-level assessments in the elementary grades, but shall include
26 classroom-based assessments for voluntary use. However, by December 1,
27 2001, the state board of education shall make recommendations to the
28 legislature regarding whether state-level assessments should be
29 developed and required for goal two, except mathematics, in the
30 elementary grades.

31 The commission shall work closely with the superintendent of public
32 instruction and the state board of education during the development and
33 initial implementation of the assessment system. To the maximum extent
34 possible, the commission shall integrate knowledge and skill areas in
35 development of the assessments.

36 (iv) Before the 2000-2001 school year, participation by school
37 districts in the assessment system shall be optional. School districts
38 that desire to participate before the 2000-2001 school year shall
39 notify the commission on student learning or the superintendent of

1 public instruction, as appropriate, in a manner determined by the
2 commission or superintendent. Beginning in the 2000-2001 school year,
3 all school districts shall be required to participate in the assessment
4 system.

5 (v) The commission on student learning may modify the essential
6 academic learning requirements and the assessments, as needed, on or
7 before June 30, 1999. The state board of education (~~and~~
8 ~~superintendent of public instruction~~) may modify the essential
9 academic learning requirements (~~and academic assessment system~~), as
10 needed, (~~in subsequent school years~~) after June 30, 1999, and the
11 superintendent of public instruction may modify the academic assessment
12 system, as needed, after June 30, 1999.

13 (vi) The commission shall develop assessments that are directly
14 related to the essential academic learning requirements, and are not
15 biased toward persons with different learning styles, racial or ethnic
16 backgrounds, or on the basis of gender;

17 (c) After a determination is made by the state board of education
18 that the high school assessment system has been implemented and that it
19 is sufficiently reliable and valid, successful completion of the high
20 school assessment shall lead to a certificate of mastery. The
21 certificate of mastery shall be obtained by most students at about the
22 age of sixteen, and is evidence that the student has successfully
23 mastered the essential academic learning requirements during his or her
24 educational career. (~~The certificate of mastery shall be required for~~
25 ~~graduation but shall not be the only requirement for graduation.~~ The
26 ~~commission shall make recommendations to the state board of education~~
27 ~~regarding the relationship between the certificate of mastery and high~~
28 ~~school graduation requirements.)) The state board of education and the
29 commission shall make recommendations to the legislature regarding
30 whether the certificate of mastery should be a graduation requirement.
31 The certificate of mastery shall not be implemented as a state-wide
32 graduation requirement until legislation is enacted directing the state
33 board of education to make it a state-wide requirement. Upon achieving
34 the certificate of mastery, schools shall provide students with the
35 opportunity to continue to pursue career and educational objectives
36 through educational pathways that emphasize integration of academic and
37 vocational education. Educational pathways may include, but are not
38 limited to, programs such as work-based learning, school-to-work
39 transition, tech prep, vocational-technical education, running start,~~

1 and preparation for technical college, community college, or university
2 education;

3 (d) Consider methods to address the unique needs of special
4 education students when developing the assessments in (b) and (c) of
5 this subsection;

6 (e) Consider methods to address the unique needs of highly capable
7 students when developing the assessments in (b) and (c) of this
8 subsection;

9 (f) Develop recommendations on the time, support, and resources,
10 including technical assistance, needed by schools and school districts
11 to help students achieve the essential academic learning requirements.
12 These recommendations shall include an estimate for the legislature,
13 superintendent of public instruction, and governor on the expected cost
14 of implementing the academic assessment system;

15 (g) Develop recommendations for consideration by the higher
16 education coordinating board for adopting college and university
17 entrance requirements for public school students that are consistent
18 with the essential academic learning requirements and the certificate
19 of mastery;

20 (h) Review current school district data reporting requirements for
21 the purposes of accountability and meeting state information needs.
22 The commission on student learning shall report recommendations to the
23 joint select committee on education restructuring by September 15,
24 1996, on:

25 (i) What data is necessary to compare how school districts are
26 performing before the essential academic learning requirements and the
27 assessment system are implemented with how school districts are
28 performing after the essential academic learning requirements and the
29 assessment system are implemented; and

30 (ii) What data is necessary pertaining to school district reports
31 under the accountability systems developed by the commission on student
32 learning under this section;

33 (i) By June 30, 1999, recommend to the legislature, governor, state
34 board of education, and superintendent of public instruction:

35 (i) A state-wide accountability system to monitor and evaluate
36 accurately and fairly the level of learning occurring in individual
37 schools and school districts. The accountability system shall be
38 designed to recognize the characteristics of the student population of
39 schools and school districts such as gender, race, ethnicity,

1 socioeconomic status, and other factors. The system shall include
2 school-site, school district, and state-level accountability reports;

3 (ii) A school assistance program to help schools and school
4 districts that are having difficulty helping students meet the
5 essential academic learning requirements;

6 (iii) A system to intervene in schools and school districts in
7 which significant numbers of students persistently fail to learn the
8 essential academic learning requirements; and

9 (iv) An awards program to provide incentives to school staff to
10 help their students learn the essential academic learning requirements,
11 with each school being assessed individually against its own baseline.
12 Incentives shall be based on the rate of percentage change of students
13 achieving the essential academic learning requirements. School staff
14 shall determine how the awards will be spent.

15 It is the intent of the legislature to begin implementation of
16 programs in this subsection (3)(i) on September 1, 2000;

17 (j) Report annually by December 1st to the legislature, the
18 governor, the superintendent of public instruction, and the state board
19 of education on the progress, findings, and recommendations of the
20 commission; and

21 (k) Make recommendations to the legislature and take other actions
22 necessary or desirable to help students meet the student learning
23 goals.

24 (4) The commission shall coordinate its activities with the state
25 board of education and the office of the superintendent of public
26 instruction.

27 (5) The commission shall seek advice broadly from the public and
28 all interested educational organizations in the conduct of its work,
29 including holding periodic regional public hearings.

30 (6) The commission shall select an entity to provide staff support
31 and the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
32 provide administrative oversight and be the fiscal agent for the
33 commission. The commission may direct the office of the superintendent
34 of public instruction to enter into subcontracts, within the
35 commission's resources, with school districts, teachers, higher
36 education faculty, state agencies, business organizations, and other
37 individuals and organizations to assist the commission in its
38 deliberations.

1 (7) Members of the commission shall be reimbursed for travel
2 expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

3 (8) This section expires June 30, 1999.

4 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) By December 15, 1996, the commission on
5 student learning shall recommend to the appropriate committees of the
6 legislature a revised timeline for the implementation of the middle and
7 high school assessments for science, history, geography, civics,
8 health, fitness, and the arts.

9 (2) By December 15, 1996, the state board of education and the
10 commission on student learning shall make initial recommendations to
11 the appropriate committees of the legislature regarding the
12 implementation timeline for the certificate of mastery, including
13 whether it should be a graduation requirement. The board and
14 commission shall consider other or additional methods in which the
15 assessments could be used to raise the standards in schools and of
16 students, and how these methods should be phased-in.

17 (3) This section shall expire December 31, 1996.

18 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. 1995 c 335 s 803 (uncodified) is repealed."

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22 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "system;" strike the
23 remainder of the title and insert "reenacting and amending RCW
24 28A.630.885; creating a new section; repealing 1995 c 335 s 803
25 (uncodified); and providing expiration dates."

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