On page 11, after line 2, insert the following:
"Sec. 14. RCW 28A. 655.061 and 2004 c 19 s 101 are each amended to read as follows:
(1) The high school assessment system shall include but need not be limited to the Washington assessment of student learning, opportunities for a student to retake the content areas of the assessment in which the student was not successful, and if approved by the legislature pursuant to subsection (((11))) (10) of this section, one or more objective alternative assessments for a student to demonstrate achievement of state academic ((standards)) requirements. The objective alternative assessments for each content area shall be comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the Washington assessment of student learning for each content area.
(2) Subject to the conditions in this section, a certificate of academic achievement shall be obtained by most students at about the age of sixteen, and is evidence that the students have successfully met the state ((standard)) requirements in the content areas included in the certificate. With the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, acquisition of the certificate is required for graduation from a public high school but is not the only requirement for graduation.
(3) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008 , with the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, a student who meets the ( (state standards on the reading, witing, and mathematics content areas of)) requirements of subsection (13) of this section onthe high school Washington assessment of student learning shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. If a student does not successfully meet the state ((stanclarcts)) requirements in one or more content areas required for the certificate of academic achievement, then the student may retake
the assessment in the content area up to four times at no cost to the student. If the student successfully meets the state ((standards)) requirements on a retake of the assessment then the student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. Once objective alternative assessments are authorized pursuant to subsection ((111)) (10) of this section, a student may use the objective alternative assessments to demonstrate that the student successfully meets the state ((standards)) requirements for that content area if the student has retaken the Washington assessment of student learning at least once. If the student successfully meets the state ((stanctards)) requirements on the objective alternative assessments then the student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. The student's transcript shall note whether the certificate of academic achievement was acquired by means of the Washington assessment of student learning or by an alternative assessment.
(4) ( Beginning with the graduating elass of 2010, a student must meet the state standards in science in addition to the other eontent areas required under subsection (3) of this section on the washington assessment of student learning or the objective alternative assessments in order to earn a certificate of academic achievement.
(5)) ) The state board of education may not require the acquisition of the certificate of academic achievement for students in home-based instruction under chapter 28A. 200 RCW, for students enrolled in private schools under chapter 28A. 195 RCW, or for students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045.
(( ( 64$)$ ) (5) A student may retain and use the highest result from each successfully completed content area of the high school assessment.
(((7))) (6) Beginning with the graduating class of 2006 , the highest scale score and level achieved in each content area on the high school Washington assessment of student learning shall be displayed on a student's transcript. In addition, beginning with the graduating class of 2008 , each student shall receive a scholar's designation on his or her transcript for each content area in which the student achieves level four the first time the student takes that content area assessment.
(( (8)) (7) Beginning in 2006, school districts must make available to students the following options:
(a) To retake the Washington assessment of student learning up to four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the state ((standards)) requirements if the student is enrolled in a public school; or
(b) To retake the Washington assessment of student learning up to four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the state ((stanctards)) requirements for a certificate of academic achievement if the student is enrolled in a high school completion program at a community or technical college. The superintendent of public instruction and the state board for community and technical colleges shall jointly identify means by which students in these programs can be assessed.
((H)) (8) Students who achieve the ((standard)) state requirementin a content area of the high school assessment but who wish to improve their results shall pay for retaking the assessment, using a uniform cost determined by the superintendent of public instruction.
(((10))) (9) Subject to available funding, the superintendent shall pilot opportunities for retaking the high school assessment beginning in the 2004-05 school year. Beginning no later than September 2006, opportunities to retake the assessment at least twice a year shall be available to each school district.
((117)) (10) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall develop options for implementing objective alternative assessments, which may include an appeals process, for students to demonstrate achievement of the ((state academie stanctards)) certificate of academic achievement. The objective alternative assessments shall be comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the Washington assessment of student learning and be objective in its determination of student achievement of the state ((stanctarcts)) requirements. Before any objective alternative assessments are used by a student to demonstrate that the student has met the state ((standards)) requirements in a content area required to obtain a certificate, the legislature shall formally approve the use of any objective alternative assessments through the omnibus appropriations act or by statute or concurrent resolution.
(((12))) (11) By December 15, 2004, the house of representatives and senate education committees shall obtain information and
conclusions from recognized, independent, national assessment experts regarding the validity and reliability of the high school Washington assessment of student learning for making individual student high school graduation determinations.
(((13))) (12) To help assure continued progress in academic achievement as a foundation for high school graduation and to assure that students are on track for high school graduation, each school district shall prepare plans for students as provided in this subsection ((13))) (12).
(a) Student learning plans are required for eighth through twelfth grade students who were not ((suceessfut)) proficient on any or all of the content areas of the Washington assessment for student learning during the previous school year. The plan shall include the courses, competencies, and other steps needed to be taken by the student to meetthe state ((acaclemic standards)) requirements and stay on track for graduation. This requirement shall be phased in as follows:
(i) Beginning no later than the 2004-05 school year ninth grade students as described in this subsection ((113)) (12)(a) shall have a plan.
(ii) Beginning no later than the 2005-06 school year and every year thereafter eighth grade students as described in this subsection ((113))) (12) (a) shall have a plan.
(iii) The parent or guardian shall be notified, preferably through a parent conference, of the student's results on the Washington assessment of student learning, actions the school intends to take to improve the student's skills in any content area in which the student was ((unsuceessful)) not proficient, strategies to help them improve their student's skills, and the content of the student's plan.
(iv) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported to the student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments to the plan made as necessary.
(b) Beginning with the 2005-06 school year and every year thereafter, all fifth grade students who were not ( (successful) ) proficient in one or more of the content areas of the fourth grade Washington assessment of student learning shall have a student learning plan.
(i) The parent or guardian of a student described in this
subsection (((13))) (12) (b) shall be notified, preferably through a parent conference, of the student's results on the Washington assessment of student learning, actions the school intends to take to improve the student's skills in any content area in which the student was ((unsucessul)) not proficient, and provide strategies to help them improve their student's skills.
(ii) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported to the student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments to the plan made as necessary.
(13) In order to meet state requirements and earn a certificate of academic achievement, a student must meet or exceed either the proficient or basic level on the high school Washington assessment of student learning as follows:
(a) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008 and until July 31, 2010, the student must meet or exceed the proficient level in one out of three and meet or exceed the basic level in two out of three of the reading, writing, and mathematics content areas on the high school Washington assessment of student learning or an approved alternative assessment;
(b) Beginning August 1, 2010, and until July 31, 2014, the student must meet or exceed the proficient level in two out of four and meet or exceed the basic level in two out of four of the reading, writing, mathematics, and science content areas on the high school Washington assessment of student learning or an approved alternative assessment;
(c) Beginning August 1, 2014, and until July 31, 2017, the student must meet or exceed the proficient level in three out of four of the reading, writing, mathematics, and science content areas on the high school Washington assessment of student learning or an approved alternative assessment; and
(d) Beginning August 1, 2017, and thereafter, a student must meet or exceed the proficient level in all four content areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and science on the high school Washington assessment of student learning or an approved alternative assessment."

Renumber remaining sections consecutively and correct internal references accordingly.

EFFECT: Provides for the gradual implementation of the requirement that students meet or exceed the proficient level on all four (reading, writing, mathematics, and science) content areas of the Washington assessment of student learning (WASL). Beginning with August 1, 2017 , all students must meet or exceed the proficient level on all four content areas of the WASL or an approved alternative assessment.

