

SHB 2733 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education

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

3 "**Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.305.220 and 2004 c 19 s 108 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The state board of education shall develop for use by all
6 public school districts a standardized high school transcript. The
7 state board of education shall establish clear definitions for the
8 terms "credits" and "hours" so that school programs operating on the
9 quarter, semester, or trimester system can be compared.

10 (2) The standardized high school transcript shall include the
11 following information:

12 (a) ~~((The highest scale score and level achieved in each content
13 area on the high school Washington assessment of student learning or
14 other high school measures successfully completed by the student as
15 provided by RCW 28A.655.061 and 28A.155.045;~~

16 ~~(b))~~) All scholar designations as provided by RCW 28A.655.061;

17 ~~((e))~~) (b) A notation of whether the student has earned a
18 certificate of individual achievement or a certificate of academic
19 achievement by means of the Washington assessment of student learning
20 or by an alternative assessment.

21 (3) Transcripts are important documents to students who will apply
22 for admission to postsecondary institutions of higher education.
23 Transcripts are also important to students who will seek employment
24 upon or prior to graduation from high school. It is recognized that
25 student transcripts may be the only record available to employers in
26 their decision-making processes regarding prospective employees. The
27 superintendent of public instruction shall require school districts to
28 inform annually all high school students that prospective employers may
29 request to see transcripts and that the prospective employee's decision

1 to release transcripts can be an important part of the process of
2 applying for employment.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.655.061 and 2004 c 19 s 101 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 (11) 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, acquisition of the certificate is required for graduation
21 from a public high school but is not the only requirement for
22 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
31 four times at no cost to the student. If the student successfully
32 meets the state standards on a retake of the assessment then the
33 student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. Once
34 objective alternative assessments are authorized pursuant to subsection
35 (11) of this section, a student may use the objective alternative
36 assessments to demonstrate that the student successfully meets the
37 state standards for that content area if the student has retaken the

1 Washington assessment of student learning at least once. If the
2 student successfully meets the state standards on the objective
3 alternative assessments then the student shall earn a certificate of
4 academic achievement. The student's transcript shall note whether the
5 certificate of academic achievement was acquired by means of the
6 Washington assessment of student learning or by an alternative
7 assessment.

8 (4) Beginning with the graduating class of 2010, a student must
9 meet the state standards in science in addition to the other content
10 areas required under subsection (3) of this section on the Washington
11 assessment of student learning or the objective alternative assessments
12 in order to earn a certificate of academic achievement.

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

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

20 ~~((Beginning with the graduating class of 2006, the highest~~
21 ~~scale score and level achieved in each content area on the high school~~
22 ~~Washington assessment of student learning shall be displayed on a~~
23 ~~student's transcript. In addition,))~~ Beginning with the graduating
24 class of 2008, each student who takes the assessment before completing
25 tenth grade and who achieves level four the first time the student
26 takes that content area assessment, shall receive a scholar's
27 designation on his or her transcript for each content area in which the
28 student achieves level four the first time the student takes that
29 content area assessment.

30 (8) Beginning in 2006, school districts must make available to
31 students the following options:

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

35 (b) 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 high school completion
38 program at a community or technical college. The superintendent of

1 public instruction and the state board for community and technical
2 colleges shall jointly identify means by which students in these
3 programs can be assessed.

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

8 (10) Subject to available funding, the superintendent shall pilot
9 opportunities for retaking the high school assessment beginning in the
10 2004-05 school year. Beginning no later than September 2006,
11 opportunities to retake the assessment at least twice a year shall be
12 available to each school district.

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

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

32 (13) To help assure continued progress in academic achievement as
33 a foundation for high school graduation and to assure that students are
34 on track for high school graduation, each school district shall prepare
35 plans for students as provided in this subsection (13).

36 (a) Student learning plans are required for eighth through twelfth
37 grade students who were not successful on any or all of the content
38 areas of the Washington assessment for student learning during the

1 previous school year. The plan shall include the courses,
2 competencies, and other steps needed to be taken by the student to meet
3 state academic standards and stay on track for graduation. This
4 requirement shall be phased in as follows:

5 (i) Beginning no later than the 2004-05 school year ninth grade
6 students as described in this subsection (13)(a) shall have a plan.

7 (ii) Beginning no later than the 2005-06 school year and every year
8 thereafter eighth grade students as described in this subsection
9 (13)(a) shall have a plan.

10 (iii) The parent or guardian shall be notified, preferably through
11 a parent conference, of the student's results on the Washington
12 assessment of student learning, actions the school intends to take to
13 improve the student's skills in any content area in which the student
14 was unsuccessful, strategies to help them improve their student's
15 skills, and the content of the student's plan.

16 (iv) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported to the
17 student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments to the
18 plan made as necessary.

19 (b) Beginning with the 2005-06 school year and every year
20 thereafter, all fifth grade students who were not successful in one or
21 more of the content areas of the fourth grade Washington assessment of
22 student learning shall have a student learning plan.

23 (i) The parent or guardian of a student described in this
24 subsection (13)(b) shall be notified, preferably through a parent
25 conference, of the student's results on the Washington assessment of
26 student learning, actions the school intends to take to improve the
27 student's skills in any content area in which the student was
28 unsuccessful, and provide strategies to help them improve their
29 student's skills.

30 (ii) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported to the
31 student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments to the
32 plan made as necessary."

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1 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "transcripts;" strike the
2 remainder of the title and insert "and amending RCW 28A.305.220 and
3 28A.655.061."

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