

SHB 2973 - S COMM AMD

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

NOT ADOPTED 03/01/2006

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that Washington's
4 performance-based education system should seek to provide fundamental
5 academic knowledge and skills for all students, and to provide the
6 opportunity for students to acquire knowledge and skills likely to
7 contribute to their own economic well-being and that of their families
8 and communities.

9 (2) The legislature recognizes that career and technical options
10 are available for students.

11 (3) High schools or school districts should take advantage of their
12 opportunity to offer course credits, including credits toward
13 graduation requirements, for knowledge and skills in fundamental
14 academic content areas that students gain in career and technical
15 education courses.

16 (4) Therefore the legislature intends to create a rigorous and high
17 quality career and technical high school alternative assessment that
18 assures students meet state standards, and also reflects nationally
19 recognized standards for the knowledge and skills needed to pursue
20 employment and careers in technical fields.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 (1) Each high school or school district board of directors shall
24 adopt course equivalencies for career and technical high school courses
25 offered to students at the high school. A career and technical course
26 equivalency may be for whole or partial credit. Each school district
27 board of directors shall develop a course equivalency approval
28 procedure.

1 (2) Career and technical courses determined to be equivalent to
2 academic core courses, in full or in part, by the high school or school
3 district shall be accepted as meeting core requirements, including
4 graduation requirements, if the courses are recorded on the student's
5 transcript using the equivalent academic high school department
6 designation and title. Full or partial credit shall be recorded as
7 appropriate.

8 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.230.090 and 2005 c 205 s 3 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (1) The state board of education shall establish high school
11 graduation requirements or equivalencies for students, except those
12 equivalencies established by local high schools or school districts
13 under section 2 of this act.

14 (a) Any course in Washington state history and government used to
15 fulfill high school graduation requirements shall consider including
16 information on the culture, history, and government of the American
17 Indian peoples who were the first inhabitants of the state.

18 (b) The certificate of academic achievement requirements under RCW
19 28A.655.061 or the certificate of individual achievement requirements
20 under RCW 28A.155.045 are required for graduation from a public high
21 school but are not the only requirements for graduation.

22 (c) Any decision on whether a student has met the state board's
23 high school graduation requirements for a high school and beyond plan
24 shall remain at the local level.

25 (2) In recognition of the statutory authority of the state board of
26 education to establish and enforce minimum high school graduation
27 requirements, the state board shall periodically reevaluate the
28 graduation requirements and shall report such findings to the
29 legislature in a timely manner as determined by the state board.

30 (3) Pursuant to any requirement for instruction in languages other
31 than English established by the state board of education or a local
32 school district, or both, for purposes of high school graduation,
33 students who receive instruction in American sign language or one or
34 more American Indian languages shall be considered to have satisfied
35 the state or local school district graduation requirement for
36 instruction in one or more languages other than English.

1 (4) If requested by the student and his or her family, a student
2 who has completed high school courses before attending high school
3 shall be given high school credit which shall be applied to fulfilling
4 high school graduation requirements if:

5 (a) The course was taken with high school students, if the academic
6 level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth
7 grade classes, and the student has successfully passed by completing
8 the same course requirements and examinations as the high school
9 students enrolled in the class; or

10 (b) The academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for
11 seventh and eighth grade classes and the course would qualify for high
12 school credit, because the course is similar or equivalent to a course
13 offered at a high school in the district as determined by the school
14 district board of directors.

15 (5) Students who have taken and successfully completed high school
16 courses under the circumstances in subsection (4) of this section shall
17 not be required to take an additional competency examination or perform
18 any other additional assignment to receive credit.

19 (6) At the college or university level, five quarter or three
20 semester hours equals one high school credit.

21 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.230.100 and 1991 c 116 s 8 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 The state board of education shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter
24 34.05 RCW, to implement the course requirements set forth in RCW
25 28A.230.090. The rules shall include, as the state board deems
26 necessary, granting equivalencies for and temporary exemptions from the
27 course requirements in RCW 28A.230.090 and special alterations of the
28 course requirements in RCW 28A.230.090. In developing such rules the
29 state board shall recognize the relevance of vocational and applied
30 courses and allow such courses to fulfill in whole or in part the
31 courses required for graduation in RCW 28A.230.090, as determined by
32 the high school or school district in accordance with section 2 of this
33 act. The rules may include provisions for competency testing in lieu
34 of such courses required for graduation in RCW 28A.230.090 or
35 demonstration of specific skill proficiency or understanding of
36 concepts through work or experience.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 28C.04 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop an
4 objective alternative assessment for career and technical education
5 programs. The objective alternative assessment shall be comparable in
6 rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on
7 the Washington assessment of student learning.

8 (2) The alternative assessment shall include an evaluation of a
9 collection of work samples prepared and submitted by an applicant who
10 is enrolled in a career and technical education program. The
11 superintendent of public instruction shall develop guidelines for the
12 collection of work samples that evidences that the collection:

13 (a) Is relevant to the student's particular career and technical
14 program;

15 (b) Focuses on the application of academic knowledge and skills
16 within the program;

17 (c) Includes completed activities or projects where demonstration
18 of academic knowledge is inferred; and

19 (d) Is related to the essential academic learning requirements and
20 state standards that students must meet to earn a certificate of
21 academic achievement or certificate of individual achievement, but also
22 represents the knowledge and skills that successful individuals in the
23 career and technical field of the approved program are expected to
24 possess.

25 (3) In developing the work samples for subsection (2) of this
26 section, the superintendent shall consult with community and technical
27 colleges, employers, the work force training and education coordinating
28 board, apprenticeship programs, and other regional and national experts
29 in career and technical education to create an appropriate collection
30 of work samples and other evidence of a career and technical student's
31 knowledge and skills on the state academic standards."

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1 On page 1, line 3 of the title, after "areas;" strike the remainder
2 of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.230.090 and 28A.230.100;
3 adding a new section to chapter 28A.230 RCW; adding a new section to
4 chapter 28C.04 RCW; and creating a new section."

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