

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6604

61st Legislature
2010 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate March 11, 2010
YEAS 48 NAYS 0

President of the Senate

Passed by the House March 11, 2010
YEAS 97 NAYS 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6604** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6604

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2010 Regular Session

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

By Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators Hobbs, King, McAuliffe, Oemig, Tom, Brandland, Holmquist, McDermott, and Kline)

READ FIRST TIME 02/09/10.

1 AN ACT Relating to flexibility in the education system; and
2 amending RCW 28A.655.061.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.655.061 and 2009 c 524 s 5 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The high school assessment system shall include but need not be
7 limited to the Washington assessment of student learning, opportunities
8 for a student to retake the content areas of the assessment in which
9 the student was not successful, and if approved by the legislature
10 pursuant to subsection (10) of this section, one or more objective
11 alternative assessments for a student to demonstrate achievement of
12 state academic standards. The objective alternative assessments for
13 each content area shall be comparable in rigor to the skills and
14 knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the Washington
15 assessment of student learning for each content area.

16 (2) Subject to the conditions in this section, a certificate of
17 academic achievement shall be obtained by most students at about the
18 age of sixteen, and is evidence that the students have successfully met
19 the state standard in the content areas included in the certificate.

1 With the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW
2 28A.155.045 or 28A.655.0611, acquisition of the certificate is required
3 for graduation from a public high school but is not the only
4 requirement for graduation.

5 (3) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008, with the exception
6 of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, a student who
7 meets the state standards on the reading, writing, and mathematics
8 content areas of the high school Washington assessment of student
9 learning shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. If a
10 student does not successfully meet the state standards in one or more
11 content areas required for the certificate of academic achievement,
12 then the student may retake the assessment in the content area up to
13 four times at no cost to the student. If the student successfully
14 meets the state standards on a retake of the assessment then the
15 student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. Once
16 objective alternative assessments are authorized pursuant to subsection
17 (10) of this section, a student may use the objective alternative
18 assessments to demonstrate that the student successfully meets the
19 state standards for that content area if the student has taken the
20 Washington assessment of student learning at least once. If the
21 student successfully meets the state standards on the objective
22 alternative assessments then the student shall earn a certificate of
23 academic achievement.

24 (4) Beginning no later than with the graduating class of 2013, a
25 student must meet the state standards in science in addition to the
26 other content areas required under subsection (3) of this section on
27 the Washington assessment of student learning or the objective
28 alternative assessments in order to earn a certificate of academic
29 achievement. The state board of education may adopt a rule that
30 implements the requirements of this subsection (4) beginning with a
31 graduating class before the graduating class of 2013, if the state
32 board of education adopts the rule by September 1st of the freshman
33 school year of the graduating class to which the requirements of this
34 subsection (4) apply. The state board of education's authority under
35 this subsection (4) does not alter the requirement that any change in
36 performance standards for the tenth grade assessment must comply with
37 RCW 28A.305.130.

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

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

8 (7) School districts must make available to students the following
9 options:

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

13 (b) To retake the Washington assessment of student learning up to
14 four times in the content areas in which the student did not meet the
15 state standards if the student is enrolled in a high school completion
16 program at a community or technical college. The superintendent of
17 public instruction and the state board for community and technical
18 colleges shall jointly identify means by which students in these
19 programs can be assessed.

20 (8) Students who achieve the standard in a content area of the high
21 school assessment but who wish to improve their results shall pay for
22 retaking the assessment, using a uniform cost determined by the
23 superintendent of public instruction.

24 (9) Opportunities to retake the assessment at least twice a year
25 shall be available to each school district.

26 (10)(a) The office of the superintendent of public instruction
27 shall develop options for implementing objective alternative
28 assessments, which may include an appeals process for students' scores,
29 for students to demonstrate achievement of the state academic
30 standards. The objective alternative assessments shall be comparable
31 in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate
32 on the Washington assessment of student learning and be objective in
33 its determination of student achievement of the state standards.
34 Before any objective alternative assessments in addition to those
35 authorized in RCW 28A.655.065 or (b) of this subsection are used by a
36 student to demonstrate that the student has met the state standards in
37 a content area required to obtain a certificate, the legislature shall

1 formally approve the use of any objective alternative assessments
2 through the omnibus appropriations act or by statute or concurrent
3 resolution.

4 (b)(i) A student's score on the mathematics, reading or English, or
5 writing portion of the SAT or the ACT may be used as an objective
6 alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that a
7 student has met or exceeded the state standards for the certificate of
8 academic achievement. The state board of education shall identify the
9 scores students must achieve on the relevant portion of the SAT or ACT
10 to meet or exceed the state standard in the relevant content area on
11 the Washington assessment of student learning. The state board of
12 education shall identify the first scores by December 1, 2007. After
13 the first scores are established, the state board may increase but not
14 decrease the scores required for students to meet or exceed the state
15 standards.

16 (ii) Until August 31, 2008, a student's score on the mathematics
17 portion of the PSAT may be used as an objective alternative assessment
18 under this section for demonstrating that a student has met or exceeded
19 the state standard for the certificate of academic achievement. The
20 state board of education shall identify the score students must achieve
21 on the mathematics portion of the PSAT to meet or exceed the state
22 standard in that content area on the Washington assessment of student
23 learning.

24 (iii) A student who scores at least a three on the grading scale of
25 one to five for selected AP examinations may use the score as an
26 objective alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating
27 that a student has met or exceeded state standards for the certificate
28 of academic achievement. A score of three on the AP examinations in
29 calculus or statistics may be used as an alternative assessment for the
30 mathematics portion of the Washington assessment of student learning.
31 A score of three on the AP examinations in English language and
32 composition may be used as an alternative assessment for the writing
33 portion of the Washington assessment of student learning. A score of
34 three on the AP examinations in English literature and composition,
35 macroeconomics, microeconomics, psychology, United States history,
36 world history, United States government and politics, or comparative
37 government and politics may be used as an alternative assessment for
38 the reading portion of the Washington assessment of student learning.

1 (11) By December 15, 2004, the house of representatives and senate
2 education committees shall obtain information and conclusions from
3 recognized, independent, national assessment experts regarding the
4 validity and reliability of the high school Washington assessment of
5 student learning for making individual student high school graduation
6 determinations.

7 (12) To help assure continued progress in academic achievement as
8 a foundation for high school graduation and to assure that students are
9 on track for high school graduation, each school district shall prepare
10 plans for and notify students and their parents or legal guardians as
11 provided in this subsection (~~((12))~~).

12 (~~((a))~~) Student learning plans are required for eighth (~~through~~
13 ~~twelfth~~) grade students who were not successful on any or all of the
14 content areas of the (~~Washington~~) state assessment (~~(for student~~
15 ~~learning)~~) during the previous school year or who may not be on track
16 to graduate due to credit deficiencies or absences. The parent or
17 legal guardian shall be notified about the information in the student
18 learning plan, preferably through a parent conference and at least
19 annually. To the extent feasible, schools serving English language
20 learner students and their parents shall translate the plan into the
21 primary language of the family. The plan shall include the following
22 information as applicable:

23 (~~((i))~~) (a) The student's results on the (~~Washington~~) state
24 assessment (~~(of student learning)~~);

25 (~~((ii))~~) (b) If the student is in the transitional bilingual
26 program, the score on his or her Washington language proficiency test
27 II;

28 (~~((iii))~~) (c) Any credit deficiencies;

29 (~~((iv))~~) (d) The student's attendance rates over the previous two
30 years;

31 (~~((v))~~) (e) The student's progress toward meeting state and local
32 graduation requirements;

33 (~~((vi))~~) (f) The courses, competencies, and other steps needed to
34 be taken by the student to meet state academic standards and stay on
35 track for graduation;

36 (~~((vii))~~) (g) Remediation strategies and alternative education
37 options available to students, including informing students of the

1 option to continue to receive instructional services after grade twelve
2 or until the age of twenty-one;

3 ~~((viii))~~ (h) The alternative assessment options available to
4 students under this section and RCW 28A.655.065;

5 ~~((ix))~~ (i) School district programs, high school courses, and
6 career and technical education options available for students to meet
7 graduation requirements; and

8 ~~((x))~~ (j) Available programs offered through skill centers or
9 community and technical colleges, including the college high school
10 diploma options under RCW 28B.50.535.

11 ~~((b) All fifth grade students who were not successful in one or
12 more of the content areas of the fourth grade Washington assessment of
13 student learning shall have a student learning plan.~~

14 ~~(i) The parent or guardian of the student shall be notified,
15 preferably through a parent conference, of the student's results on the
16 Washington assessment of student learning, actions the school intends
17 to take to improve the student's skills in any content area in which
18 the student was unsuccessful, and provide strategies to help them
19 improve their student's skills.~~

20 ~~(ii) Progress made on the student plan shall be reported to the
21 student's parents or guardian at least annually and adjustments to the
22 plan made as necessary.)~~

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