

SB 5088 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Education

ADOPTED 04/09/2019

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the benefit of
4 computer science and computational thinking in education, not only
5 with respect to educational development, but also in cultivating the
6 skills needed to compete and excel in our state's career landscape.
7 By providing more opportunities to take courses and earn credit in
8 computer science, Washington can better prepare students to excel
9 both in school and after graduation.

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

12 (1) Beginning no later than the 2022-23 school year, each school
13 district that operates a high school must, at a minimum, provide an
14 opportunity to access an elective computer science course that is
15 available to all high school students. School districts are
16 encouraged to consider community-based or public-private partnerships
17 in establishing and administering a course, but any course offered in
18 accordance with this section must be aligned to the state learning
19 standards for computer science or mathematics.

20 (2) In accordance with the requirements of this section,
21 beginning in the 2019-20 school year, school districts may award
22 academic credit for computer science to students based on student
23 completion of a competency examination that is aligned with the state
24 learning standards for computer science or mathematics and course
25 equivalency requirements adopted by the office of the superintendent
26 of public instruction to implement this section. Each school district
27 board of directors in districts that award credit under this
28 subsection shall develop a written policy for awarding such credit
29 that includes:

30 (a) A course equivalency approval procedure;

1 (b) Procedures for awarding competency-based credit for skills
2 learned partially or wholly outside of a course; and

3 (c) An approval process for computer science courses taken before
4 attending high school under RCW 28A.230.090 (4) and (5).

5 (3) Prior to the use of any competency examination under this
6 section that may be used to award academic credit to students, the
7 office of the superintendent of public instruction must review the
8 examination to ensure its alignment with:

9 (a) The state learning standards for computer science or
10 mathematics; and

11 (b) Course equivalency requirements adopted by the office of the
12 superintendent of public instruction to implement this section.

13 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.230.100 and 2012 c 229 s 504 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (1) The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation
16 with the student achievement council, the state board for community
17 and technical colleges, and the workforce training and education
18 coordinating board, shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW,
19 to implement the course requirements set forth in RCW 28A.230.090.
20 The rules shall include, as the superintendent deems necessary,
21 granting equivalencies for and temporary exemptions from the course
22 requirements in RCW 28A.230.090 and special alterations of the course
23 requirements in RCW 28A.230.090. In developing such rules the
24 superintendent shall recognize the relevance of vocational and
25 applied courses and allow such courses to fulfill in whole or in part
26 the courses required for graduation in RCW 28A.230.090, as determined
27 by the high school or school district in accordance with RCW
28 28A.230.097.

29 (2) The rules ~~((may))~~ created under subsection (1) of this
30 section must include provisions for:

31 (a) Competency testing in lieu of such courses required for
32 graduation in RCW 28A.230.090 ~~((or))~~;

33 (b) Competency testing in lieu of electives, including computer
34 science electives created under section 2 of this act, provided
35 applicable state learning standards and equivalency requirements are
36 met; and

37 (c) Demonstration of specific skill proficiency or understanding
38 of concepts through work or experience."

1 Correct the title.

EFFECT: (1) Requires the elective computer science courses that must be offered to students to be: (a) limited to high school students; and (b) aligned to the state learning standards for computer science or mathematics.

(2) Specifies that competency examinations that may be offered to students for earning academic credit must align with the state learning standards for computer science or mathematics and course equivalency requirements adopted by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to implement the competency examination provisions.

(3) Specifies that, prior to the use of any computer science competency examination that may be used for awarding academic credit, the OSPI must review the examination to ensure its alignment with: (a) the state learning standards for computer science or mathematics; and (b) course equivalency requirements adopted by the OSPI to implement the competency examination provisions.

(4) Specifies the course equivalency and exemption rules that must be adopted by the Superintendent of Public Instruction must include competency testing in lieu of electives, including computer science electives created in accordance with the underlying bill, provided applicable state learning standard and equivalency requirements are met.

(5) Changes an apparently erroneous "or" to "and" in the course equivalency and exemption rule provisions of the underlying bill.

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