

HB 2998-S.E - DIGEST

(AS OF HOUSE 2ND READING 2/09/06)

Requires the Washington state institute for public policy to conduct a study to explore options to augment the current system of assessments to provide additional opportunities for students to demonstrate that they have met the state learning standards. The study is limited to: (1) A review and statistical analysis of Washington assessment of student learning data to profile the students who did not meet the standard in one or more areas of assessment, identify the characteristics of those students, and identify possible barriers to student success or possible causes of the lack of success;

(2) A review and identification of additional alternative assessment options that could be used to augment the current assessment system. In identifying the alternative assessment options, the institute shall include a review of alternative assessments used in other states as well as those that have been developed and those that have been proposed in Washington. The institute shall examine the use of national tests as well as career skill certification exams in their review of possible alternative assessment options; and

(3) A review and identification of additional alternative methods, procedures, or combinations of performance measures, including those proposed in Washington, to assess whether students have met the state learning standards.

Provides that the Washington state institute for public policy shall provide an interim report to the legislature by December 1, 2006, and a final report by December 1, 2007.