

**E2SSB 6673** - H COMM AMD  
By Committee on Appropriations

NOT ADOPTED 03/06/2008

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is likely that more than eighty-five  
4 percent of students in the class of 2008 who had accumulated sufficient  
5 course credits by the time they entered their senior year will complete  
6 all high school graduation requirements by June of 2008, including  
7 meeting the state standard in reading and writing on the high school  
8 Washington assessment of student learning or an approved alternative.  
9 However, it is also likely that as many as ten thousand or more  
10 students across the state will not be ready to graduate in June as a  
11 result of not meeting the state standard in reading, writing, or both.  
12 Furthermore, it is likely that each year in the future, some proportion  
13 of students will simply not be ready to graduate after twelve years of  
14 school. These students will need additional instruction so they can  
15 earn their diplomas. New courses and instructional strategies must be  
16 developed that are appropriate for these students. Perhaps more  
17 important, these students will need support, encouragement, guidance,  
18 and access to learning opportunities that will help them transition  
19 beyond high school and make progress in a career pathway that will lead  
20 to additional education and a family wage job. Such learning  
21 opportunities exist, but they need to be expanded, and more effort must  
22 be made to inform students about them.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320  
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 (1) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
26 develop information and training for counselors and mentor teachers on  
27 providing guidance to students who have completed required course  
28 credits but will not be ready to graduate with their class because they  
29 need additional skills in key academic areas, including meeting state

1 standards on the Washington assessment of student learning. Guidance  
2 and counseling programs for these students must include encouragement  
3 and support for high school completion and specific assistance with  
4 entering and making progress in a career pathway that will lead to  
5 additional education and a family wage job. The programs must also  
6 provide information on the local availability of options and programs  
7 for these students, including:

8 (a) Options for students who are not ready to graduate with their  
9 class to continue receiving instruction geared to high school  
10 completion or obtaining a GED, or both, and certification through high  
11 schools, skill centers, and community and technical colleges;

12 (b) Skills training and tutoring options for young adults offered  
13 through local community-based organizations;

14 (c) Online learning opportunities targeted to basic skills  
15 acquisition;

16 (d) Workforce education and training options and pathways,  
17 especially in occupations that will lead to family wage jobs and are in  
18 demand by employers; and

19 (e) Availability of financial aid for postsecondary education and  
20 assistance for students and families in accessing financial aid,  
21 including the opportunity grant program under RCW 28B.50.271.

22 (2) Beginning in the summer of 2008, the office of the  
23 superintendent of public instruction shall create and offer a training  
24 module through the summer institutes for high school counselors and  
25 mentor teachers on the topics described in subsection (1) of this  
26 section.

27 (3) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the office of  
28 the superintendent of public instruction shall allocate funds to school  
29 districts and educational service districts to provide the enhanced  
30 guidance, counseling, support, and assistance described in this  
31 section, which shall be targeted first to students who have completed  
32 required course credits but will not be ready to graduate with their  
33 class. Funds shall be allocated as specified in the omnibus  
34 appropriations act. The legislature's intent is that funding under  
35 this subsection be allocated primarily on the basis of the anticipated  
36 number of students in the target population in a district, with funds  
37 allocated to educational service districts where regional outreach is  
38 a more feasible method of service delivery due to small numbers of

1 students dispersed among multiple school districts. The office of the  
2 superintendent of public instruction shall annually collect and report  
3 statistics on the number of students served by the enhanced programs  
4 under this subsection and the number of subsequent high school or  
5 certificate completions among students in the target population.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320  
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the office of  
9 the superintendent of public instruction shall allocate grants to  
10 school districts, skill centers, and educational service districts to  
11 create high school plus programs targeted to students who have  
12 completed required course credits but are not ready to graduate with  
13 their class because they need additional skills in key academic areas,  
14 including meeting state standards on the Washington assessment of  
15 student learning.

16 (2) High school plus programs must include, at a minimum:

17 (a) Skill instruction and tutoring for students in the key academic  
18 areas necessary for them to meet state standards on the Washington  
19 assessment of student learning, offered using alternative service  
20 delivery methods such as flexible scheduling, evening and weekend  
21 classes, self-paced and outcome-based curriculum, or online courses;

22 (b) Assistance with development of a collection of evidence  
23 alternative assessment;

24 (c) Enhanced guidance, counseling, support, and assistance; and

25 (d) Opportunities for students to enroll in additional courses,  
26 work-based learning, internships, or other programs that provide entry  
27 to a career pathway that will lead to additional education and a family  
28 wage job. Grant recipients may offer the career pathway opportunities  
29 directly or in partnership with community-based organizations and  
30 community and technical colleges.

31 (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
32 allocate the grants under this section on a competitive basis but rely  
33 on a simple application and allocate funds largely on the number of  
34 students in the target population. In order to provide services to  
35 students in the class of 2008, the first grant recipients shall be  
36 announced no later than June 15, 2008, with an additional round of  
37 applications possible if there are an insufficient number of initial

1 respondents. To maximize available resources, school districts are  
2 encouraged to submit collaborative applications that coordinate  
3 services across multiple districts.

4 (4) Grants under this section may be used for program design and  
5 development, start-up costs, curriculum, and capacity to operate and  
6 sustain a special program for small numbers of students. To support  
7 high school plus programs, school districts may also use funding for  
8 programs under RCW 28A.150.220 for students under the age of twenty-one  
9 who are enrolled for the purpose of completing a high school diploma,  
10 any enhanced funding for guidance and counseling such as that described  
11 under section 2 of this act, and other available resources.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The office of the superintendent of public  
13 instruction shall submit a report on the program design and outcomes of  
14 high school plus programs created under section 3 of this act to the  
15 education committees of the legislature by September 15, 2009. The  
16 office shall also recommend a funding mechanism for high school plus  
17 programs that does not rely on competitive grants and any additional  
18 changes to improve the effectiveness of the programs.

19 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.165.055 and 2005 c 489 s 1 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (1) Each school district with an approved program is eligible for  
22 state funds provided for the learning assistance program. The funds  
23 shall be appropriated for the learning assistance program in accordance  
24 with the biennial appropriations act. The distribution formula is for  
25 school district allocation purposes only. The distribution formula  
26 shall be based on one or more family income factors measuring economic  
27 need.

28 (2) In addition to the funds allocated to eligible school districts  
29 on the basis of family income factors, enhanced funds shall be  
30 allocated for school districts where more than twenty percent of  
31 students are eligible for and enrolled in the transitional bilingual  
32 instruction program under chapter 28A.180 RCW as provided in this  
33 subsection. The enhanced funding provided in this subsection shall  
34 take effect beginning in the 2008-09 school year.

35 (a) If, in the prior school year, a district's percent of October  
36 headcount student enrollment in grades kindergarten through twelve who

1 are enrolled in the transitional bilingual instruction program, based  
2 on an average of the program headcount taken in October and May,  
3 exceeds twenty percent, twenty percent shall be subtracted from the  
4 district's percent transitional bilingual instruction program  
5 enrollment and the resulting percent shall be multiplied by the  
6 district's kindergarten through twelve annual average full-time  
7 equivalent enrollment for the prior school year.

8 (b) The number calculated under (a) of this subsection shall be the  
9 number of additional funded students for purposes of this subsection,  
10 to be multiplied by the per-funded student allocation rates specified  
11 in the omnibus appropriations act.

12 (c) School districts are only eligible for the enhanced funds under  
13 this subsection if their percentage of October headcount enrollment in  
14 grades kindergarten through twelve eligible for free or reduced price  
15 lunch exceeded forty percent in the prior school year.

16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 28A.300  
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the office of the  
19 superintendent of public instruction shall contract with a national  
20 organization to establish, maintain, and operate an endowment for the  
21 promotion of geography education in Washington state. The national  
22 organization must have experience operating geography education  
23 endowments in other states and must provide equal nonstate matching  
24 funds to the state funds provided in the contract. All funds in and  
25 any interest earned on the endowment shall be used exclusively for  
26 geography education programs including, but not limited to, curriculum  
27 materials, resource collections, and professional development  
28 institutes for teachers and administrators. The national organization  
29 must have an established affiliated advisory committee in the state to  
30 recommend local projects to be funded by the endowment. The contract  
31 shall require that the organization report annually to the  
32 superintendent on the recipients of endowment funds and the amounts and  
33 purposes of expenditures from the fund.

34 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 28A.655  
35 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) If funding is appropriated for this purpose, school districts  
2 shall provide all tenth graders enrolled in the district the option of  
3 taking the PSAT at no cost to the student.

4 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
5 enter into an agreement with the firm that administers the PSAT to  
6 reimburse the firm for the testing fees of students who take the test.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** If specific funding for the purposes of this  
8 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by  
9 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and  
10 void."

11 Correct the title.

--- END ---