

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 1178

63rd Legislature
2013 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 22, 2013
Yeas 85 Nays 10

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 12, 2013
Yeas 48 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 1178** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

HOUSE BILL 1178

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2013 Regular Session

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Representatives Lytton, Maxwell, Santos, Seaquist, Reykdal, Sullivan, Fitzgibbon, Ryu, Pollet, Stanford, Tharinger, and Jinkins

Read first time 01/18/13. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing alternative assessments of basic
2 skills for teacher certification; amending RCW 28A.410.220; and
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the use of a
6 basic skills test as an entrance requirement to teacher certification
7 programs has unintentionally created a barrier to the effective
8 recruitment of candidates from underrepresented populations who are
9 otherwise qualified for the program. Therefore, the legislature
10 intends to expand the pool of potential teacher candidates by expanding
11 the types of testing instruments and assessments that may be used to
12 measure basic skills. The legislature intends to review any
13 alternative assessments to ensure that candidates must continue to meet
14 the established standards for admission to a teacher certification
15 program.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.410.220 and 2008 c 176 s 2 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 (1)(a) Beginning not later than September 1, 2001, the Washington

1 professional educator standards board shall make available and pilot a
2 means of assessing an applicant's knowledge in the basic skills. For
3 the purposes of this section, "basic skills" means the subjects of at
4 least reading, writing, and mathematics. Beginning September 1, 2002,
5 except as provided in (c) and (d) of this subsection and subsection (4)
6 of this section, passing this assessment shall be required for
7 admission to approved teacher preparation programs and for persons from
8 out-of-state applying for a Washington state residency teaching
9 certificate.

10 (b) On an individual student basis, approved teacher preparation
11 programs may admit into their programs a candidate who has not achieved
12 the minimum basic skills assessment score established by the Washington
13 professional educator standards board. Individuals so admitted may not
14 receive residency certification without passing the basic skills
15 assessment under this section.

16 (c) The Washington professional educator standards board may
17 establish criteria to ensure that persons from out-of-state who are
18 applying for residency certification and persons applying to master's
19 degree level teacher preparation programs can demonstrate to the
20 board's satisfaction that they have the requisite basic skills based
21 upon having completed another basic skills assessment acceptable to the
22 Washington professional educator standards board or by some other
23 alternative approved by the Washington professional educator standards
24 board.

25 (d) The Washington professional educator standards board may
26 identify and accept other tests and test scores as long as the tests
27 are comparable in rigor to the basic skills assessment and candidates
28 meet or exceed the basic skills requirements established by the board.
29 The board must set the acceptable score for admission to teacher
30 certification programs at no lower than the average national scores for
31 the SAT or ACT.

32 (2) The Washington professional educator standards board shall set
33 performance standards and develop, pilot, and implement a uniform and
34 externally administered professional-level certification assessment
35 based on demonstrated teaching skill. In the development of this
36 assessment, consideration shall be given to changes in professional
37 certification program components such as the culminating seminar.

1 (3) Beginning not later than September 1, 2002, the Washington
2 professional educator standards board shall provide for the initial
3 piloting and implementation of a means of assessing an applicant's
4 knowledge in the subjects for which the applicant has applied for an
5 endorsement to his or her residency or professional teaching
6 certificate. The assessment of subject knowledge shall not include
7 instructional methodology. Beginning September 1, 2005, passing this
8 assessment shall be required to receive an endorsement for
9 certification purposes.

10 (4) The Washington professional educator standards board may permit
11 exceptions from the assessment requirements under subsections (1), (2),
12 and (3) of this section on a case-by-case basis.

13 (5) The Washington professional educator standards board shall
14 provide for reasonable accommodations for individuals who are required
15 to take the assessments in subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section
16 if the individuals have learning or other disabilities.

17 (6) With the exception of applicants exempt from the requirements
18 of subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section, an applicant must
19 achieve a minimum assessment score or scores established by the
20 Washington professional educator standards board on each of the
21 assessments under subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section.

22 (7) The Washington professional educator standards board and
23 superintendent of public instruction, as determined by the Washington
24 professional educator standards board, may contract with one or more
25 third parties for:

26 (a) The development, purchase, administration, scoring, and
27 reporting of scores of the assessments established by the Washington
28 professional educator standards board under subsections (1), (2), and
29 (3) of this section;

30 (b) Related clerical and administrative activities; or

31 (c) Any combination of the purposes in this subsection.

32 (8) Applicants for admission to a Washington teacher preparation
33 program and applicants for residency and professional certificates who
34 are required to successfully complete one or more of the assessments
35 under subsections (1), (2), and (3) of this section, and who are
36 charged a fee for the assessment by a third party contracted with under
37 subsection (7) of this section, shall pay the fee charged by the

1 contractor directly to the contractor. Such fees shall be reasonably
2 related to the actual costs of the contractor in providing the
3 assessment.

4 (9) The superintendent of public instruction is responsible for
5 supervision and providing support services to administer this section.

6 (10) The Washington professional educator standards board shall
7 collaboratively select or develop and implement the assessments and
8 minimum assessment scores required under this section with the
9 superintendent of public instruction and shall provide opportunities
10 for representatives of other interested educational organizations to
11 participate in the selection or development and implementation of such
12 assessments in a manner deemed appropriate by the Washington
13 professional educator standards board.

14 (11) The Washington professional educator standards board shall
15 adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW that are reasonably necessary for
16 the effective and efficient implementation of this section.

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