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## SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2224

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 2nd Special Session

By House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives MacEwen, Dolan, Appleton, Haler, Harris, Sells, Tarleton, J. Walsh, Santos, and Doglio; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction)

- Relating to providing flexibility in high school 1 AN ACT 2 graduation requirements and supporting student success during the 3 transition federal every student succeeds to а 4 accountability system; amending RCW 28A.655.061, 28A.655.065, 5 28A.305.130, 28A.230.090, 28A.655.061, and 28A.655.068; creating a new section; and declaring an emergency. 6
- 7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 8 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.655.061 and 2017 2nd sp.s. c ... s 5 (section 5 of this act) are each amended to read as follows:
  - (1) The high school assessment system shall include but need not be limited to the statewide student assessment, opportunities for a student to retake the content areas of the assessment in which the student was not successful, and, if approved by the legislature pursuant to subsection (10) of this section, one or more objective alternative assessments for a student to demonstrate achievement of state academic standards. The objective alternative assessments for each content area shall be comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the statewide student assessment for each content area.
  - (2) Subject to the conditions in this section, a certificate of academic achievement shall be obtained and is evidence that the

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students have successfully met the state standard in the content areas included in the certificate. With the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045 or 28A.655.0611, acquisition of the certificate is required for graduation from a public high school but is not the only requirement for graduation.

- (3)(a) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008 through the graduating class of 2015, with the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, a student who meets the state standards on the ((reading, writing,)) English language arts and mathematics high school statewide student assessment shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. The mathematics assessment shall be the end-of-course assessment for the first year of high school mathematics that assesses the standards common to algebra I and integrated mathematics I or the end-of-course assessment for the second year of high school mathematics that assesses standards common to geometry and integrated mathematics II.
- (b) As the state transitions from reading and writing assessments to an English language arts assessment and from end-of-course assessments to a comprehensive assessment for high school mathematics, a student in a graduating class of 2016 through 2018 shall earn a certificate of academic achievement if the student meets the ((state)) minimum high school graduation standard as follows:
- 23 (i) Students in the graduating class of 2016 may use the results 24 from:
  - (A) The reading and writing assessment or the English language arts assessment developed with the multistate consortium; and
  - (B) The end-of-course assessment for the first year of high school mathematics, the end-of-course assessment for the second year of high school mathematics, or the comprehensive mathematics assessment developed with the multistate consortium.
- 31 (ii) Students in the graduating classes of 2017 and 2018 may use 32 the results from:
  - (A) The tenth grade English language arts assessment developed by the superintendent of public instruction using resources from the multistate consortium or the English language arts assessment developed with the multistate consortium; and
  - (B) The end-of-course assessment for the first year of high school mathematics, the end-of-course assessment for the second year of high school mathematics, or the comprehensive mathematics assessment developed with the multistate consortium.

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(c) Beginning with the graduating class of 2019, a student who meets the ((state)) minimum high school graduation standard((s)) on the high school English language arts assessment developed with the multistate consortium and the comprehensive mathematics assessment developed with the multistate consortium shall earn a certificate of academic achievement.

- (d) Beginning with the graduating class of 2020, a student who meets the minimum high school graduation standard on the high school English language arts assessment developed with the multistate consortium and the comprehensive mathematics assessment developed with the multistate consortium to be administered in tenth grade shall earn a certificate of academic achievement.
- (e) If a student does not successfully meet the state standards in one or more content areas required for the certificate of academic achievement, then the student may retake the assessment in the content area at least twice a year at no cost to the student. If the student successfully meets the state standards on a retake of the assessment then the student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. Once objective alternative assessments are authorized pursuant to subsection (10) of this section, a student may use the objective alternative assessments to demonstrate that the student successfully meets the state standards for that content area if the student has taken the statewide student assessment at least once. If the student successfully meets the state standards on the objective alternative assessments then the student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement.
- (4) Beginning with the graduating class of 2021, a student must meet the state standards in science in addition to the other content areas required under subsection (3) of this section on the statewide student assessment, a retake, or the objective alternative assessments in order to earn a certificate of academic achievement. The assessment under this subsection must be a comprehensive assessment of the science essential academic learning requirements adopted by the superintendent of public instruction in 2013.
- (5) The state board of education may not require the acquisition of the certificate of academic achievement for students in home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW, for students enrolled in private schools under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or for students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045.

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1 (6) A student may retain and use the highest result from each 2 successfully completed content area of the high school assessment.

- (7) School districts must make available to students the following options:
- (a) To retake the statewide student assessment at least twice a year in the content areas in which the student did not meet the state standards if the student is enrolled in a public school; or
- (b) To retake the statewide student assessment at least twice a year in the content areas in which the student did not meet the state standards if the student is enrolled in a high school completion program at a community or technical college. The superintendent of public instruction and the state board for community and technical colleges shall jointly identify means by which students in these programs can be assessed.
- (8) Students who achieve the standard in a content area of the high school assessment but who wish to improve their results shall pay for retaking the assessment, using a uniform cost determined by the superintendent of public instruction.
- (9) Opportunities to retake the assessment at least twice a year shall be available to each school district.
- shall develop options for implementing objective alternative assessments, which may include an appeals process for students' scores, for students to demonstrate achievement of the state academic standards. The objective alternative assessments shall be comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the statewide student assessment and be objective in its determination of student achievement of the state standards. Before any objective alternative assessments in addition to those authorized in RCW 28A.655.065 or (b) of this subsection are used by a student to demonstrate that the student has met the state standards in a content area required to obtain a certificate, the legislature shall formally approve the use of any objective alternative assessments through the omnibus appropriations act or by statute or concurrent resolution.
- (b)(i) A student's score on the mathematics, reading or English, or writing portion of the SAT or the ACT may be used as an objective alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that a student has met or exceeded the state standards for the certificate of academic achievement. The state board of education shall identify

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the scores students must achieve on the relevant portion of the SAT or ACT to meet or exceed the state standard in the relevant content area on the statewide student assessment. A student's score on the science portion of the ACT or the science subject area tests of the SAT may be used as an objective alternative assessment under this section as soon as the state board of education determines that sufficient data is available to identify reliable equivalent scores for the science content area of the statewide student assessment. After the first scores are established, the state board may increase but not decrease the scores required for students to meet or exceed the state standards.

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(ii) A student who scores at least a three on the grading scale of one to five for selected AP examinations may use the score as an objective alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that a student has met or exceeded state standards for the certificate of academic achievement. A score of three on the AP examinations in calculus or statistics may be used as an alternative assessment for the mathematics portion of the statewide student assessment. A score of three on the AP examinations in English language and composition may be used as an alternative assessment for the writing portion of the statewide student assessment; and for the English language arts portion of the assessment developed with the multistate consortium, once established in the 2014-15 school year. A score of three on the AP examinations in English literature and composition, macroeconomics, microeconomics, psychology, States history, world history, United States government and politics, or comparative government and politics may be used as an alternative for the reading portion of the statewide assessment assessment; and for the English language arts portion of the assessment developed with the multistate consortium, once established in the 2014-15 school year. A score of three on the AP examination in biology, physics, chemistry, or environmental science may be used as an alternative assessment for the science portion of the statewide student assessment.

(iii) A student who scores at least a four on selected externally administered international baccalaureate (IB) examinations may use the score as an objective alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that the student has met or exceeded state standards for the certificate of academic achievement. A score of four on the higher level IB examinations for any of the IB English

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language and literature courses or for any of the IB individuals and societies courses may be used as an alternative assessment for the reading, writing, or English language arts portions of the statewide student assessment. A score of four on the higher level IB examinations for any of the IB mathematics courses may be used as an alternative assessment for the mathematics portion of the statewide student assessment. A score of four on the higher level IB examinations for IB biology, chemistry, or physics may be used as an alternative assessment for the science portion of the statewide student assessment.

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(iv)(A) Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, students who have not earned a certificate of academic achievement due to not meeting the standard on the mathematics or English language arts assessment may take and pass a locally determined course in the content area in which the student was not successful, and may use the passing score on a locally administered assessment tied to that course and approved under the provisions of this subsection (10)(b)(iv), as an objective alternative assessment for demonstrating that the student has met or exceeded the standard. High school transition courses and the assessments offered in association with high school transition courses shall be considered an approved locally determined course and assessment for demonstrating that the student met or exceeded the standard. The course must be rigorous and consistent with the student's educational and career goals identified in his or her high school and beyond plan, and may include career and technical education equivalencies in English language arts or mathematics adopted pursuant to RCW 28A.230.097. School districts shall record students' participation in locally determined courses under this section in the statewide individual data system.

(B) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall develop a process by which local school districts can submit assessments for review and approval for use as objective alternative assessments for graduation as allowed by (b)(iv) of this subsection. This process shall establish means to determine whether a local school district-administered assessment is comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the statewide student assessment and is objective in its determination of student achievement of the state standards. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall post on its agency web site a compiled list of local school district-administered

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assessments approved as objective alternative assessments, including the comparable scores on these assessments necessary to meet the standard.

- (C) For the purpose of this section, a high school transition course means an English language arts or mathematics course offered in high school where successful completion by a high school student ensures the student college-level placement at participating institutions of higher education. High school transition courses must, in accordance with this section, satisfy core or elective credit graduation requirements established by the state board of education.
- (v) A student who completes a dual credit course in English language arts or mathematics in which the student earns college credit may use passage of the course as an objective alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that the student has met or exceeded the minimum high school graduation standard for the certificate of academic achievement.
- (11) To help assure continued progress in academic achievement as a foundation for high school graduation and to assure that students are on track for high school graduation, each school district shall:
- (a) Provide students who have not earned a certificate of academic achievement before the beginning of grade eleven with the opportunity to access interventions and academic supports, courses, or both, designed to enable students to meet the minimum high school graduation standards. These interventions, supports, or courses must be rigorous and consistent with the student's educational and career goals identified in his or her high school and beyond plan, and may include career and technical education equivalencies in English language arts or mathematics adopted pursuant to RCW 28A.230.097; and
- language arts or mathematics adopted pursuant to RCW 28A.230.097; and

  (b) Prepare student learning plans ((for)) and notify students and their parents or legal guardians as provided in this subsection. Student learning plans are required for eighth grade students who were not successful on any or all of the content areas of the state assessment during the previous school year or who may not be on track to graduate due to credit deficiencies or absences. The parent or legal guardian shall be notified about the information in the student learning plan, preferably through a parent conference and at least annually. To the extent feasible, schools serving English language learner students and their parents shall translate the plan into the

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- 1 primary language of the family. The plan shall include the following 2 information as applicable:
  - $((\frac{a}{a}))$  (i) The student's results on the state assessment;
- 4 ((<del>(b)</del>)) <u>(ii)</u> If the student is in the transitional bilingual 5 program, the score on his or her Washington language proficiency test 6 II;
- 7 ((<del>(c)</del>)) <u>(iii)</u> Any credit deficiencies;

- 8  $((\frac{d}{d}))$  (iv) The student's attendance rates over the previous two 9 years;
- 10  $((\frac{\langle e \rangle}{}))$  <u>(v)</u> The student's progress toward meeting state and local graduation requirements;
- $((\frac{f}{f}))$  (vi) The courses, competencies, and other steps needed to be taken by the student to meet state academic standards and stay on track for graduation;
- 15 ((<del>g)</del>)) <u>(vii)</u> Remediation strategies and alternative education 16 options available to students, including informing students of the 17 option to continue to receive instructional services after grade 18 twelve or until the age of twenty-one;
- 19  $((\frac{h}{h}))$  (viii) The alternative assessment options available to 20 students under this section and RCW 28A.655.065;
- $((\frac{(i)}{(i)}))$  (ix) School district programs, high school courses, and career and technical education options available for students to meet graduation requirements; and
- $((\frac{1}{2}))$  (x) Available programs offered through skill centers or community and technical colleges, including the college high school diploma options under RCW 28B.50.535.
- 27 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.655.065 and 2009 c 556 s 19 are each amended to 28 read as follows:
- (1) The legislature has made a commitment to rigorous academic 29 30 standards for receipt of a high school diploma. The primary way that students will demonstrate that they meet the standards in reading, 31 writing, mathematics, and science is through the ((Washington)) 32 statewide student assessment ((of student learning)). Only objective 33 34 assessments that are comparable in rigor to the state assessment are authorized 35 as an alternative assessment. Before seeking alternative assessment, the legislature expects students to make a 36 genuine effort to meet state standards, through regular and 37 38 consistent attendance at school and participation in extended learning and other assistance programs. 39

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(2) Under RCW 28A.655.061, beginning in the 2006-07 school year, the superintendent of public instruction shall implement objective alternative assessment methods as provided in this section for students to demonstrate achievement of the state standards in content areas in which the student has not yet met the standard on the high school ((Washington)) statewide student assessment ((of student learning)). A student may access an alternative if the student meets applicable eligibility criteria in RCW 28A.655.061 and this section and other eligibility criteria established by the superintendent of public instruction, including but not limited to attendance criteria and participation in the remediation or supplemental instruction contained in the student learning plan developed under 28A.655.061. A school district may waive attendance and/or remediation criteria for special, unavoidable circumstances.

- (3) For the purposes of this section, "applicant" means a student seeking to use one of the alternative assessment methods in this section.
- (4) One alternative assessment method shall be a combination of the applicant's grades in applicable courses and the applicant's highest score on the high school ((Washington)) statewide student assessment ((of student learning)), as provided in this subsection. A student is eligible to apply for the alternative assessment method under this subsection (4) if the student has a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.2 on a four point grading scale. The superintendent of public instruction shall determine which high school courses are applicable to the alternative assessment method and shall issue guidelines to school districts.
- (a) Using guidelines prepared by the superintendent of public instruction, a school district shall identify the group of students in the same school as the applicant who took the same high school courses as the applicant in the applicable content area. From the group of students identified in this manner, the district shall select the comparison cohort that shall be those students who met or slightly exceeded the state standard on the ((Washington)) statewide student assessment ((of student learning)).
- (b) The district shall compare the applicant's grades in high school courses in the applicable content area to the grades of students in the comparison cohort for the same high school courses. If the applicant's grades are equal to or above the mean grades of

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the comparison cohort, the applicant shall be deemed to have met the state standard on the alternative assessment.

- (c) An applicant may not use the alternative assessment under this subsection (4) if there are fewer than six students in the comparison cohort.
- (5) ((The superintendent of public instruction shall develop an alternative assessment method that shall be an evaluation of a collection of work samples prepared and submitted by the applicant. Effective September 1, 2009, collection of work samples may be submitted only in content areas where meeting the state standard on the high school assessment is required for purposes of graduation.
- (a) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop guidelines for the types and number of work samples in each content area that may be submitted as a collection of evidence that the applicant has met the state standard in that content area. Work samples may be collected from academic, career and technical, or remedial courses and may include performance tasks as well as written products. The superintendent shall submit the guidelines for approval by the state board of education.
- (b) The superintendent shall develop protocols for submission of the collection of work samples that include affidavits from the applicant's teachers and school district that the samples are the work of the applicant and a requirement that a portion of the samples be prepared under the direct supervision of a classroom teacher. The superintendent shall submit the protocols for approval by the state board of education.
- (c) The superintendent shall develop uniform scoring criteria for evaluating the collection of work samples and submit the scoring criteria for approval by the state board of education. Collections shall be scored at the state level or regionally by a panel of educators selected and trained by the superintendent to ensure objectivity, reliability, and rigor in the evaluation. An educator may not score work samples submitted by applicants from the educator's school district. If the panel awards an applicant's collection of work samples the minimum required score, the applicant shall be deemed to have met the state standard on the alternative assessment.
- (d) Using an open and public process that includes consultation with district superintendents, school principals, and other educators, the state board of education shall consider the

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guidelines, protocols, scoring criteria, and other information regarding the collection of work samples submitted by the superintendent of public instruction. The collection of work samples may be implemented as an alternative assessment after the state board of education has approved the guidelines, protocols, and scoring criteria and determined that the collection of work samples: (i) Will meet professionally accepted standards for a valid and reliable measure of the grade level expectations and the essential academic learning requirements; and (ii) is comparable to or exceeds the rigor of the skills and knowledge that a student must demonstrate on the Washington assessment of student learning in the applicable content area. The state board shall make an approval decision and determination no later than December 1, 2006, and thereafter may increase the required rigor of the collection of work samples.

 (e) By September of 2006, the superintendent of public instruction shall develop informational materials for parents, teachers, and students regarding the collection of work samples and the status of its development as an alternative assessment method. The materials shall provide specific guidance regarding the type and number of work samples likely to be required, include examples of work that meets the state learning standards, and describe the scoring criteria and process for the collection. The materials shall also encourage students in the graduating class of 2008 to begin creating a collection if they believe they may seek to use the collection once it is implemented as an alternative assessment.

(6)(a) For students enrolled in a career and technical education program approved under RCW 28A.700.030, the superintendent of public instruction shall develop additional guidelines for collections of work samples that are tailored to different career and technical programs. The additional guidelines shall:

(i) Provide multiple examples of work samples that are related to the particular career and technical program;

(ii) Permit work samples based on completed activities or projects where demonstration of academic knowledge is inferred; and

(iii) Provide multiple examples of work samples drawn from career and technical courses.

(b) The purpose of the additional guidelines is to provide a clear pathway toward a certificate of academic achievement for career and technical students by showing them applied and relevant opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and skills, and to

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provide guidance to teachers in integrating academic and career and technical instruction and assessment and assisting career and technical students in compiling a collection. The superintendent of public instruction shall develop and disseminate additional guidelines for no fewer than ten career and technical education programs representing a variety of program offerings by no later than September 1, 2008. Guidelines for ten additional programs shall be developed and disseminated no later than June 1, 2009.

- (c) The superintendent shall consult with community and technical colleges, employers, the workforce training and education coordinating board, apprenticeship programs, and other regional and national experts in career and technical education to create appropriate guidelines and examples of work samples and other evidence of a career and technical student's knowledge and skills on the state academic standards.
- (7) The superintendent of public instruction shall study the feasibility of using existing mathematics assessments in languages other than English as an additional alternative assessment option. The study shall include an estimation of the cost of translating the tenth grade mathematics assessment into other languages and scoring the assessments should they be implemented.
  - (8))) The superintendent of public instruction shall implement:
- (a) By June 1, 2006, a process for students to appeal the score they received on the high school assessments; ((and))
  - (b) By January 1, 2007, guidelines and appeal processes for waiving specific requirements in RCW 28A.655.061 pertaining to the certificate of academic achievement and to the certificate of individual achievement for students who: (i) Transfer to a Washington public school in their junior or senior year with the intent of obtaining a public high school diploma, or (ii) have special, unavoidable circumstances;
- (c) For the graduating classes of 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019, an expedited appeal process for waiving specific requirements in RCW 28A.655.061 pertaining to the certificate of academic achievement and the certificate of individual achievement for eligible students who have not met the state standard on the English language arts statewide student assessment, the mathematics high school statewide student assessment, or both. The student or the student's parent, guardian, or principal may initiate an appeal with the district and the district has the authority to determine which

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- 1 appeals are submitted to the superintendent of public instruction for
- 2 review and approval. The superintendent of public instruction may
- 3 only approve an appeal if it has been demonstrated that the student
- 4 more likely than not has the necessary skills and knowledge to meet
- 5 the minimum high school graduation standards and that the student has
- 6 the skills necessary to successfully achieve the college or career
- 7 goals established in his or her high school and beyond plan. Pathways
- 8 for demonstrating the necessary skills and knowledge may include, but
- 9 are not limited to:
- 10 (i) Satisfactory performance on relevant coursework;
- 11 <u>(ii) Successful completion of a college level class in the</u> 12 relevant subject area;
- 13 <u>(iii) Admission to a higher education institution or career</u> 14 preparation program;
- 15 <u>(iv) Award of a scholarship for higher education;</u>
- 16 (v) Enlistment in a branch of the military; or
- 17 <u>(vi) Evidence of successful job performance; and</u>
- 18 <u>(d)(i) A student in the class of 2014, 2015, 2016, or 2017 is</u>
  19 eligible for the expedited appeal process in (c) of this subsection
- 20 <u>if he or she has met all other graduation requirements established by</u>
- 21 <u>the state and district; and</u>
- 22 (ii) A student in the class of 2018 or 2019 is eligible for the
- 23 <u>expedited appeal process in (c) of this subsection if he or she has</u>
- 24 <u>met all other graduation requirements established by the state and</u> 25 district and has attempted at least one alternative assessment option
- 26 as established in RCW 28A.655.065.
- 27  $((\frac{9}{}))$  The state board of education shall examine
- 28 opportunities for additional alternative assessments, including the
- 29 possible use of one or more standardized norm-referenced student
- 30 achievement tests and the possible use of the reading, writing, or
- 31 mathematics portions of the ACT ASSET and ACT COMPASS test
- 32 instruments as objective alternative assessments for demonstrating
- 33 that a student has met the state standards for the certificate of
- 34 academic achievement. The state board shall submit its findings and
- 35 recommendations to the education committees of the legislature by
- 36 January 10, 2008.
- $((\frac{10}{10}))$  The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt
- 38 rules to implement this section.

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**Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.305.130 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 7 are each 2 amended to read as follows:

The purpose of the state board of education is to provide advocacy and strategic oversight of public education; implement a standards-based accountability framework that creates a unified system of increasing levels of support for schools in order to improve student academic achievement; provide leadership in the creation of a system that personalizes education for each student and respects diverse cultures, abilities, and learning styles; and promote achievement of the goals of RCW 28A.150.210. In addition to any other powers and duties as provided by law, the state board of education shall:

- (1) Hold regularly scheduled meetings at such time and place within the state as the board shall determine and may hold such special meetings as may be deemed necessary for the transaction of public business;
- (2) Form committees as necessary to effectively and efficiently conduct the work of the board;
- (3) Seek advice from the public and interested parties regarding the work of the board;
  - (4) For purposes of statewide accountability:
- (a) Adopt and revise performance improvement goals in reading, writing, science, and mathematics, by subject and grade level, once assessments in these subjects are required statewide; academic and technical skills, as appropriate, in secondary career and technical education programs; and student attendance, as the board deems appropriate to improve student learning. The goals shall be consistent with student privacy protection provisions of RCW 28A.655.090(7) and shall not conflict with requirements contained in Title I of the federal elementary and secondary education act of 1965, or the requirements of the Carl D. Perkins vocational education act of 1998, each as amended. The goals may be established for all students, economically disadvantaged students, limited English proficient students, students with disabilities, and students from disproportionately academically underachieving racial and ethnic backgrounds. The board may establish school and school district goals addressing high school graduation rates and dropout reduction goals for students in grades seven through twelve. The board shall adopt the goals by rule. However, before each goal is implemented, the board shall present the goal to the education committees of the house

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of representatives and the senate for the committees' review and comment in a time frame that will permit the legislature to take statutory action on the goal if such action is deemed warranted by the legislature;

(b)(i) Identify the scores students must achieve in order to meet the standard on the statewide student assessment ((and, for high school students, to obtain a certificate of academic achievement)). The board shall also determine student scores that identify levels of student performance below and beyond the standard. ((The board shall consider the incorporation of the standard error of measurement into the decision regarding the award of the certificates.)) The board shall set such performance standards and levels in consultation with the superintendent of public instruction and after consideration of any recommendations that may be developed by any advisory committees that may be established for this purpose.

(ii) ((By the end of the 2014-15 school year, establish the scores students must achieve to meet the standard and earn a certificate of academic achievement on the tenth grade English language arts assessment and the end-of-course mathematics assessments developed in accordance with RCW 28A.655.070 to be used as the state transitions to high school assessments developed with a multistate consortium.

(iii) By the end of the 2014-15 school year, establish the scores students must achieve to meet the standard and earn a certificate of academic achievement on the high school English language arts assessment and the comprehensive mathematics assessment developed with a multistate consortium in accordance with RCW 28A.655.070. To determine the appropriate score, the state board shall review the transition experience of Washington students to the consortium-developed assessments, examine the student scores used in other states that are administering the consortium-developed assessments, and review the scores in other states that require passage of an eleventh grade assessment as a high school graduation requirement. The scores established by the state board of education for the purposes of earning a certificate of academic achievement and graduation from high school may be different from the scores used for the purpose of determining a student's career and college readiness.

(iv) The legislature shall be advised of the initial performance standards for the high school statewide student assessment. Any changes recommended by the board in the performance standards for the

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high school assessment shall be presented to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate by November 30th of the school year in which the changes will take place to permit the legislature to take statutory action before the changes are implemented if such action is deemed warranted by the legislature.)) The legislature shall be advised of the initial performance standards and any changes made to the elementary ((level performance standards and the)), middle, and high school level performance standards. The board must provide an explanation of and rationale for all initial performance standards and any changes, for all grade levels of the statewide student assessment. If the board changes the performance standards for any grade level or subject, the superintendent of public instruction must recalculate the results from the previous ten years of administering that assessment regarding students below, meeting, and beyond the state standard, to the extent that this data is available, and post a comparison of the original and recalculated results on the superintendent's web site;

(c) Annually review the assessment reporting system to ensure fairness, accuracy, timeliness, and equity of opportunity, especially with regard to schools with special circumstances and unique populations of students, and a recommendation to the superintendent of public instruction of any improvements needed to the system; and

- (d) Include in the biennial report required under RCW 28A.305.035, information on the progress that has been made in achieving goals adopted by the board;
- (5) Accredit, subject to such accreditation standards and procedures as may be established by the state board of education, all private schools that apply for accreditation, and approve, subject to the provisions of RCW 28A.195.010, private schools carrying out a program for any or all of the grades kindergarten through twelve. However, no private school may be approved that operates a kindergarten program only and no private school shall be placed upon the list of accredited schools so long as secret societies are knowingly allowed to exist among its students by school officials;
- (6) Articulate with the institutions of higher education, workforce representatives, and early learning policymakers and providers to coordinate and unify the work of the public school system;
- (7) Hire an executive director and an administrative assistant to reside in the office of the superintendent of public instruction for

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- administrative purposes. Any other personnel of the board shall be appointed as provided by RCW 28A.300.020. The board may delegate to the executive director by resolution such duties as deemed necessary to efficiently carry on the business of the board including, but not limited to, the authority to employ necessary personnel and the authority to enter into, amend, and terminate contracts on behalf of the board. The executive director, administrative assistant, and all but one of the other personnel of the board are exempt from civil service, together with other staff as now or hereafter designated as exempt in accordance with chapter 41.06 RCW; and
- 11 (8) Adopt a seal that shall be kept in the office of the 12 superintendent of public instruction.
- **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.230.090 and 2016 c 162 s 2 are each amended to 14 read as follows:

- (1) The state board of education shall establish high school graduation requirements or equivalencies for students, except as provided in RCW 28A.230.122 and except those equivalencies established by local high schools or school districts under RCW 28A.230.097. The purpose of a high school diploma is to declare that a student is ready for success in postsecondary education, gainful employment, and citizenship, and is equipped with the skills to be a lifelong learner.
- (a) Any course in Washington state history and government used to fulfill high school graduation requirements shall consider including information on the culture, history, and government of the American Indian peoples who were the first inhabitants of the state.
- (b) The certificate of academic achievement requirements under RCW 28A.655.061 or the certificate of individual achievement requirements under RCW 28A.155.045 are required for graduation from a public high school but are not the only requirements for graduation.
- (c)(i) Each student must have a high school and beyond plan to guide the student's high school experience and prepare the student for postsecondary education or training and career.
  - (ii) A high school and beyond plan must be initiated for each student during the seventh or eighth grade. In preparation for initiating that plan, each student must first be administered a career interest and skills inventory.
- (iii) The high school and beyond plan must be updated to reflect high school assessment results in RCW 28A.655.070(3)(b) and to review

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- 1 transcripts, assess progress toward identified goals, and revise as
- 2 necessary for changing interests, goals, and needs. The plan must
- 3 <u>identify available interventions and academic support, courses, or</u>
- 4 both, that are designed for students who have not met the minimum
- 5 <u>high school graduation standard, to enable them to meet the standard.</u>
- 6 School districts are encouraged to involve parents and guardians in
- 7 the process of developing and updating the high school and beyond
- 8 plan.

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- 9 <u>(iv) All high school and beyond plans must, at a minimum, include</u> 10 the following elements:
- 11 <u>(A) Identification of career goals, aided by a skills and</u> 12 interest assessment;
  - (B) Identification of educational goals;
- (C) A four-year plan for course taking that fulfills state and local graduation requirements and aligns with the student's career and educational goals; and
- 17 (D) By the end of the twelfth grade, a current resume or activity
  18 log that provides a written compilation of the student's education,
  19 any work experience, and any community service and how the school
  20 district has recognized the community service pursuant to RCW
  21 28A.320.193.
  - (d) Any decision on whether a student has met the state board's high school graduation requirements for a high school and beyond plan shall remain at the local level. Effective with the graduating class of 2015, the state board of education may not establish a requirement for students to complete a culminating project for graduation. A district may establish additional, local requirements for a high school and beyond plan to serve the needs and interests of its students and the purposes of this section.
  - $((\frac{d}{d}))$  (e)(i) The state board of education shall adopt rules to implement the career and college ready graduation requirement proposal adopted under board resolution on November 10, 2010, and revised on January 9, 2014, to take effect beginning with the graduating class of 2019 or as otherwise provided in this subsection  $(1)((\frac{d}{d}))$  (e). The rules must include authorization for a school district to waive up to two credits for individual students based on unusual circumstances and in accordance with written policies that must be adopted by each board of directors of a school district that grants diplomas. The rules must also provide that the content of the third credit of mathematics and the content of the third credit of

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science may be chosen by the student based on the student's interests and high school and beyond plan with agreement of the student's parent or guardian or agreement of the school counselor or principal.

- (ii) School districts may apply to the state board of education for a waiver to implement the career and college ready graduation requirement proposal beginning with the graduating class of 2020 or 2021 instead of the graduating class of 2019. In the application, a school district must describe why the waiver is being requested, the specific impediments preventing timely implementation, and efforts that will be taken to achieve implementation with the graduating class proposed under the waiver. The state board of education shall grant a waiver under this subsection  $(1)((\frac{d}{d}))$  (e) to an applying school district at the next subsequent meeting of the board after receiving an application.
- (iii) A school district must update the high school and beyond plans for each student who has not earned a score of level 3 or level 4 on the middle school mathematics assessment identified in RCW 28A.655.070 by ninth grade, to ensure that the student takes a mathematics course in ninth grade. This course may include career and technical education equivalencies in mathematics adopted pursuant to RCW 28A.230.097.
- (2)(a) In recognition of the statutory authority of the state board of education to establish and enforce minimum high school graduation requirements, the state board shall periodically reevaluate the graduation requirements and shall report such findings to the legislature in a timely manner as determined by the state board.
- (b) The state board shall reevaluate the graduation requirements for students enrolled in vocationally intensive and rigorous career and technical education programs, particularly those programs that lead to a certificate or credential that is state or nationally recognized. The purpose of the evaluation is to ensure that students enrolled in these programs have sufficient opportunity to earn a certificate of academic achievement, complete the program and earn the program's certificate or credential, and complete other state and local graduation requirements.
- (c) The state board shall forward any proposed changes to the high school graduation requirements to the education committees of the legislature for review. The legislature shall have the opportunity to act during a regular legislative session before the

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- changes are adopted through administrative rule by the state board.
  Changes that have a fiscal impact on school districts, as identified
- 3 by a fiscal analysis prepared by the office of the superintendent of
- 4 public instruction, shall take effect only if formally authorized and
- 5 funded by the legislature through the omnibus appropriations act or 6 other enacted legislation.
- 7 (3) Pursuant to any requirement for instruction in languages other than English established by the state board of education or a 8 district, or both, for purposes of 9 local school high school graduation, students who receive instruction in American 10 11 language or one or more American Indian languages shall be considered 12 to have satisfied the state or local school district graduation requirement for instruction in one or more languages other than 13
- 14 English.
  15 (4) If requested by the student and his or her family, a student
  16 who has completed high school courses before attending high school
  17 shall be given high school credit which shall be applied to
  18 fulfilling high school graduation requirements if:

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- (a) The course was taken with high school students, if the academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth grade classes, and the student has successfully passed by completing the same course requirements and examinations as the high school students enrolled in the class; or
- (b) The academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth grade classes and the course would qualify for high school credit, because the course is similar or equivalent to a course offered at a high school in the district as determined by the school district board of directors.
- (5) Students who have taken and successfully completed high school courses under the circumstances in subsection (4) of this section shall not be required to take an additional competency examination or perform any other additional assignment to receive credit.
- 34 (6) At the college or university level, five quarter or three 35 semester hours equals one high school credit.
- 36 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.655.061 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 42 s 2 are each 37 amended to read as follows:
- 38 (1) The high school assessment system shall include but need not 39 be limited to the statewide student assessment, opportunities for a

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student to retake the content areas of the assessment in which the student was not successful, and, if approved by the legislature pursuant to subsection (10) of this section, one or more objective alternative assessments for a student to demonstrate achievement of state academic standards. The objective alternative assessments for each content area shall be comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the statewide student assessment for each content area.

- (2) Subject to the conditions in this section, a certificate of academic achievement shall be obtained and is evidence that the students have successfully met the state standard in the content areas included in the certificate. With the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045 or 28A.655.0611, acquisition of the certificate is required for graduation from a public high school but is not the only requirement for graduation.
- (3)(a) Beginning with the graduating class of 2008 through the graduating class of 2015, with the exception of students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045, a student who meets the state standards on the reading, writing, and mathematics high school statewide student assessment shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. The mathematics assessment shall be the end-of-course assessment for the first year of high school mathematics that assesses the standards common to algebra I and integrated mathematics I or the end-of-course assessment for the second year of high school mathematics that assesses standards common to geometry and integrated mathematics II.
- (b) As the state transitions from reading and writing assessments to an English language arts assessment and from end-of-course assessments to a comprehensive assessment for high school mathematics, a student in a graduating class of 2016 through 2018 shall earn a certificate of academic achievement if the student meets the state standard as follows:
- (i) Students in the graduating class of 2016 may use the results from:
- (A) The reading and writing assessment or the English language arts assessment developed with the multistate consortium; and
- (B) The end-of-course assessment for the first year of high school mathematics, the end-of-course assessment for the second year of high school mathematics, or the comprehensive mathematics assessment developed with the multistate consortium.

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1 (ii) Students in the graduating classes of 2017 and 2018 may use 2 the results from:

- (A) The tenth grade English language arts assessment developed by the superintendent of public instruction using resources from the multistate consortium or the English language arts assessment developed with the multistate consortium; and
- (B) The end-of-course assessment for the first year of high school mathematics, the end-of-course assessment for the second year of high school mathematics, or the comprehensive mathematics assessment developed with the multistate consortium.
- (c) Beginning with the graduating class of 2019, a student who meets the state standards on the high school English language arts assessment developed with the multistate consortium and the comprehensive mathematics assessment developed with the multistate consortium shall earn a certificate of academic achievement.
- (d) If a student does not successfully meet the state standards in one or more content areas required for the certificate of academic achievement, then the student may retake the assessment in the content area at least twice a year at no cost to the student. If the student successfully meets the state standards on a retake of the assessment then the student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement. Once objective alternative assessments are authorized pursuant to subsection (10) of this section, a student may use the objective alternative assessments to demonstrate that the student successfully meets the state standards for that content area if the student has taken the statewide student assessment at least once. If the student successfully meets the state standards on the objective alternative assessments then the student shall earn a certificate of academic achievement.
- (4) Beginning with the graduating class of ((2017)) 2021, a student must meet the state standards in science in addition to the other content areas required under subsection (3) of this section on the statewide student assessment, a retake, or the objective alternative assessments in order to earn a certificate of academic achievement. The assessment under this subsection must be a comprehensive assessment of the science essential academic learning requirements adopted by the superintendent of public instruction in 2013.
- 39 (5) The state board of education may not require the acquisition 40 of the certificate of academic achievement for students in home-based

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instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW, for students enrolled in private schools under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or for students satisfying the provisions of RCW 28A.155.045.

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- (6) A student may retain and use the highest result from each successfully completed content area of the high school assessment.
- (7) School districts must make available to students the following options:
- (a) To retake the statewide student assessment at least twice a year in the content areas in which the student did not meet the state standards if the student is enrolled in a public school; or
- (b) To retake the statewide student assessment at least twice a year in the content areas in which the student did not meet the state standards if the student is enrolled in a high school completion program at a community or technical college. The superintendent of public instruction and the state board for community and technical colleges shall jointly identify means by which students in these programs can be assessed.
- (8) Students who achieve the standard in a content area of the high school assessment but who wish to improve their results shall pay for retaking the assessment, using a uniform cost determined by the superintendent of public instruction.
- 22 (9) Opportunities to retake the assessment at least twice a year 23 shall be available to each school district.
  - (10)(a) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall develop options for implementing objective alternative assessments, which may include an appeals process for students' scores, for students to demonstrate achievement of the state academic standards. The objective alternative assessments shall be comparable in rigor to the skills and knowledge that the student must demonstrate on the statewide student assessment and be objective in its determination of student achievement of the state standards. Before any objective alternative assessments in addition to those authorized in RCW 28A.655.065 or (b) of this subsection are used by a student to demonstrate that the student has met the state standards in a content area required to obtain a certificate, the legislature shall formally approve the use of any objective alternative assessments through the omnibus appropriations act or by statute or concurrent resolution.
- 39 (b)(i) A student's score on the mathematics, reading or English, 40 or writing portion of the SAT or the ACT may be used as an objective

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1 alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that a student has met or exceeded the state standards for the certificate 2 of academic achievement. The state board of education shall identify 3 the scores students must achieve on the relevant portion of the SAT 4 or ACT to meet or exceed the state standard in the relevant content 5 6 area on the statewide student assessment. A student's score on the science portion of the ACT or the science subject area tests of the 7 SAT may be used as an objective alternative assessment under this 8 section as soon as the state board of education determines that 9 sufficient data is available to identify reliable equivalent scores 10 11 for the science content area of the statewide student assessment. 12 After the first scores are established, the state board may increase but not decrease the scores required for students to meet or exceed 13 14 the state standards.

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(ii) A student who scores at least a three on the grading scale of one to five for selected AP examinations may use the score as an objective alternative assessment under this section for demonstrating that a student has met or exceeded state standards for the certificate of academic achievement. A score of three on the AP examinations in calculus or statistics may be used as an alternative assessment for the mathematics portion of the statewide student assessment. A score of three on the AP examinations in English language and composition may be used as an alternative assessment for the writing portion of the statewide student assessment; and for the English language arts portion of the assessment developed with the multistate consortium, once established in the 2014-15 school year. A score of three on the AP examinations in English literature and composition, macroeconomics, microeconomics, psychology, States history, world history, United States government and politics, or comparative government and politics may be used as an alternative portion of the statewide assessment for the reading assessment; and for the English language arts portion of the assessment developed with the multistate consortium, once established in the 2014-15 school year. A score of three on the AP examination in biology, physics, chemistry, or environmental science may be used as an alternative assessment for the science portion of the statewide student assessment.

(iii) A student who scores at least a four on selected externally administered international baccalaureate (IB) examinations may use the score as an objective alternative assessment under this section

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1 for demonstrating that the student has met or exceeded state standards for the certificate of academic achievement. A score of 2 four on the higher level IB examinations for any of the IB English 3 language and literature courses or for any of the IB individuals and 4 societies courses may be used as an alternative assessment for the 5 6 reading, writing, or English language arts portions of the statewide student assessment. A score of four on the higher 7 examinations for any of the IB mathematics courses may be used as an 8 alternative assessment for the mathematics portion of the statewide 9 student assessment. A score of four on the higher 10 examinations for IB biology, chemistry, or physics may be used as an 11 12 alternative assessment for the science portion of the statewide student assessment. 13

- (11) To help assure continued progress in academic achievement as a foundation for high school graduation and to assure that students are on track for high school graduation, each school district shall prepare plans for and notify students and their parents or legal guardians as provided in this subsection. Student learning plans are required for eighth grade students who were not successful on any or all of the content areas of the state assessment during the previous school year or who may not be on track to graduate due to credit deficiencies or absences. The parent or legal quardian shall be notified about the information in the student learning plan, preferably through a parent conference and at least annually. To the extent feasible, schools serving English language learner students and their parents shall translate the plan into the primary language of the family. The plan shall include the following information as applicable:
  - (a) The student's results on the state assessment;
- 30 (b) If the student is in the transitional bilingual program, the 31 score on his or her Washington language proficiency test II;
  - (c) Any credit deficiencies;

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- (d) The student's attendance rates over the previous two years;
- 34 (e) The student's progress toward meeting state and local 35 graduation requirements;
- 36 (f) The courses, competencies, and other steps needed to be taken 37 by the student to meet state academic standards and stay on track for 38 graduation;
- 39 (g) Remediation strategies and alternative education options 40 available to students, including informing students of the option to

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- 1 continue to receive instructional services after grade twelve or 2 until the age of twenty-one;
- 3 (h) The alternative assessment options available to students 4 under this section and RCW 28A.655.065;

- (i) School district programs, high school courses, and career and technical education options available for students to meet graduation requirements; and
- 8 (j) Available programs offered through skill centers or community 9 and technical colleges, including the college high school diploma 10 options under RCW 28B.50.535.
- **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.655.068 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 4 are each 12 amended to read as follows:
  - (1) Beginning in the 2011-12 school year, the statewide high school assessment in science shall be an end-of-course assessment for biology that measures the state standards for life sciences, in addition to systems, inquiry, and application as they pertain to life sciences.
  - (2)(a) The superintendent of public instruction may develop or adopt science end-of-course assessments or a comprehensive science assessment that includes subjects in addition to biology for purposes of RCW 28A.655.061, when so directed by the legislature. The legislature intends to transition from a biology end-of-course assessment to a more comprehensive science assessment in a manner consistent with the way in which the state transitioned to an English language arts assessment and a comprehensive mathematics assessment. The legislature further intends that the transition will include at least two years of using the student assessment results from either the biology end-of-course assessment or the more comprehensive assessment in order to provide students with reasonable opportunities to demonstrate high school competencies while being mindful of the increasing rigor of the new assessment.
  - (b) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop or adopt a science assessment in accordance with RCW 28A.655.070(10) that is not biased toward persons with different learning styles, racial or ethnic backgrounds, or on the basis of gender.
  - (c) Before the next subsequent school year after the legislature directs the superintendent to develop or adopt a new science assessment, the superintendent of public instruction shall review the objective alternative assessments for the science assessment and make

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recommendations to the legislature regarding additional objective alternatives, if any.

- (3) The superintendent of public instruction may participate with consortia of multiple states as common student learning standards and assessments in science are developed. The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with the state board of education, may modify the essential academic learning requirements and statewide student assessments in science, including the high school assessment, according to the multistate common student learning standards and assessments as long as the education committees of the legislature have opportunities for review before the modifications are adopted, as provided under RCW 28A.655.070.
- 13 (4) The statewide high school assessment under this section shall
  14 be used to demonstrate that a student meets the state standards in
  15 the science content area of the statewide student assessment ((for
  16 purposes of)) until a comprehensive science assessment is required
  17 under RCW 28A.655.061.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. Section 5 of this act applies retroactively to students in the graduating class of 2017.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately.

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