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HOUSE BILL 1785

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Reykdal, Taylor, Ortiz-Self, Dunshee, Moscoso, Appleton, S. Hunt, Takko, Gregory, Fitzgibbon, Gregerson, Pollet, Stanford, Sells, Fey, Blake, Ormsby, Peterson, Tarleton, Pike, Shea, Griffey, Klippert, Tharinger, Van De Wege, Goodman, Bergquist, Farrell, Riccelli, McBride, Condotta, and Young; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Read first time 01/28/15. Referred to Committee on Education.

AN ACT Relating to eliminating the certificate of academic 1 2 achievement as a requirement for high school graduation; amending RCW 3 28A.230.090, 28A.230.125, 28A.195.010, 28A.200.010, 28A.230.122, 28A.300.575, 28A.305.130, 28A.320.190, 28A.320.195, 28A.320.208, 4 5 28A.600.310, 28A.655.068, 28A.655.070, and 28A.700.080; creating a new section; and repealing RCW 28A.155.045, 28A.155.170, 28A.600.405, б 28A.655.061, 28A.655.063, 28A.655.065, 28A.655.066, and 28B.50.534. 7

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. (1) The legislature finds that high school 9 students in Washington have been required to meet a standard on high 10 11 school assessments since 2008 to earn a certificate of academic achievement and graduate. The majority of high school students take 12 13 these assessments for the first time by the conclusion of tenth 14 grade. Over time, the state has adopted several alternative methods to allow students who do not meet the standard on the tenth grade 15 16 assessment to demonstrate their competency to graduate. These 17 alternatives include the opportunity to retake the assessment, a comparison of grades earned, collections of evidence, and college 18 entrance or dual credit course exams. 19

20 (2) The legislature further finds that studies of other states 21 show that high-stakes exit exams like Washington's can have the

effect of lowering the statewide graduation rate and widening the opportunity gap. Evidence also shows that students who pass exit exams do not have higher rates of enrollment or graduation in postsecondary education, or achievement in labor markets.

(3) The legislature recognizes that, in today's competitive 5 6 global economy, it is not enough for Washington's students to meet a 7 minimum level of competency. To be successful in postsecondary education, gainful employment, and citizenship requires increased 8 rigor and achievement. To that end, the state has recently adopted 9 new, academically rigorous policies to better prepare students for 10 11 future success. Starting in spring 2015, Washington students will be 12 tested using a comprehensive assessment system developed with a multistate consortium. This system, the smarter balanced assessment, 13 will evaluate students in grades three through eight and grade eleven 14 on their college and career readiness based on the Washington state 15 16 learning standards in English language arts and mathematics and will 17 be used for state and federal accountability purposes. In addition, students beginning with the graduating class of 2019 will also have 18 19 requirement to earn twenty-four credits for high school the graduation and obtain a more meaningful diploma. Schools also have 20 21 put a great deal of time and effort into ensuring quality teachers 22 and administrators through the teacher and principal evaluation program, a four-tiered system that establishes eight new criteria for 23 teachers' and principals' evaluations. 24

25 (4) The legislature further finds that the transition to the 26 smarter balanced assessment system has markedly complicated the development and administration of the statewide assessment graduation 27 28 and the state's confusing array of requirement alternative assessments. The classes of 2016 through 2018 will be required to 29 take end-of-course exams or comprehensive assessments in the tenth 30 31 grade to fulfill graduation requirements for English language arts, 32 mathematics, and biology. In addition, they will be required to take 33 the smarter balanced assessments in the eleventh grade to determine if they are college and career ready and for school and district 34 35 accountability.

36 (5) The legislature finds that requiring schools to administer 37 six high school assessments—the smarter balanced English language 38 arts assessment, smarter balanced mathematics, the end-of-course 39 assessment for biology, two mathematics end-of-course assessments, 40 and the English language arts exit exam—creates a costly system in

1 which too much classroom time and too many state resources are 2 devoted to taking and retaking tests for graduation purposes. The 3 time and funding that are now invested in Washington's current state 4 graduation assessments do not result in students meeting a college or 5 career ready measure accepted by postsecondary institutions and 6 organizations.

7 The legislature further finds that locally directed (6) remediation and intervention strategies, including twelfth grade 8 transition courses, opportunities to retake courses, and more 9 sustained focus on providing college and career guidance through 10 students' high school and beyond plans, would prepare students for 11 12 postsecondary college and career opportunities. State and local resources that are now directed to develop and administer graduation 13 14 assessments should be redirected to courses and programs better suited for student needs during high school. 15

16 (7) The legislature further finds that taxpayers and tuition 17 payers can save substantial money by avoiding remedial courses taught 18 at public institutions of higher education. An unprecedented 19 agreement among Washington's public institutions of higher education now ensures that high school graduates who successfully complete 20 twelfth grade high school transition courses in English language arts 21 22 and mathematics will move directly to college-level English and mathematics courses at participating institutions without remediation 23 or additional placement testing. 24

25 (8) The legislature therefore intends to eliminate the assessment 26 graduation requirements and the certificate of academic achievement to allow school districts to focus on keeping students engaged 27 through graduation and preparing them to be college and career ready. 28 29 To better ensure that Washington graduates are college and career ready, the legislature further intends to require students who fail 30 31 to meet the standard on the smarter balanced assessment to take and 32 pass locally determined courses in their senior year that align with 33 their college or career goals, including, when available, high school transition courses. 34

35 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.230.090 and 2014 c 217 s 202 are each amended to 36 read as follows:

37 (1) The state board of education shall establish high school 38 graduation requirements or equivalencies for students, except as 39 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.

6 (a) Any course in Washington state history and government used to 7 fulfill high school graduation requirements shall consider including 8 information on the culture, history, and government of the American 9 Indian peoples who were the first inhabitants of the state.

10 (b) ((The certificate of academic achievement requirements under 11 RCW 28A.655.061 or the certificate of individual achievement 12 requirements under RCW 28A.155.045 are required for graduation from a 13 public high school but are not the only requirements for graduation.

(c))) (i) Beginning in the 2015-16 school year, students in grade 14 15 twelve who have not met the state standard on the English language arts or mathematics statewide student assessment provided for in RCW 16 17 28A.655.070 must take and pass a locally determined course in the content area in which the student was not successful. The course 18 shall be consistent with the student's college and career goals 19 identified in his or her high school and beyond plan. When available, 20 school districts should prioritize enrolling such students in high 21 22 school transition courses.

(ii) As used in this subsection (1), "high school transition 23 course" means an English language arts, mathematics, or science 24 25 course offered in high school whose successful completion by a high school student will ensure the student college-level placement at 26 participating public institutions of higher education as defined in 27 28 RCW 28B.10.016. High school transition courses must satisfy core or elective credit graduation requirements established by the state 29 30 board of education under this section. A student's successful completion of a high school transition course does not entitle the 31 32 student to be admitted to any public institution of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016. 33

34 <u>(iii) As used in this subsection (1), "not met the state</u> 35 <u>standard" means a score on the statewide student assessment at either</u> 36 <u>a level one or a level two in a four-level scoring system.</u>

37 (c) Each student shall have a high school and beyond plan to
 38 guide the student's high school experience and ensure preparation for
 39 postsecondary education or training and career. The high school and

1 beyond plan must meet the following requirements and available high school transition courses: 2 (i) The plan must be adopted for each student before the 3 student's enrollment in high school; 4 (ii) The plan must be updated during the high school grades by 5 б reviewing transcripts, assessing progress toward identified goals, 7 and revising as necessary for changing interests, goals, and needs; (iii) The plan must include a four-year plan for course-taking 8 that will ensure fulfillment of state and local graduation 9 10 requirements and align with the student's career and educational 11 qoals; 12 (iv) For students in grade twelve who have not met the state standard on the statewide student assessment, the high school and 13 beyond plan must include the following information: 14 (A) The student's results on the state assessment; 15 (B) If the student is in the transitional bilingual program, the 16 17 score on his or her Washington language proficiency assessment; (C) Any credit deficiencies; 18 19 (D) The student's attendance rates over the previous two years; (E) The student's progress toward meeting state and local 20 graduation requirements; and 21 (F) The courses, competencies, and other steps needed to be taken 22 23 by the student to meet state academic standards and be eligible for graduation, including available programs offered through skill 24 25 centers or community and technical colleges and available high school transition courses. 26 (d) Any decision on whether a student has met the state board's 27

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.

32 (((d))) (e)(i) The state board of education shall adopt rules to 33 implement the career and college ready graduation requirement proposal adopted under board resolution on November 10, 2010, and 34 revised on January 9, 2014, to take effect beginning with the 35 graduating class of 2019 or as otherwise provided in this subsection 36 (1)(((d))) <u>(e)</u>. The rules must include authorization for a school 37 district to waive up to two credits for individual students based on 38 39 unusual circumstances and in accordance with written policies that 40 must be adopted by each board of directors of a school district that 1 grants diplomas. The rules must also provide that the content of the 2 third credit of mathematics and the content of the third credit of 3 science may be chosen by the student based on the student's interests 4 and high school and beyond plan with agreement of the student's 5 parent or guardian or agreement of the school counselor or principal.

6 (ii) School districts may apply to the state board of education for a waiver to implement the career and college ready graduation 7 requirement proposal beginning with the graduating class of 2020 or 8 2021 instead of the graduating class of 2019. In the application, a 9 school district must describe why the waiver is being requested, the 10 specific impediments preventing timely implementation, and efforts 11 12 that will be taken to achieve implementation with the graduating class proposed under the waiver. The state board of education shall 13 grant a waiver under this subsection $(1)((\frac{d}{d}))$ (e) to an applying 14 school district at the next subsequent meeting of the board after 15 16 receiving an application.

17 (2)(a) In recognition of the statutory authority of the state 18 board of education to establish and enforce minimum high school 19 graduation requirements, the state board shall periodically reevaluate the graduation requirements and shall report such findings 20 to the legislature in a timely manner as determined by the state 21 22 board.

(b) The state board shall reevaluate the graduation requirements 23 for students enrolled in vocationally intensive and rigorous career 24 25 and technical education programs, particularly those programs that 26 lead to a certificate or credential that is state or nationally recognized. The purpose of the evaluation is to ensure that students 27 enrolled in these programs have sufficient opportunity to earn a 28 29 certificate of academic achievement, complete the program and earn the program's certificate or credential, and complete other state and 30 31 local graduation requirements.

32 (c) The state board shall forward any proposed changes to the high school graduation requirements to the education committees of 33 the legislature for review and to the quality education council 34 established under RCW 28A.290.010. The legislature shall have the 35 opportunity to act during a regular legislative session before the 36 changes are adopted through administrative rule by the state board. 37 Changes that have a fiscal impact on school districts, as identified 38 39 by a fiscal analysis prepared by the office of the superintendent of 40 public instruction, shall take effect only if formally authorized and

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1 funded by the legislature through the omnibus appropriations act or 2 other enacted legislation.

(3) Pursuant to any requirement for instruction in languages 3 other than English established by the state board of education or a 4 local school district, or both, for purposes of high school 5 6 graduation, students who receive instruction in American siqn 7 language or one or more American Indian languages shall be considered to have satisfied the state or local school district graduation 8 requirement for instruction in one or more languages other than 9 English. 10

(4) If requested by the student and his or her family, a student who has completed high school courses before attending high school shall be given high school credit which shall be applied to fulfilling high school graduation requirements if:

15 (a) The course was taken with high school students, if the 16 academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and 17 eighth grade classes, and the student has successfully passed by 18 completing the same course requirements and examinations as the high 19 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.

30 (6) At the college or university level, five quarter or three 31 semester hours equals one high school credit.

32 Sec. 3. RCW 28A.230.125 and 2014 c 102 s 3 are each amended to 33 read as follows:

(1) The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with the four-year institutions as defined in RCW 28B.76.020, the state board for community and technical colleges, and the workforce training and education coordinating board, shall develop for use by all public school districts a standardized high school transcript. The superintendent shall establish clear definitions for the terms

1 "credits" and "hours" so that school programs operating on the 2 quarter, semester, or trimester system can be compared.

3 (2) The standardized high school transcript shall include a 4 notation of whether the student has ((earned a certificate of 5 individual achievement or a certificate of academic achievement)) met 6 the career and college readiness standard on the statewide high 7 school assessment identified in RCW 28A.655.070.

8 (3) The standardized high school transcript may include a 9 notation of whether the student has earned the Washington state seal 10 of biliteracy established under RCW 28A.300.575.

11 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.195.010 and 2009 c 548 s 303 are each amended to 12 read as follows:

The legislature hereby recognizes that private schools should be subject only to those minimum state controls necessary to insure the health and safety of all the students in the state and to insure a sufficient basic education to meet usual graduation requirements. The state, any agency or official thereof, shall not restrict or dictate any specific educational or other programs for private schools except as hereinafter in this section provided.

20 Principals of private schools or superintendents of private 21 school districts shall file each year with the state superintendent public instruction a statement certifying that the minimum 22 of requirements hereinafter set forth are being met, 23 noting any 24 deviations. After review of the statement, the state superintendent will notify schools or school districts of those deviations which 25 must be corrected. In case of major deviations, the school or school 26 district may request and the state board of education may grant 27 provisional status for one year in order that the school or school 28 district may take action to meet the requirements. The state board of 29 education shall not require private school students to meet the 30 31 learning goals, ((obtain a certificate of academic student achievement, or a certificate of individual achievement to graduate 32 from high school,)) to master the essential academic learning 33 requirements, or to be assessed pursuant to RCW ((28A.655.061)) 34 35 28A.655.070. However, private schools may choose, on a voluntary basis, to have their students master these essential academic 36 learning or 37 $requirements((\tau))$ take the statewide student assessments((, and obtain a certificate of academic achievement or a 38

1 certificate of individual achievement)). Minimum requirements shall

2 be as follows:

3 (1) The minimum school year for instructional purposes shall 4 consist of no less than one hundred eighty school days or the 5 equivalent in annual minimum instructional hour offerings, with a 6 school-wide annual average total instructional hour offering of one 7 thousand hours for students enrolled in grades one through twelve, 8 and at least four hundred fifty hours for students enrolled in 9 kindergarten.

10 (2) The school day shall be the same as defined in RCW 11 28A.150.203.

(3) All classroom teachers shall hold appropriate Washingtonstate certification except as follows:

(a) Teachers for religious courses or courses for which no
 counterpart exists in public schools shall not be required to obtain
 a state certificate to teach those courses.

(b) In exceptional cases, people of unusual competence but without certification may teach students so long as a certified person exercises general supervision. Annual written statements shall be submitted to the office of the superintendent of public instruction reporting and explaining such circumstances.

(4) An approved private school may operate an extension program for parents, guardians, or persons having legal custody of a child to teach children in their custody. The extension program shall require at a minimum that:

(a) The parent, guardian, or custodian be under the supervision
of an employee of the approved private school who is certified under
chapter 28A.410 RCW;

(b) The planning by the certified person and the parent, guardian, or person having legal custody include objectives consistent with this subsection and subsections (1), (2), (5), (6), and (7) of this section;

33 (c) The certified person spend a minimum average each month of 34 one contact hour per week with each student under his or her 35 supervision who is enrolled in the approved private school extension 36 program;

37 (d) Each student's progress be evaluated by the certified person; 38 and

(e) The certified employee shall not supervise more than thirtystudents enrolled in the approved private school's extension program.

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(5) Appropriate measures shall be taken to safeguard all
 permanent records against loss or damage.

3 (6) The physical facilities of the school or district shall be 4 adequate to meet the program offered by the school or district: 5 PROVIDED, That each school building shall meet reasonable health and 6 fire safety requirements. A residential dwelling of the parent, 7 guardian, or custodian shall be deemed to be an adequate physical 8 facility when a parent, guardian, or person having legal custody is 9 instructing his or her child under subsection (4) of this section.

10 (7) Private school curriculum shall include instruction of the 11 basic skills of occupational education, science, mathematics, 12 language, social studies, history, health, reading, writing, 13 spelling, and the development of appreciation of art and music, all 14 in sufficient units for meeting state board of education graduation 15 requirements.

16 (8) Each school or school district shall be required to maintain 17 up-to-date policy statements related to the administration and 18 operation of the school or school district.

All decisions of policy, philosophy, selection of books, teaching material, curriculum, except as in subsection (7) of this section provided, school rules and administration, or other matters not specifically referred to in this section, shall be the responsibility of the administration and administrators of the particular private school involved.

25 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.200.010 and 2004 c 19 s 107 are each amended to 26 read as follows:

(1) Each parent whose child is receiving home-based instructionunder RCW 28A.225.010(4) shall have the duty to:

(a) File annually a signed declaration of intent that he or she 29 30 is planning to cause his or her child to receive home-based 31 instruction. The statement shall include the name and age of the child, shall specify whether a certificated person will 32 be supervising the instruction, and shall be written in a format 33 prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction. Each parent 34 shall file the statement by September 15th of the school year or 35 within two weeks of the beginning of any public school quarter, 36 trimester, or semester with the superintendent of the public school 37 38 district within which the parent resides or the district that accepts the transfer, and the student shall be deemed a transfer student of 39

the nonresident district. Parents may apply for transfer under RCW
 28A.225.220;

3 (b) Ensure that test scores or annual academic progress assessments and immunization records, together with any other records 4 that are kept relating to the instructional and educational 5 6 activities provided, are forwarded to any other public or private school to which the child transfers. At the time of a transfer to a 7 public school, the superintendent of the local school district in 8 which the child enrolls may require a standardized achievement test 9 to be administered and shall have the authority to determine the 10 appropriate grade and course level placement of the child after 11 12 consultation with parents and review of the child's records; and

(c) Ensure that a standardized achievement test approved by the 13 state board of education is administered annually to the child by a 14 15 qualified individual or that an annual assessment of the student's academic progress is written by a certificated person who 16 is 17 currently working in the field of education. The state board of education shall not require these children to meet the student 18 learning goals, master the essential academic learning requirements, 19 or to take the assessments((, or to obtain a certificate of academic 20 21 achievement or a certificate of individual achievement pursuant to RCW 28A.655.061 and 28A.155.045)). The standardized test administered 22 or the annual academic progress assessment written shall be made a 23 part of the child's permanent records. If, as a result of the annual 24 25 test or assessment, it is determined that the child is not making 26 reasonable progress consistent with his or her age or stage of development, the parent shall make a good faith effort to remedy any 27 28 deficiency.

(2) Failure of a parent to comply with the duties in this section 29 shall be deemed a failure of such parent's child to attend school 30 31 without valid justification under RCW 28A.225.020. Parents who do 32 comply with the duties set forth in this section shall be presumed to 33 providing home-based instruction as forth be set in RCW 28A.225.010(4). 34

35 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.230.122 and 2011 c 203 s 1 are each amended to 36 read as follows:

37 (1) A student who fulfills the requirements specified in 38 subsection (((3))) (4) of this section toward completion of an 39 international baccalaureate diploma programme is considered to have 1 satisfied state minimum requirements for graduation from a public

2 high school((, except that:

3 (a) The provisions of RCW 28A.655.061 regarding the certificate 4 of academic achievement or RCW 28A.155.045 regarding the certificate 5 of individual achievement apply to students under this section; and 6 (b))).

7 (2) The provisions of RCW 28A.230.170 regarding study of the 8 United States Constitution and the Washington state Constitution 9 apply to students under this section.

10 (((2))) <u>(3)</u> School districts may require students under this 11 section to complete local graduation requirements that are in 12 addition to state minimum requirements before issuing a high school 13 diploma under RCW 28A.230.120. However, school districts are 14 encouraged to waive local requirements as necessary to encourage 15 students to pursue an international baccalaureate diploma.

16 (((3))) (4) To receive a high school diploma under this section, 17 student must complete and pass all required international а baccalaureate diploma programme courses as scored at the local level; 18 19 internal assessments as scored at the local level; pass all successfully complete all required projects and products as scored at 20 21 the local level; and complete the final examinations administered by 22 the international baccalaureate organization in each of the required 23 subjects under the diploma programme.

24 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28A.300.575 and 2014 c 102 s 2 are each amended to 25 read as follows:

(1) The Washington state seal of biliteracy is established to 26 27 recognize public high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more world 28 languages in addition to English. School districts are encouraged to 29 30 award the seal of biliteracy to graduating high school students who 31 meet the criteria established by the office of the superintendent of public instruction under this section. Participating school districts 32 shall place a notation on a student's high school diploma and high 33 school transcript indicating that the student has earned the seal. 34

35 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall 36 adopt rules establishing criteria for award of the Washington state 37 seal of biliteracy. The criteria must require a student to 38 demonstrate proficiency in English by meeting state high school 39 graduation requirements in English((, including through state

1 assessments and credits,)) and proficiency in one or more world 2 languages other than English. The criteria must permit a student to 3 demonstrate proficiency in another world language through multiple 4 methods including nationally or internationally recognized language 5 proficiency tests and competency-based world language credits awarded 6 under the model policy adopted by the Washington state school 7 directors' association.

8 (3) For the purposes of this section, a world language other than 9 English must include American sign language and Native American 10 languages.

11 Sec. 8. RCW 28A.305.130 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 7 are each 12 amended to read as follows:

The purpose of the state board of education is to provide 13 advocacy and strategic oversight of public education; implement a 14 15 standards-based accountability framework that creates a unified 16 system of increasing levels of support for schools in order to 17 improve student academic achievement; provide leadership in the creation of a system that personalizes education for each student and 18 respects diverse cultures, abilities, and learning styles; and 19 20 promote achievement of the goals of RCW 28A.150.210. In addition to 21 any other powers and duties as provided by law, the state board of 22 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 efficientlyconduct the work of the board;

(3) Seek advice from the public and interested parties regardingthe work of the board;

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(4) For purposes of statewide accountability:

(a) Adopt and revise performance improvement goals in reading, 32 writing, science, and mathematics, by subject and grade level, once 33 assessments in these subjects are required statewide; academic and 34 35 technical skills, as appropriate, in secondary career and technical education programs; and student attendance, as the board deems 36 improve student learning. The 37 appropriate to qoals shall be 38 consistent with student privacy protection provisions RCW of 28A.655.090(7) and shall not conflict with requirements contained in 39

1 Title I of the federal elementary and secondary education act of 1965, or the requirements of the Carl D. Perkins vocational education 2 act of 1998, each as amended. The goals may be established for all 3 students, economically disadvantaged students, limited English 4 proficient students, students with disabilities, and students from 5 б disproportionately academically underachieving racial and ethnic backgrounds. The board may establish school and school district goals 7 addressing high school graduation rates and dropout reduction goals 8 for students in grades seven through twelve. The board shall adopt 9 the goals by rule. However, before each goal is implemented, the 10 11 board shall present the goal to the education committees of the house 12 of representatives and the senate for the committees' review and comment in a time frame that will permit the legislature to take 13 14 statutory action on the goal if such action is deemed warranted by the legislature; 15

16 (b)(i) Identify the scores students must achieve in order to meet 17 the standard on the statewide student assessment ((and, for high school students, to obtain a certificate of academic achievement)). 18 19 The board shall also determine student scores that identify levels of student performance below and beyond the standard. ((The board shall 20 21 consider the incorporation of the standard error of measurement into the decision regarding the award of the certificates.)) The board 22 shall set such performance standards and levels in consultation with 23 the superintendent of public instruction and after consideration of 24 25 any recommendations that may be developed by any advisory committees 26 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.

34 (iii)) By the end of the 2014-15 school year, establish the 35 scores students must achieve to meet the standard ((and earn a 36 certificate of academic achievement)) on the high school English 37 language arts assessment and the comprehensive mathematics assessment 38 developed with a multistate consortium in accordance with RCW 39 28A.655.070. To determine the appropriate score, the state board 40 shall review the transition experience of Washington students to the 1 consortium-developed assessments $((\tau))$ and examine the student scores used in other states that are administering the consortium-developed 2 3 assessments((, and review the scores in other states that require passage of an eleventh grade assessment as a high school graduation 4 requirement. The scores established by the state board of education 5 б for the purposes of earning a certificate of academic achievement and graduation from high school may be different from the scores used for 7 the purpose of determining a student's career and college 8 readiness)). 9

10 ((((iv))) (iii) The legislature shall be advised of the initial 11 performance standards for the high school statewide student 12 assessment. Any changes recommended by the board in the performance standards for the high school assessment shall be presented to the 13 education committees of the house of representatives and the senate 14 by November 30th of the school year in which the changes will take 15 16 place to permit the legislature to take statutory action before the 17 changes are implemented if such action is deemed warranted by the legislature. The legislature shall be advised of the initial 18 performance standards and any changes made to the elementary level 19 performance standards and the middle school level performance 20 21 standards. The board must provide an explanation of and rationale for 22 all initial performance standards and any changes, for all grade levels of the statewide student assessment. If the board changes the 23 performance standards for any grade level or 24 subject, the 25 superintendent of public instruction must recalculate the results 26 from the previous ten years of administering that assessment regarding students below, meeting, and beyond the state standard, to 27 28 the extent that this data is available, and post a comparison of the original and recalculated results on the superintendent's web site; 29

30 (c) Annually review the assessment reporting system to ensure 31 fairness, accuracy, timeliness, and equity of opportunity, especially 32 with regard to schools with special circumstances and unique 33 populations of students, and a recommendation to the superintendent 34 of public instruction of any improvements needed to the system; and

35 (d) Include in the biennial report required under RCW 36 28A.305.035, information on the progress that has been made in 37 achieving goals adopted by the board;

38 (5) Accredit, subject to such accreditation standards and 39 procedures as may be established by the state board of education, all 40 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;

7 (6) Articulate with the institutions of higher education, 8 workforce representatives, and early learning policymakers and 9 providers to coordinate and unify the work of the public school 10 system;

(7) Hire an executive director and an administrative assistant to 11 12 reside in the office of the superintendent of public instruction for administrative purposes. Any other personnel of the board shall be 13 appointed as provided by RCW 28A.300.020. The board may delegate to 14 the executive director by resolution such duties as deemed necessary 15 16 to efficiently carry on the business of the board including, but not 17 limited to, the authority to employ necessary personnel and the 18 authority to enter into, amend, and terminate contracts on behalf of 19 the board. The executive director, administrative assistant, and all but one of the other personnel of the board are exempt from civil 20 21 service, together with other staff as now or hereafter designated as exempt in accordance with chapter 41.06 RCW; and 22

(8) Adopt a seal that shall be kept in the office of thesuperintendent of public instruction.

25 **Sec. 9.** RCW 28A.320.190 and 2009 c 578 s 2 are each amended to 26 read as follows:

27 (1) The extended learning opportunities program is created for eligible eleventh and twelfth grade students who are not on track to 28 meet local or state graduation requirements as well as eighth grade 29 students who need additional assistance in order to have the 30 31 opportunity for a successful entry into high school. The program shall provide early notification of graduation status and information 32 on education opportunities including preapprenticeship programs that 33 34 are available.

35 (2) Under the extended learning opportunities program and to the 36 extent funds are available for that purpose, districts shall make 37 available to students in grade twelve who have failed to meet one or 38 more local or state graduation requirements the option of continuing 39 enrollment in the school district in accordance with RCW 28A.225.160.

1 Districts are authorized to use basic education program funding to provide instruction to eligible students under RCW 28A.150.220(((3)))2 (5). 3

4 (3) Under the extended learning opportunities program, 5 instructional services for eligible students can occur during the б regular school day, evenings, on weekends, or at a time and location deemed appropriate by the school district, including the educational 7 service district, in order to meet the needs of these students. 8 Instructional services provided under this section do not include 9 services offered at private schools. Instructional services can 10 include, but are not limited to, the following: 11

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(a) Individual or small group instruction;

(b) Instruction in English language arts and/or mathematics that 13 14 eligible students need to ((pass all or part of the Washington assessment of student learning)) meet the career and college 15 readiness standard on the statewide high school assessment identified 16 <u>in RCW 28A.655.07</u>0; 17

(c) Attendance in a public high school or public alternative 18 19 school classes or at a skill center;

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(d) Inclusion in remediation programs, including summer school;

21 (e) Language development instruction for English language 22 learners;

(f) Online curriculum and instructional support, including 23 programs for credit retrieval ((and Washington assessment of student 24 25 learning preparatory classes)); and

26 (q) Reading improvement specialists available at the educational 27 service districts to serve eighth, eleventh, and twelfth grade 28 educators through professional development in accordance with RCW 29 28A.415.350. The reading improvement specialist may also provide direct services to eligible students and those students electing to 30 31 continue a fifth year in a high school program who are still 32 struggling with basic reading skills.

Sec. 10. RCW 28A.320.195 and 2013 c 184 s 2 are each amended to 33 read as follows: 34

(1) Each school district board of directors is encouraged to 35 adopt an academic acceleration policy for high school students as 36 provided under this section. 37

38 (2) Under an academic acceleration policy:

1 (a) The district automatically enrolls any student who meets the state standard on the high school statewide student assessment in the 2 next most rigorous level of advanced courses offered by the high 3 school. Students who successfully complete such an advanced course 4 are then enrolled in the next most rigorous level of advanced course, 5 б with the objective that students will eventually be automatically 7 enrolled in courses that offer the opportunity to earn dual credit for high school and college. 8

9 (b) The subject matter of the advanced courses in which the student is automatically enrolled depends on the content area or 10 11 areas of the statewide student assessment where the student has met 12 the state standard. ((Students who meet the state standard on both end-of-course mathematics assessments are considered to have met the 13 state standard for high school mathematics.)) Students who meet the 14 state standard in ((both reading and writing)) English language arts 15 16 are eligible for enrollment in advanced courses in English, social 17 studies, humanities, and other related subjects.

18 (c) The district must notify students and parents or guardians 19 regarding the academic acceleration policy and the advanced courses 20 available to students.

(d) The district must provide a parent or guardian with an opportunity to opt out of the academic acceleration policy and enroll a student in an alternative course.

24 **Sec. 11.** RCW 28A.320.208 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 8 are each 25 amended to read as follows:

(1) At the beginning of each school year, school districts must 26 27 notify parents and guardians of enrolled students from eighth through twelfth grade about each student assessment required by the state, 28 the minimum state-level graduation requirements, and any additional 29 30 school district graduation requirements. The information may be provided when the student is enrolled, contained in the student or 31 parent handbook, or posted on the school district's web site. The 32 notification must include the following: 33

34

(a) When each assessment will be administered;

35 (b) ((Which assessments will be required for graduation and)) 36 What options students have to meet graduation requirements if they do 37 not pass a given assessment;

38 (c) Whether the results of the assessment will be used for 39 program placement or grade-level advancement;

(d) When the assessment results will be released to parents or
 guardians and whether there will be an opportunity for parents and
 teachers to discuss strategic adjustments; and

4 (e) Whether the assessment is required by the school district,5 state, federal government, or more than one of these entities.

6 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall 7 provide information to the school districts to enable the districts 8 to provide the information to the parents and guardians in accordance 9 with subsection (1) of this section.

10 **Sec. 12.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2012 c 229 s 702 are each amended 11 to read as follows:

(1) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not 12 13 yet received the credits required for the award of a high school diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may 14 15 apply to a participating institution of higher education to enroll in 16 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education. A 17 student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a public high 18 school for the sole purpose of participating in courses or programs offered by institutions of higher education shall not be counted by 19 20 the school district in any required state or federal accountability 21 reporting if the student's parents or quardians filed a declaration of intent to provide home-based instruction and the student received 22 home-based instruction during the school year before the school year 23 24 in which the student intends to participate in courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education. Students receiving 25 home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW 26 and students 27 attending private schools approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW shall 28 not be required to meet the student learning goals((, obtain a certificate of academic achievement or a certificate of individual 29 30 achievement to graduate from high school,)) or to master the 31 essential academic learning requirements. However, students are enroll courses or programs 32 eliqible to in in participating universities only if the board of directors of the student's school 33 district has decided to participate in the program. Participating 34 35 institutions of higher education, in consultation with school districts, may establish admission standards for these students. If 36 the institution of higher education accepts a secondary school pupil 37 enrollment under this section, the institution of 38 for higher 39 education shall send written notice to the pupil and the pupil's

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school district within ten days of acceptance. The notice shall
 indicate the course and hours of enrollment for that pupil.

3 (2)(a) In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 4 and 28B.15.041:

5 (i) Running start students shall pay to the community or 6 technical college all other mandatory fees as established by each 7 community or technical college and, in addition, the state board for 8 community and technical colleges may authorize a fee of up to ten 9 percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and 10 28B.15.041; and

(ii) All other institutions of higher education operating a running start program may charge running start students a fee of up to ten percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and 28B.15.041 in addition to technology fees.

(b) The fees charged under this subsection (2) shall be prorated based on credit load.

17 (3)(a) The institutions of higher education must make available 18 fee waivers for low-income running start students. Each institution 19 must establish a written policy for the determination of low-income students before offering the fee waiver. A student shall be 20 21 considered low income and eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that the student is currently qualified to receive free or reduced-price 22 lunch. Acceptable documentation of low-income status 23 mav also include, but is not limited to, documentation that a student has been 24 25 deemed eligible for free or reduced-price lunches in the last five 26 years, or other criteria established in the institution's policy.

(b) Institutions of higher education, in collaboration with 27 28 relevant student associations, shall aim to have students who can 29 benefit from fee waivers take advantage of these waivers. Institutions shall make every effort to communicate to students and 30 31 their families the benefits of the waivers and provide assistance to 32 students and their families on how to apply. Information about waivers shall, to the greatest extent possible, be incorporated into 33 financial aid counseling, admission information, and individual 34 billing statements. Institutions also shall, to the greatest extent 35 possible, use all means of communication, including but not limited 36 to web sites, online catalogues, admission and registration forms, 37 mass e-mail messaging, social media, and outside marketing to ensure 38 39 that information about waivers is visible, compelling, and reaches 40 the maximum number of students and families that can benefit.

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1 (4) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the institution of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent college 2 student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and nonvocational 3 students. The superintendent of public instruction shall separately 4 5 calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic education under 6 RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of making such payments and for granting school districts seven percent thereof to 7 offset program related costs. The calculations and allocations shall 8 be based upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time 9 equivalent high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260, 10 excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable rules 11 12 adopted under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public instruction, participating institutions of higher education, and the 13 state board for community and technical colleges shall consult on the 14 calculation and distribution of the funds. The funds received by the 15 16 institution of higher education from the school district shall not be 17 deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the 18 institution of higher education. A student enrolled under this 19 subsection shall be counted for the purpose of meeting enrollment targets in accordance with terms and conditions specified in the 20 21 omnibus appropriations act.

(5) The state board for community and technical colleges, in 22 23 collaboration with the other institutions of higher education that participate in the running start program and the office of the 24 25 superintendent of public instruction, shall identify, assess, and report on alternatives for providing ongoing and adequate financial 26 support for the program. Such alternatives shall include but are not 27 28 limited to student tuition, increased support from local school districts, and reallocation of existing state financial support among 29 community and technical college system to 30 the account for 31 differential running start enrollment levels and impacts. The state 32 board for community and technical colleges shall report the assessment of alternatives to the governor and to the appropriate 33 fiscal and policy committees of the legislature by September 1, 2010. 34

35 Sec. 13. RCW 28A.655.068 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 4 are each 36 amended to read as follows:

37 (1) Beginning in the 2011-12 school year, the statewide high 38 school assessment in science shall be an end-of-course assessment for 39 biology that measures the state standards for life sciences, in 1 addition to systems, inquiry, and application as they pertain to life 2 sciences.

(2)(a) The superintendent of public instruction may develop or 3 adopt science end-of-course assessments or a comprehensive science 4 assessment ((that includes subjects in addition to biology for 5 б purposes of RCW 28A.655.061,)) when so directed by the legislature. ((The legislature intends to transition from a biology end-of-course 7 assessment to a more comprehensive science assessment in a manner 8 consistent with the way in which the state transitioned to an English 9 10 language arts assessment and a comprehensive mathematics assessment. The legislature further intends that the transition will include at 11 least two years of using the student assessment results from either 12 the biology end-of-course assessment or the more comprehensive 13 assessment in order to provide students with reasonable opportunities 14 15 to demonstrate high school competencies while being mindful of the 16 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.

21 (((c) Before the next subsequent school year after the 22 legislature directs the superintendent to develop or adopt a new 23 science assessment, the superintendent of public instruction shall 24 review the objective alternative assessments for the science 25 assessment and make recommendations to the legislature regarding 26 additional objective alternatives, if any.))

27 (3) The superintendent of public instruction may participate with 28 consortia of multiple states as common student learning standards and assessments in science are developed. The superintendent of public 29 30 instruction, in consultation with the state board of education, may 31 modify the essential academic learning requirements and statewide student assessments in science, including the high school assessment, 32 according to the multistate common student learning standards and 33 assessments as long as the education committees of the legislature 34 have opportunities for review before the modifications are adopted, 35 as provided under RCW 28A.655.070. 36

37 (((4) The statewide high school assessment under this section 38 shall be used to demonstrate that a student meets the state standards 39 in the science content area of the statewide student assessment for 40 purposes of RCW 28A.655.061.)) 1 Sec. 14. RCW 28A.655.070 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 5 are each
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop 4 essential academic learning requirements that identify the knowledge 5 and skills all public school students need to know and be able to do 6 based on the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210, develop 7 student assessments, and implement the accountability recommendations 8 and requests regarding assistance, rewards, and recognition of the 9 state board of education.

10

(2) The superintendent of public instruction shall:

(a) Periodically revise the essential academic learning requirements, as needed, based on the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210. Goals one and two shall be considered primary. To the maximum extent possible, the superintendent shall integrate goal four and the knowledge and skill areas in the other goals in the essential academic learning requirements; and

17 Review and prioritize the essential academic (b) learning requirements and identify, with clear and concise descriptions, the 18 19 grade level content expectations to be assessed on the statewide student assessment and used for state or federal accountability 20 21 purposes. The review, prioritization, and identification shall result in more focus and targeting with an emphasis on depth over breadth in 22 the number of grade level content expectations assessed at each grade 23 level. Grade level content expectations shall be articulated over the 24 25 grades as a sequence of expectations and performances that are 26 logical, build with increasing depth after foundational knowledge and skills are acquired, and reflect, where appropriate, the sequential 27 28 nature of the discipline. The office of the superintendent of public instruction, within seven working days, shall post on its web site 29 any grade level content expectations provided to an assessment vendor 30 31 for use in constructing the statewide student assessment.

32 (3)(a) In consultation with the state board of education, the superintendent of public instruction shall maintain and continue to 33 develop and revise a statewide academic assessment system in the 34 content areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and science for use 35 36 in the elementary, middle, and high school years designed to determine if each student has mastered the essential academic 37 learning requirements identified in subsection (1) of this section. 38 39 School districts shall administer the assessments under guidelines 40 adopted by the superintendent of public instruction. The academic

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assessment system may include a variety of assessment methods,
 including criterion-referenced and performance-based measures.

3 (b) ((Effective with the 2009 administration of the Washington 4 assessment of student learning and continuing with the statewide 5 student assessment, the superintendent shall redesign the assessment 6 in the content areas of reading, mathematics, and science in all 7 grades except high school by shortening test administration and 8 reducing the number of short answer and extended response questions.

9 (c))) (i) By the 2014-15 school year, the superintendent of 10 public instruction, in consultation with the state board of 11 education, shall modify the statewide student assessment system to 12 transition to assessments developed with a multistate consortium(($_{\tau}$ 13 as provided in this subsection:

14 (i)).

15 <u>(ii)</u> The assessments developed with a multistate consortium to 16 assess student proficiency in English language arts and mathematics 17 shall be administered beginning in the 2014-15 school year. The 18 reading and writing assessments shall not be administered by the 19 superintendent of public instruction or schools after the 2013-14 20 school year.

(((ii))) (iii) The high school assessments in English language arts and mathematics ((in (c)(i) of this subsection))) developed with the multistate consortium shall be used ((for the purposes of earning a certificate of academic achievement for high school graduation under the timeline established in RCW 28A.655.061 and)) for assessing student career and college readiness.

((((iii) During the transition period specified in RCW 27 28 28A.655.061, the superintendent of public instruction shall use test 29 items and other resources from the consortium assessment to develop and administer a tenth grade high school English language arts 30 31 assessment, an end-of-course mathematics assessment to assess the 32 standards common to algebra I and integrated mathematics I, and an end-of-course mathematics assessment to assess the standards common 33 to geometry and integrated mathematics II.)) 34

35 (4) If the superintendent proposes any modification to the 36 essential academic learning requirements or the statewide 37 assessments, then the superintendent shall, upon request, provide 38 opportunities for the education committees of the house of 39 representatives and the senate to review the assessments and proposed modifications to the essential academic learning requirements before
 the modifications are adopted.

3 (5) The assessment system shall be designed so that the results 4 under the assessment system are used by educators as tools to 5 evaluate instructional practices, and to initiate appropriate 6 educational support for students who have not mastered the essential 7 academic learning requirements at the appropriate periods in the 8 student's educational development.

9 (6) By September 2007, the results for reading and mathematics 10 shall be reported in a format that will allow parents and teachers to 11 determine the academic gain a student has acquired in those content 12 areas from one school year to the next.

13 (7) To assist parents and teachers in their efforts to provide 14 educational support to individual students, the superintendent of 15 public instruction shall provide as much individual student 16 performance information as possible within the constraints of the 17 assessment system's item bank. The superintendent shall also provide 18 to school districts:

19 (a) Information on classroom-based and other assessments that may 20 provide additional achievement information for individual students; 21 and

(b) A collection of diagnostic tools that educators may use to evaluate the academic status of individual students. The tools shall be designed to be inexpensive, easily administered, and quickly and easily scored, with results provided in a format that may be easily shared with parents and students.

27 (8) To the maximum extent possible, the superintendent shall 28 integrate knowledge and skill areas in development of the 29 assessments.

(9) Assessments for goals three and four of RCW 28A.150.210 shall
 be integrated in the essential academic learning requirements and
 assessments for goals one and two.

33 (10) The superintendent shall develop assessments that are 34 directly related to the essential academic learning requirements, and 35 are not biased toward persons with different learning styles, racial 36 or ethnic backgrounds, or on the basis of gender.

37 (11) The superintendent shall consider methods to address the 38 unique needs of special education students when developing the 39 assessments under this section.

1 (12) The superintendent shall consider methods to address the 2 unique needs of highly capable students when developing the 3 assessments under this section.

4 (13) The superintendent shall post on the superintendent's web 5 site lists of resources and model assessments in social studies, the 6 arts, and health and fitness.

7 **Sec. 15.** RCW 28A.700.080 and 2008 c 170 s 301 are each amended 8 to read as follows:

9 (1) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, the office of 10 the superintendent of public instruction shall develop and conduct an 11 ongoing campaign for career and technical education to increase awareness among teachers, counselors, students, parents, principals, 12 13 school administrators, and the general public about the opportunities offered by rigorous career and technical education programs. Messages 14 15 in the campaign shall emphasize career and technical education as a 16 high quality educational pathway for students, including for students who seek advanced education that includes a bachelor's degree or 17 18 beyond. In particular, the office shall provide information about the 19 following:

(a) The model career and technical education programs of studydeveloped under RCW 28A.700.060;

(b) Career and technical education course equivalencies and dualcredit for high school and college;

24 (c) ((The career and technical education alternative assessment 25 guidelines under RCW 28A.655.065;

26 (d))) The availability of scholarships for postsecondary 27 workforce education, including the Washington award for vocational 28 excellence, and apprenticeships through the opportunity grant program 29 under RCW 28B.50.271, grants under RCW 28A.700.090, and other 30 programs; and

31 ((((e)))) (<u>d</u>) Education, apprenticeship, and career opportunities 32 in emerging and high-demand programs.

33 (2) The office shall use multiple strategies in the campaign 34 depending on available funds, including developing an interactive web 35 site to encourage and facilitate career exploration; conducting 36 training and orientation for guidance counselors and teachers; and 37 developing and disseminating printed materials.

38 (3) The office shall seek advice, participation, and financial39 assistance from the workforce training and education coordinating

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board, higher education institutions, foundations, employers,
 apprenticeship and training councils, workforce development councils,
 and business and labor organizations for the campaign.

4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 16.** The following acts or parts of acts are 5 each repealed:

6 (1) RCW 28A.155.045 (Certificate of individual achievement) and 7 2007 c 354 s 3 & 2004 c 19 s 104;

8 (2) RCW 28A.155.170 (Graduation ceremony—Certificate of 9 attendance—Students with individualized education programs) and 2007 10 c 318 s 2;

11 (3) RCW 28A.600.405 (Participation in high school completion 12 pilot program—Eligible students—Funding allocations—Rules— 13 Information for students and parents) and 2012 1st sp.s. c 10 s 4 & 14 2007 c 355 s 4;

15 (4) RCW 28A.655.061 (High school assessment system—Certificate of 16 academic achievement—Exemptions—Options to retake high school 17 assessment—Objective alternative assessment—Student learning plans) 18 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 2, 2011 1st sp.s. c 22 s 2, 2010 c 244 s 1, 19 2009 c 524 s 5, & 2008 c 321 s 2;

20 (5) RCW 28A.655.063 (Objective alternative assessments— 21 Reimbursement of costs—Testing fee waivers) and 2007 c 354 s 7 & 2006 22 c 115 s 5;

(6) RCW 28A.655.065 (Objective alternative assessment methods— Appeals from assessment scores—Waivers and appeals from assessment requirements—Rules) and 2009 c 556 s 19, 2008 c 170 s 205, 2007 c 354 s 6, & 2006 c 115 s 1;

27 (7) RCW 28A.655.066 (Statewide end-of-course assessments for high 28 school mathematics) and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 3, 2011 c 25 s 2, 2009 29 c 310 s 3, & 2008 c 163 s 3; and

30 (8) RCW 28B.50.534 (High school completion pilot program) and 31 2007 c 355 s 3.

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