

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2695

54th Legislature
1996 Regular Session

Passed by the House February 23, 1996
Yeas 91 Nays 0

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 7, 1996
Yeas 44 Nays 5

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Timothy A. Martin, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2695** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2695

Passed Legislature - 1996 Regular Session

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Brumsickle and B. Thomas; by request of Joint Select Committee on Education Restructuring, Board of Education and Commission on Student Learning)

Read first time 02/02/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying the timelines for the development and
2 implementation of the student assessment system; reenacting and
3 amending RCW 28A.630.885; creating a new section; repealing 1995 c 335
4 s 803 (uncodified); and providing expiration dates.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.630.885 and 1995 c 335 s 505 and 1995 c 209 s 1
7 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

8 (1) The Washington commission on student learning is hereby
9 established. The primary purposes of the commission are to identify
10 the knowledge and skills all public school students need to know and be
11 able to do based on the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210, to
12 develop student assessment and school accountability systems, to review
13 current school district data reporting requirements and make
14 recommendations on what data is necessary for the purposes of
15 accountability and meeting state information needs, and to take other
16 steps necessary to develop a performance-based education system. The
17 commission shall include three members of the state board of education,
18 three members appointed by the governor before July 1, 1992, and five
19 members appointed no later than June 1, 1993, by the governor elected

1 in the November 1992 election. The governor shall appoint a chair from
2 the commission members, and fill any vacancies in gubernatorial
3 appointments that may occur. The state board of education shall fill
4 any vacancies of state board of education appointments that may occur.
5 In making the appointments, educators, business leaders, and parents
6 shall be represented, and nominations from state-wide education,
7 business, and parent organizations shall be requested. Efforts shall
8 be made to ensure that the commission reflects the racial and ethnic
9 diversity of the state's K-12 student population and that the major
10 geographic regions in the state are represented. Appointees shall be
11 qualified individuals who are supportive of educational restructuring,
12 who have a positive record of service, and who will devote sufficient
13 time to the responsibilities of the commission to ensure that the
14 objectives of the commission are achieved.

15 (2) The commission shall establish advisory committees. Membership
16 of the advisory committees shall include, but not necessarily be
17 limited to, professionals from the office of the superintendent of
18 public instruction and the state board of education, and other state
19 and local educational practitioners and student assessment specialists.

20 (3) The commission, with the assistance of the advisory committees,
21 shall:

22 (a) Develop essential academic learning requirements based on the
23 student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210. Essential academic learning
24 requirements shall be developed, to the extent possible, for each of
25 the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210. Goals one and two shall
26 be considered primary. Essential academic learning requirements for
27 RCW 28A.150.210(1), goal one, and the mathematics component of RCW
28 28A.150.210(2), goal two, shall be completed no later than March 1,
29 1995. Essential academic learning requirements that incorporate the
30 remainder of RCW 28A.150.210 (2), (3), and (4), goals two, three, and
31 four, shall be completed no later than March 1, 1996. To the maximum
32 extent possible, the commission shall integrate goal four and the
33 knowledge and skill areas in the other goals in the development of the
34 essential academic learning requirements;

35 (b)(i) The commission shall present to the state board of education
36 and superintendent of public instruction a state-wide academic
37 assessment system for use in the elementary, middle, and high school
38 years designed to determine if each student has mastered the essential
39 academic learning requirements identified in (a) of this subsection.

1 The academic assessment system shall include a variety of assessment
2 methods that are criterion-referenced, including performance-based
3 measures (~~((that are criterion-referenced))~~). Performance standards for
4 determining if a student has successfully completed an assessment shall
5 be initially determined by the commission in consultation with the
6 advisory committees required in subsection (2) of this section.

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

13 (iii) Assessments measuring the essential academic learning
14 requirements developed for RCW 28A.150.210(1), goal one, and the
15 mathematics component of RCW 28A.150.210(2), goal two, shall be
16 (~~((initially implemented by the state board of education and
17 superintendent of public instruction no later than the 1996-97 school
18 year,))~~) developed and initially implemented by the commission before
19 transferring the assessment system to the superintendent of public
20 instruction. For goal one and the mathematics component of goal two,
21 the elementary assessment shall be available for use by districts no
22 later than the 1996-97 school year, the middle grades assessment no
23 later than the 1997-98 school year, and the high school assessment no
24 later than the 1998-99 school year unless the legislature takes action
25 to delay or prevent implementation of the assessment system and
26 essential academic learning requirements. The assessment system shall
27 be transferred to the superintendent of public instruction no later
28 than June 30, 1999, for continued implementation. Assessments
29 measuring the essential academic learning requirements developed for
30 RCW 28A.150.210 (2) except mathematics, (3), and (4), goals two, three,
31 and four, shall be ((initially implemented by the state board of
32 education and)) developed and initially implemented by the commission
33 before transferring the assessments to the superintendent of public
34 instruction, unless the legislature takes action to delay or prevent
35 implementation of the assessment system and essential academic learning
36 requirements. The assessments shall be transferred to the
37 superintendent of public instruction no later than ((the 1998-99 school
38 year, unless the legislature takes action to delay or prevent

1 ~~implementation of the assessment system and essential academic learning~~
2 ~~requirements)) June 30, 1999, for continued implementation.~~

3 The assessments in history, geography, civics, health, fitness, and
4 the arts shall not include state-level assessments in the elementary
5 grades, but shall include classroom-based assessments for voluntary
6 use. However, by December 1, 2001, the state board of education shall
7 make recommendations to the legislature regarding whether state-level
8 assessments should be required for history, geography, civics, health,
9 fitness, and the arts in the elementary grades.

10 The commission shall work closely with the superintendent of public
11 instruction and the state board of education during the development and
12 initial implementation of the assessment system. To the maximum extent
13 possible, the commission shall integrate knowledge and skill areas in
14 development of the assessments.

15 (iv) Before the 2000-2001 school year, participation by school
16 districts in the assessment system shall be optional. School districts
17 that desire to participate before the 2000-2001 school year shall
18 notify the commission on student learning or the superintendent of
19 public instruction, as appropriate, in a manner determined by the
20 commission or superintendent. Beginning in the 2000-2001 school year,
21 all school districts shall be required to participate in the assessment
22 system.

23 (v) The commission on student learning may modify the essential
24 academic learning requirements and the assessments, as needed, on or
25 before June 30, 1999. The state board of education ((and
26 ~~superintendent of public instruction)) may modify the essential~~
27 ~~academic learning requirements ((and academic assessment system)),~~ as
28 needed, ((in subsequent school years)) after June 30, 1999, and the
29 superintendent of public instruction may modify the academic assessment
30 system, as needed, after June 30, 1999.

31 (vi) The commission shall develop assessments that are directly
32 related to the essential academic learning requirements, and are not
33 biased toward persons with different learning styles, racial or ethnic
34 backgrounds, or on the basis of gender;

35 (c) After a determination is made by the state board of education
36 that the high school assessment system has been implemented and that it
37 is sufficiently reliable and valid, successful completion of the high
38 school assessment shall lead to a certificate of mastery. The
39 certificate of mastery shall be obtained by most students at about the

1 age of sixteen, and is evidence that the student has successfully
2 mastered the essential academic learning requirements during his or her
3 educational career. (~~The certificate of mastery shall be required for~~
4 ~~graduation but shall not be the only requirement for graduation. The~~
5 ~~commission shall make recommendations to the state board of education~~
6 ~~regarding the relationship between the certificate of mastery and high~~
7 ~~school graduation requirements.)) The state board of education and the
8 commission shall make recommendations to the legislature regarding
9 whether the certificate of mastery should be a graduation requirement.
10 The certificate of mastery shall not be implemented as a state-wide
11 graduation requirement until legislation is enacted directing the state
12 board of education to make it a state-wide requirement. Upon achieving
13 the certificate of mastery, schools shall provide students with the
14 opportunity to continue to pursue career and educational objectives
15 through educational pathways that emphasize integration of academic and
16 vocational education. Educational pathways may include, but are not
17 limited to, programs such as work-based learning, school-to-work
18 transition, tech prep, vocational-technical education, running start,
19 and preparation for technical college, community college, or university
20 education;~~

21 (d) Consider methods to address the unique needs of special
22 education students when developing the assessments in (b) and (c) of
23 this subsection;

24 (e) Consider methods to address the unique needs of highly capable
25 students when developing the assessments in (b) and (c) of this
26 subsection;

27 (f) Develop recommendations on the time, support, and resources,
28 including technical assistance, needed by schools and school districts
29 to help students achieve the essential academic learning requirements.
30 These recommendations shall include an estimate for the legislature,
31 superintendent of public instruction, and governor on the expected cost
32 of implementing the academic assessment system;

33 (g) Develop recommendations for consideration by the higher
34 education coordinating board for adopting college and university
35 entrance requirements for public school students that are consistent
36 with the essential academic learning requirements and the certificate
37 of mastery;

38 (h) Review current school district data reporting requirements for
39 the purposes of accountability and meeting state information needs.

1 The commission on student learning shall report recommendations to the
2 joint select committee on education restructuring by September 15,
3 1996, on:

4 (i) What data is necessary to compare how school districts are
5 performing before the essential academic learning requirements and the
6 assessment system are implemented with how school districts are
7 performing after the essential academic learning requirements and the
8 assessment system are implemented; and

9 (ii) What data is necessary pertaining to school district reports
10 under the accountability systems developed by the commission on student
11 learning under this section;

12 (i) By June 30, 1999, recommend to the legislature, governor, state
13 board of education, and superintendent of public instruction:

14 (i) A state-wide accountability system to monitor and evaluate
15 accurately and fairly the level of learning occurring in individual
16 schools and school districts. The accountability system shall be
17 designed to recognize the characteristics of the student population of
18 schools and school districts such as gender, race, ethnicity,
19 socioeconomic status, and other factors. The system shall include
20 school-site, school district, and state-level accountability reports;

21 (ii) A school assistance program to help schools and school
22 districts that are having difficulty helping students meet the
23 essential academic learning requirements;

24 (iii) A system to intervene in schools and school districts in
25 which significant numbers of students persistently fail to learn the
26 essential academic learning requirements; and

27 (iv) An awards program to provide incentives to school staff to
28 help their students learn the essential academic learning requirements,
29 with each school being assessed individually against its own baseline.
30 Incentives shall be based on the rate of percentage change of students
31 achieving the essential academic learning requirements. School staff
32 shall determine how the awards will be spent.

33 It is the intent of the legislature to begin implementation of
34 programs in this subsection (3)(i) on September 1, 2000;

35 (j) Report annually by December 1st to the legislature, the
36 governor, the superintendent of public instruction, and the state board
37 of education on the progress, findings, and recommendations of the
38 commission; and

1 (k) Make recommendations to the legislature and take other actions
2 necessary or desirable to help students meet the student learning
3 goals.

4 (4) The commission shall coordinate its activities with the state
5 board of education and the office of the superintendent of public
6 instruction.

7 (5) The commission shall seek advice broadly from the public and
8 all interested educational organizations in the conduct of its work,
9 including holding periodic regional public hearings.

10 (6) The commission shall select an entity to provide staff support
11 and the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
12 provide administrative oversight and be the fiscal agent for the
13 commission. The commission may direct the office of the superintendent
14 of public instruction to enter into subcontracts, within the
15 commission's resources, with school districts, teachers, higher
16 education faculty, state agencies, business organizations, and other
17 individuals and organizations to assist the commission in its
18 deliberations.

19 (7) Members of the commission shall be reimbursed for travel
20 expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

21 (8) This section expires June 30, 1999.

22 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) By December 15, 1996, the commission on
23 student learning shall recommend to the appropriate committees of the
24 legislature a revised timeline for the implementation of the middle and
25 high school assessments for science, history, geography, civics,
26 health, fitness, and the arts, and the elementary assessment for
27 science.

28 (2) By December 15, 1996, the state board of education and the
29 commission on student learning shall make initial recommendations to
30 the appropriate committees of the legislature regarding the
31 implementation timeline for the certificate of mastery, including
32 whether it should be a graduation requirement. The board and
33 commission shall consider other or additional methods in which the
34 assessments could be used to raise the standards in schools and of
35 students, and how these methods should be phased-in.

36 (3) This section shall expire December 31, 1996.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** 1995 c 335 s 803 (uncodified) is repealed.

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