
SENATE BILL 6257

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senators Jacobsen and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/14/08. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the reporting requirements for the Washington
2 assessment of student learning; amending RCW 28A.655.090; and creating
3 a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

6 (1) The citizens of Washington state have consistently expressed
7 concern with the quality of education offered to the children of the
8 state, and have demanded meaningful evaluation of schools, districts,
9 and the educational system as a whole.

10 (2) Assessment data being gathered through the Washington
11 assessment of student learning is used both for individual evaluation
12 of students and overall evaluation of the performance of schools and
13 districts, obscuring the real meaning of values and trends in that
14 data.

15 (3) Efforts to date to improve the quality of education have been
16 primarily in remediation of individual cases, incurring additional,
17 recurring costs for such remediation but neither identification of
18 underlying causes nor improvement of education delivered to all
19 children.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.655.090 and 1999 c 388 s 301 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) By September 10, 1998, and by September 10th each year
4 thereafter, the superintendent of public instruction shall report to
5 schools, school districts, and the legislature on the results of the
6 Washington assessment of student learning and state-mandated norm-
7 referenced standardized tests.

8 (2) The reports shall include the assessment results by school and
9 school district, and include changes over time. For the Washington
10 assessment of student learning, results shall be reported as follows:

11 (a) The percentage of students meeting the standards;

12 (b) The percentage of students performing at each level of the
13 assessment; and

14 (c) A learning improvement index that shows changes in student
15 performance within the different levels of student learning reported on
16 the Washington assessment of student learning.

17 (3) The reports shall contain data regarding the different
18 characteristics of schools, such as poverty levels, percent of English
19 as a second language students, dropout rates, attendance, percent of
20 students in special education, and student mobility so that districts
21 and schools can learn from the improvement efforts of other schools and
22 districts with similar characteristics.

23 (4) The reports shall contain student scores on mandated tests by
24 comparable Washington schools of similar characteristics.

25 (5) The reports shall contain information on public school choice
26 options available to students, including vocational education.

27 (6) The reports shall be posted on the superintendent of public
28 instruction's internet web site.

29 (7) To protect the privacy of students, the results of schools and
30 districts (~~that test fewer than ten students in a grade level shall~~
31 ~~not be reported~~) shall be reported only in aggregation to the level of
32 the individual school, which may be further subdivided by grade and by
33 the criteria set forth in subsection (3) of this section. In addition,
34 in order to ensure that results are reported accurately, the
35 superintendent of public instruction shall maintain the confidentiality
36 of statewide data files until the superintendent determines that the
37 data are complete and accurate. The intent of this subsection is that

1 the results of an assessment administered under this chapter shall not
2 within reason be attributable to an individual student.

3 (8) The superintendent of public instruction shall monitor the
4 percentage and number of special education and limited English-
5 proficient students exempted from taking the assessments by schools and
6 school districts to ensure the exemptions are in compliance with
7 exemption guidelines.

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