

## **BILLS RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE AGENDA—Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>**

### **HB 2414/SB 6532 – Federally required assessments**

While these bills would not make changes to the required WASL tests in grades four, seven and ten, they would make changes to the “mini-WASLs” the state currently uses in grades three, five, six and eight to comply with the federal No Child Left Behind Act. SPI would be required to revise the Washington state accountability plan to allow options other than the WASL.

Senate Bill is dead

Passed House, in Senate Ed Cmte

### **HB 2429 – Academic assessment system**

This bill would require a comprehensive review of Washington’s academic assessment system. Included in the review would be: a description of the full costs to the state and local school districts in using the WASL (such as development, scoring, storage, etc.); an analysis of the ability of the WASL to provide real-time diagnostic information about students’ academic performance; and an evaluation of alternative assessment tools.

**Dead**

### **HB 2430 – Diagnostic assessments**

In an effort to improve student achievement, this bill would require school districts to administer annual diagnostic assessments to all students in grades three, five, six, eight and nine.

**Dead**

### **HB 2486 – High school graduation requirements**

Beginning with the Class of 2010, this bill would require minimum high school graduation requirements to include: four credits of mathematics; four credits of English; and four credits in either an academic or a career and technical concentration.

**Dead**

### **HB 2489 – Assistance to students**

This bill would: require school districts to identify a student’s risk of not graduating on time; require districts to make summer school available at no charge to at-risk students, along with at least one other assistance strategy (for example, after school programs, tutoring, specialized courses, remediation offered through skills centers, or counseling); and mandate summer school attendance for students determined to be “high risk” of not graduating.

**Passed House, Senate Ed Cmtee**

### **HB 2582 – High school completion programs**

Under the provisions of this bill, all students under the age of 21 who have completed all local and state minimum graduation requirements, except earning a Certificate of Academic Achievement, would be eligible to enroll at no charge at a community or technical college in a program to earn a high school diploma. These students would also be allowed to participate in high school graduation ceremonies.

Passed House, Senate Ed Cmtee

**HB 2618 – Graduation achievement program**

The graduation achievement program would be established by this bill. The program would provide bonuses for principals and vice-principals, certificated instructional staff and other staff in schools where students made significant improvements in student achievement, as measured by the WASL. The program would also provide funding to school districts in order to implement instructional programs specifically designed to remediate student achievement deficiencies identified by the 7th- or 10th-grade WASL.

**Dead****HB 2733 – High school transcripts**

Current law requires, beginning with the Class of 2006, that student transcripts include the highest scale score and level achieved in each content area on the high school WASL. This bill would repeal this requirement.

Passed House, Senate Ed Cmtee

**HB 2764 – WASL performance level**

Current law requires that, beginning in 2008, students must meet or exceed the proficient level (Level 3) in all three content areas (reading, writing and mathematics) of the high school WASL or an alternative assessment in order to earn a Certificate of Academic Achievement (CAA). Beginning in 2010, students would also have to meet or exceed the proficient level in the science WASL. HB 2764 would lower this threshold. Students would have to meet or exceed the proficient level in one of the three content areas and meet or exceed the basic level (Level 2) in the other two content areas in order to earn a CAA. In 2010, when science is required, students would be required to meet or exceed the proficient level in two of the four content areas and meet or exceed the basic level in the two other content areas.

**Dead****HB 2902 – Mathematics assessment**

This bill would allow a student's score on the mathematics portion of the preliminary scholastic aptitude test (PSAT), the scholastic aptitude test (SAT) or the American college test (ACT) to be used as an alternative assessment for demonstrating that a student has met the mathematics standards necessary to earn a Certificate of Academic Achievement.

**Dead—folded into OSPI bill.****HB 2903 – Federally required assessments**

This bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to cease all further development, implementation or administration of the “mini-WASLs” in grades three, five, six and eight — assessments required by the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. SPI would be required to seek a temporary waiver from NCLB assessments until another assessment system is authorized by the Legislature.

**Dead****HB 2940 – Certificate of Attainment**

A new Certificate of Attainment would be created to be awarded to students who meet all local and state high school graduation requirements except for obtaining a Certificate of Academic Achievement. The Certificate of Attainment would not be the equivalent of a high school diploma, but would recognize and celebrate students' accomplishments in meeting most graduation requirements and enable students to participate in commencement ceremonies.

## **Dead**

### **HB 2941 – WASL performance level**

Current law requires that, beginning in 2008, students must meet or exceed the proficient level (Level 3) in all three content areas (reading, writing and mathematics) of the high school WASL or an alternative assessment in order to earn a Certificate of Academic Achievement (CAA). Beginning in 2010, students would also have to meet or exceed the proficient level in the science WASL. HB 2941 would lower this threshold and phase in a return to the current requirement. Students would have to meet or exceed the proficient level in two of the three content areas and meet or exceed the basic level (Level 2) in the third content area in order to earn a CAA. In 2010 through 2012, students would be required to meet or exceed the proficient level in all three content areas; the science WASL would be postponed to 2012. Beginning in 2012, students would be required to meet or exceed the proficient level in all four content areas of the high school WASL to earn a CAA.

## **Dead**

### **HB 2973 – Career and technical graduation options**

This bill would allow the creation of a rigorous, high quality career and technical high school graduation option that assures students meet state standards in fundamental academic content areas, as well as nationally recognized standards for knowledge and skills needed to pursue employment and careers in technical fields.

Passed House, Senate Ed Cmtee

### **SB 6435 – Certificate of Academic Progress**

A new Certificate of Academic Progress would be created to be awarded to students who meet all local and state high school graduation requirements except for obtaining a Certificate of Academic Achievement. The Certificate of Academic Progress would not be the equivalent of a high school diploma, but would recognize and celebrate students' accomplishments in meeting most graduation requirements and enable students to participate in commencement ceremonies.

## **Dead—Rolled into OSPI bill**

### **SB 6461/HB 2923 – Multiple measures to graduation requirements**

Beginning with the Class of 2008, students will be required to pass all three sections of the 10th-grade WASL in order to graduate from high school — this is in addition to other current state and local graduation requirements. These bills would create a compensatory approach to graduation requirements using several weighted measures of individual performance. Each measure (GPA of state-required courses; GPA of locally required courses; culminating project; high school and

beyond plan; and 10<sup>th</sup>-grade WASL) would be assigned a weight against the whole. In this model, low performance on one measure could be offset by a higher performance on another. A minimum level of performance would be assigned to each of the measures and a minimum threshold for the whole would determine whether or not a student could graduate. If a student met or exceeded the proficient level on all three sections of the WASL, they would still earn a Certificate of Academic Achievement (CAA); however, these bills would not require a student to earn a CAA in order to earn a diploma.

## **Dead**

### **SB 6475/HB 2785 – Implementing alternative assessments (OSPI bills)**

In 2004, the Washington Legislature adopted HB 2195, authorizing the development of an alternative assessment and an appeals process to meet state academic standards. That bill directed

the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop recommendations for alternative assessments and appeals; however, the Legislature is required to authorize the alternatives before they can be implemented. These bills would authorize the alternative assessments and appeals process as recommended by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

### **SB 6475 is in House Appropriations, HB 2785 is in the Senate Ed. Cmtee**

### **SB 6618/HB 2998 – Multiple measures to graduation requirements**

Beginning with the Class of 2008, students will be required to pass all three sections of the 10<sup>th</sup>-grade WASL in order to graduate from high school — this is in addition to other current state and local graduation requirements. These bills would provide students options beyond the WASL to show that they have learned the skills and knowledge required to meet Washington's academic standards. Beginning in the 2007-08 school year, students would be permitted to choose between

at least three certified options to show whether they meet high school academic standards. The requirement that diplomas would only be granted to students who have earned a Certificate of Academic Achievement would be retained, however the requirement would be delayed until after the State Board of Education has certified a minimum of three options, including the WASL.

### **House bill is dead, Senate bill was passed by House Appropriations**

### **SB 6620 – Eliminating the WASL graduation requirement**

This bill would eliminate the requirement that students must pass all three content areas of the 10<sup>th</sup>-grade WASL in order to graduate.

## **Dead**

### **SB 6438/HB 2812—Removing sunset that would disallow districts to continue adding unfunded I-732 dollars into the levy base.**

### **Senate bill is dead, House is in Senate Ways and Means**

### **HB 2635—Funding all day Kindergarten**

## **Dead**

**HB 2291—Increase the Levy Lid**

**Dead**

**SB 5786/HB 1484—Housing Cost Equalization**  
**Senate bill is dead, House bill is in Senate Ed Cmte**

**HB 2713—Allowing districts to support ballot propositions**  
**Passed House, Senate Rules**  
**HJR 4205—Simple Majority**  
**Passed House, Senate Ed Committee**