

Representative Kory M. Holdaway proposes the following substitute bill:

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AMENDMENTS

2006 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Kory M. Holdaway

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies the State System of Public Education Code's requirements for receiving a high school diploma.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- requires a student to pass the basic skills competency test and satisfy other graduation requirements to receive a value-added high school diploma; and
- directs the State Board of Education to make rules.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53A-1-611, as last amended by Chapter 7, Laws of Utah 2002, Fifth Special Session

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53A-1-611** is amended to read:



53A-1-611. Standards and assessment processes to measure student performance
-- Basic skills competency test.

(1) The Legislature recognizes the need for the State Board of Education to develop and implement standards and assessment processes to ensure that student progress is measured and that school boards and school personnel are accountable.

(2) (a) In addition to its responsibilities under Sections 53A-1-603 through 53A-1-605, the State Board of Education, through the state superintendent of public instruction, shall design a basic skills competency test to be administered in the tenth grade.

(b) A student must pass the basic skills competency test, in addition to the established requirements of the state and local board of education of the district in which the student attends school, in order to receive a ~~[basic]~~ value-added high school diploma of graduation.

(c) The state board shall include in the test, at a minimum, components on English language arts and reading and mathematics.

(d) A student who fails to pass all components of the test may not receive a ~~[basic]~~ value-added high school diploma but may receive a ~~[certificate of completion]~~ high school diploma or alternative completion diploma under rules made by the State Board of Education in accordance with Title 63, Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

~~[(e)]~~ (3) The state board shall make rules:

~~[(i)]~~ (a) to allow students who initially fail the test to retake all or part of the test; ~~[and]~~ ~~[(ii)]~~ (b) that take into account and are consistent with federal law relating to students with disabilities in the administration of the test~~[-];~~

~~(c) that provide for reciprocity in awarding value-added diplomas for a student who passed a high school exit exam in another state;~~

~~(d) that provide for adult education students to participate in administrations of the basic skills test; and~~

~~(e) that provide for an adult education student who exited the public education system and passed the GED test to receive a high school diploma that states the student passed a basic skills test.~~

~~[(3)]~~ (4) The state board shall implement the tenth grade basic skills competency test, no later than the beginning of the 2003-04 school year.

~~[(4)]~~ (5) The requirements of this section are to be complementary to the other

57 achievement testing provisions of this part.