



## 1997 SENATE BILL 456

February 10, 1998 - Introduced by Senators DARLING, FARROW and PANZER, cosponsored by Representatives DUFF and JENSEN. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT relating to:** evaluating pupil academic standards.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, the governor must submit to the standards development council (council) pupil academic standards in mathematics, science, reading and writing, geography and history. After reviewing the standards, the council must transmit its recommended standards to the governor, who must approve or disapprove the recommended standards. The governor approved these recommended standards in December, 1997, and may, under current law, issue them as an executive order. If the governor issues the standards as an executive order, each school board must either adopt the governor's standards or adopt its own standards by August 1, 1998. In addition, each school board operating high school grades must adopt a high school graduation examination that is designed to measure whether pupils meet the pupil academic standards and must administer examinations designed by the department of public instruction (DPI) to measure pupil attainment of knowledge and concepts in the 4th, 8th and 10th grades.

This bill requires the DPI to contract with a national organization that evaluates academic standards to evaluate the governor's academic standards to determine if the standards are clear and specific enough to provide the basis for a core curriculum, to determine the degree of correlation between the standards and the examinations and to prepare a written report summarizing its findings and recommendations. The bill also requires DPI to submit the report to the legislature.

