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ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6092

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State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

**By** Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education (originally sponsored by Senators Wilson, C., Wellman, Hawkins, Kuderer, and Mullet)

READ FIRST TIME 02/04/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to posthumous high school diplomas; amending RCW  
2 28A.230.120; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as  
5 Evitan's law.

6 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.230.120 and 2008 c 185 s 1 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) School districts shall issue diplomas to students signifying  
9 graduation from high school upon the students' satisfactory  
10 completion of all local and state graduation requirements. Districts  
11 shall grant students the option of receiving a final transcript in  
12 addition to the regular diploma.

13 (2) School districts or schools of attendance shall establish  
14 policies and procedures to notify senior students of the transcript  
15 option and shall direct students to indicate their decisions in a  
16 timely manner. School districts shall make appropriate provisions to  
17 assure that students who choose to receive a copy of their final  
18 transcript shall receive such transcript after graduation.

19 (3) (a) A school district may issue a high school diploma to a  
20 person who:

1 (i) Is an honorably discharged member of the armed forces of the  
2 United States; and

3 (ii) Left high school before graduation to serve in World War II,  
4 the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam era as defined in RCW 41.04.005.

5 (b) A school district may issue a diploma to or on behalf of a  
6 person otherwise eligible under (a) of this subsection  
7 notwithstanding the fact that the person holds a high school  
8 equivalency certification or is deceased.

9 (c) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt a form  
10 for a diploma application to be used by a veteran or a person acting  
11 on behalf of a deceased veteran under this subsection (3). The  
12 superintendent of public instruction shall specify what constitutes  
13 acceptable evidence of eligibility for a diploma.

14 (4) (a) A school district shall issue a high school diploma to a  
15 deceased student, at the request of the parent, guardian, or  
16 custodian, if the student:

17 (i) Was enrolled in a public school in the district at the time  
18 of death;

19 (ii) Had completed at least seventy-five percent of the total  
20 number of credits required for graduation as established by the state  
21 board of education under RCW 28A.230.090 before the time of death;  
22 and

23 (iii) Died after the completion of the eleventh grade school year  
24 or equivalent.

25 (b) The high school diploma may not be issued before the  
26 graduation date of the class in which the student was enrolled at the  
27 time of death.

28 (c) School districts are not required to award a diploma to a  
29 deceased student at the same ceremony or event as other graduating  
30 students.

31 (d) Nothing in this subsection limits the retroactive issuance of  
32 a high school diploma.

33 (e) Diplomas issued under this subsection (4) do not count toward  
34 student graduation counts or for any other purpose of federal and  
35 state accountability data collection.

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