Some people believe that the number and complexity of profile of learning requirements and the absence of readily available and inexpensive software that districts need to record and report student performance levels make it too difficult for students to complete and districts to implement all the requirements needed to graduate under the current profile of learning rule. This bill proposes to:

reduce the number of content standards that student must complete in order to graduate

allow school districts to use outstanding student work from each grade level as exemplars for measuring student work

postpone districts' obligation to fully implement profile of learning requirements until the software that districts need to record and report student performance levels is readily available to all districts at minimal cost

direct the office of educational accountability to recommend to the legislature policies for effectively meeting the needs of specific student populations

appropriate an unspecified sum for the resources and training school districts need to effectively implement profile of learning content standards.

1 Results-oriented graduation rule; basic skills requirements; profile of learning. (b) Requires high school students in grades 9 to 12 to complete 12 required and 6 elective content standards, middle school students in grades 6 to 8 to complete 18 content standards, intermediate school students in grades 4 and 5 to complete 10 content standards and primary
school students in kindergarten through grade 3 to complete 8 content standards. Exempts a student participating in an advanced placement or international baccalaureate program from content standards corresponding to the program's content.

(d) Allows school districts to use outstanding student work from each grade level as exemplars for measuring student work in that grade.

2 **District implementation of the profile of learning.** (a) Excuses school districts from fully implementing the profile of learning until school districts' obligation to establish and report school site and school district performance levels arises under paragraph (f).

(b) Directs school districts to implement the profile of learning the first school year after which school districts' obligation to establish and report school site and school district performance levels arises under paragraph (f).

(c) Establishes the three or four-year time line for school districts to fully implement profile of learning requirements, which begins after school districts' obligation to establish and report school site and school district performance levels arises under paragraph (f).

(d) Strikes language establishing an 11-member advisory committee to advise the governor and the commissioner on implementing the graduation rule. Directs the commissioner to convene an advisory group to recommend scoring criteria and record keeping practices. Directs the commissioner to evaluate available software and to certify to school districts and the legislature that the software that districts need to record and report performance levels is readily available to all districts at minimal cost. Causes school districts' obligation to establish and report school site and school district performance levels under the profile of learning to arise the first school year after which school districts and the legislature receive notice of the commissioner's certification.

(g) Directs the commissioner to work with school districts to develop and implement a uniform system of measuring and reporting student performances completed as requirements under the profile of learning.

3 **Educational accountability.** (c) Directs the office of educational accountability to recommend to the legislature policies for effectively meeting the needs of specific student populations, including special education students, limited English proficiency students, and students eligible to participate in the graduation incentives program.

4 **Appropriation.** Appropriates an unspecified sum from the general fund to the commissioner of children, families and learning in fiscal year 2001 for the resources and training needed to effectively implement profile of learning content standards. Directs the commissioner to make the funds available to school districts on an equitable basis. Requires school districts and school sites to use the funds to effectively implement profile of learning content standards in the classroom. Lists 7 appropriate uses of the funds.

5 **Effective date.** Makes sections 1 to 3 immediately effective. Makes section 4 effective July 1, 2000.