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Week 5 – February 9–13, 2015

This Week in Review

With the Legislature’s first self-imposed “cut-off” deadline arriving, the flow of new bill introductions continues to steadily taper off. All bills must be adopted by their original house policy committee by next Friday, February 20, in order to remain alive. By the following Friday, February 27, all fiscal bills must be adopted by their original house fiscal committee in order to remain alive. Continue to remember, however, that budget bills and bills considered “Necessary to Implement the Budget” (aka NTIB) are exempt from most of these early cut-off dates. Additionally, no bill is truly dead until the final gavel falls to adjourn the session; there are multiple procedural maneuvers to revive “dead” legislation. After 33 days of session the total tally of bills, resolutions and memorials sits at just over 2,100 (an average of over 14 bills per legislator).

This week, most legislative committees continued to plow through lengthy agendas with public hearings on numerous bills. Some of the legislative focus has slowly started to shift towards executive action on bills and next week most of the committee action will consist of adopting many of the bills that have previously been heard. A few policy committees will continue to hear bills; however, that list of bills is relatively short. In order to move as many priority bills as possible, several committees have added additional hearings next week and the fiscal committees are anticipating an onslaught of bills. Late this week, Representative Ross Hunter (D-Medina), Chair of the House Appropriations, predicting a huge flow of policy bills that need to be moved through the Appropriations Committee, asked his Committee members not to make evening plans the next two weeks. He also prepared them for the traditional “Appropriations Saturday” just after the policy committee cut-off. Sitting on the powerful Appropriations Committee is often seen as a privilege; however, meeting on Saturday, often for upwards of 12 or more hours must feel like some kind of punishment.

Budget Activity

Although there continues to be a lack of action (or even much discussion) on the 2015–17 Operating Budget, there were three important budget actions this week—which will have at least indirect impacts on the discussion of the two-year Operating Budget. First, the 2015 Supplemental Operating Budget, **HB 1105**, was adopted by the full Legislature. After passing the House on January 29, the bill was somewhat fast-tracked in the Senate. It was heard in the Senate Ways & Means Committee last week, adopted by the Committee on Monday and adopted by the full Senate on Wednesday. Because the Senate made a few changes, it was

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sent back to the House; the full House concurred in the Senate amendments yesterday. The bill now awaits action by the governor, who is expected to quickly sign the bill.

If this 2015 Supplemental Operating Budget is signed by the governor, the 2013–15 Operating Budget (that runs through June 30, 2015) will close the biennium with \$638 million in the Ending Fund Balance (along with another \$510 million in the harder-to-access Budget Stabilization Account). The total additional funding provided in the final budget is \$217.9 million (compared to \$299.2 million in the original House-adopted plan).

As with the House-adopted budget, the final 2015 Supplemental Budget makes no changes—positively or negatively—to the K–12 education portion of the underlying budget. As we have reported previously, however, early adoption of this budget is important to K–12. The budget addresses a series of emergency issues and dealing with them now will allow budget-writers to have a clearer picture of exactly how much revenue is available for the 2015–17 Operating Budget and also allow them to focus on more important issues, including the attempt to comply with *McCleary*.

There is another non-appropriation piece in the budget to note. As we have previously reported, the House-adopted budget would have required the Economic Revenue & Forecast Council (ERFC) to provide an updated Revenue Forecast by February 20 this year, in addition to the currently required March Forecast. Remember, each year the ERFC provides quarterly updates of the state Revenue Forecast; current law requires the Forecast to be updated in March during odd-numbered “long” sessions and in February during even-numbered “short” sessions. As adopted by the Senate, the ERFC will be required to submit an updated Revenue Forecast by February 20 this year; however, they will not be required to submit a second update in March. While this is a temporary change in 2015, Senate budget-writers continue to push for a permanent change with **SB 5064**; the bill was adopted by the Senate with no dissenting votes and awaits action by the House Appropriations Committee.

A quick note on the earlier release of a revenue update: while Senate budget-writers claim an earlier release will jumpstart the budget-writing process earlier, don’t hold your breath waiting for the release of a 2015–17 Operating Budget proposal anytime soon. The ERFC regularly produces a preliminary forecast before the official forecast and, with the exception of the tumultuous time of the so-called “Great Recession,” official forecasts are rarely much different than the preliminary projections. In other words, budget-writers have always had the opportunity to initiate budget talks using preliminary forecast numbers, and then tweak their proposals as necessary to fall in line with the official forecast. The call for an early Revenue Forecast appears to be all for show.

The second important budget action this week centers on the 2015–17 Transportation Budget. Yesterday, Senate Transportation budget-writers—both Republicans and Democrats—**announced** they had reached an agreement on a **transportation funding plan**. The agreement includes a \$15 billion transportation spending package, funded with an incremental 11.7 cent gas tax over three years (5 cents, 4.2 cents and 2.5 cents). The package includes six “megaprojects” and 58 regional projects. The total package includes 11 bills: a bond bill, a revenue bill, a spending bill and eight “reform” bills. Much of the hang-up in transportation budget negotiations in the past two years revolved around the Majority Coalition Caucus push for reforms and the strong opposition of most of those reforms from Senate Democrats. (Sound familiar? The “Reform before Revenue” mantra is not just a K–12 concern.)

We have previously noted that there is usually little connection between K–12 education and the Transportation Budget; however, it is important to educators for several reasons. First, transportation is important to our state’s economy. If our economy is stagnant, the Operating Budget is negatively impacted and, of course, K–12 education is a major part of that budget. Second, there are education-related (albeit fairly minor) issues in the Transportation Budget. The proposal would provide \$3.5 million to the Safe Routes to Schools Grant Program in 2015–17, with a total funding of \$56 million through Fiscal Year 2031. Third, the transportation

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package is extremely large (the governor’s proposal was a \$12 billion package; this new Senate proposal is a \$15 billion package). While K–12 education is the state’s constitutional paramount duty, transportation is another “elephant in the room.” Much of this Legislature’s focus will be on solving the transportation puzzle—and the sooner a resolution is found, the sooner the focus can return to K–12.

There is one additional important issue to watch in the Transportation Budget. Sales tax from construction projects is currently deposited in the General Fund—the main source of funding for schools. There has been a raging debate over the last few years about whether to direct those sales tax proceeds from the General Fund to transportation projects. The published “**balance sheet**” includes a line item called “State Sales Tax Transfers” providing a total of \$945 million in revenue through Fiscal Year 2031; however, it is unclear exactly how that is derived. A series of the proposed reform bills will be up for public hearing in the Senate Transportation Committee next week, including **SB 5990**. The short title of SB 5990 is “Transferring certain state sales and use taxes collected on transportation projects to the connecting Washington account.” Unfortunately, at the time this *TWIO* was being prepared, the actual language of the bill had not yet been released.

The final budget activity to report is the ERFC’s release of the state’s monthly collection report. Major General Fund-State revenue collections for the January 11–February 10, 2015 collection period were \$53.8 million higher than the November forecast. Cumulatively, collections are \$69.0 million higher than forecasted; however, a \$21.0 million refund that was forecasted for this month is now expected to occur in March instead. Because this \$21.0 million refund is still expected to occur, the effective cumulative collections are \$48.0 million higher than forecasted.

Obviously, these numbers are positive and continue to provide signals that the economy is stabilizing. If you put these numbers in context of the overall budget, however, you can better understand that, while the news is positive, it’s no reason to throw a party. Considering the overall budget is around \$34 billion, an increase of \$48.0 million over projections is somewhat less than a drop in the bucket. As noted above, we will see a full Revenue Forecast update by February 20, so soon we will be able to get a clearer picture of just how much revenue the budget-writers have to play with.

Levies and Bonds

On Tuesday, numerous school districts had local funding issues on the ballot. There were, in total: 65 M&O Levies, Bond Authorizations, Capital Projects Levies, or Transportation Vehicle Levies. **Preliminary results** indicate that 85 percent (41 of 43) of M&O Levies were passing; 52 percent (14 of 27) of Bond Authorizations were passing; and 83 percent (10 of 12) of Capital Project Levies were passing. The one Transportation Vehicle Levy on the ballot was failing. Many of the M&O Levies fared very well; however, seven of the issues that were passing received less than 60 percent of the vote. Without the voter’s approval of the simple majority for school district levies those seven successful ballot measures would have failed.

As usual, Bond Authorizations were a tougher sell at the ballot; however, of the 14 issues that were failing, ten of them received over 50 percent of the vote. If bonds were able to be adopted by a simple majority of voters voting, those ten issues would have been approved. As we have discussed previously, there is movement on a constitutional amendment to allow bonds to be adopted by a simple majority. **HJR 4210**, and its necessary implementing legislation **HB 1941**, were introduced last week. As noted earlier, most legislative committees will focus on executive action next week; however, we are pleased that HJR 4210/HB 1941 are among the very short list of bills that will be heard by the House Education Committee next week. It is scheduled to be heard on Monday, February 16, at 1:30 p.m. This is one of the few times we hesitate to encourage you to make the trek to Olympia for testimony. We have been told that the issue will be given only about ten minutes on the agenda. Representative Mia Gregerson (D-SeaTac) has worked with the Chair and arranged for three individuals (one school director,

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one superintendent, and one community member) to testify in addition to herself as sponsor. If you are in Olympia, please drop by the hearing room (House Hearing Room A) and sign up in favor of the issues; however, be aware that you will not be able to testify. Because of the restricted nature of testimony time, Rep. Gregerson has indicated that she plans to ask supporters in the audience to stand, so a physical show of force would be nice.

An important clarification about HJR 4210/HB 1941 is in order. While the issues (if approved by a two-thirds majority of both houses and ratified by the voters) would provide for a simple majority approval of school district bond issues, the language of the bills limits that to ballot propositions on the November General Election only. In other words, if the constitutional amendment was adopted, school district bond authorizations placed on either of the two available special election dates (February or April) or on the August Primary Election would still require a 60 percent supermajority to pass. The prime sponsors of the bills, Rep. Gregerson and Representative Dick Muri (R-Steilacoom), introduced a compromise in order to ensure bi-partisan support and garner sufficient legislative support to quickly move the issue. Unfortunately, while 45 House members signed onto the bills, only one of those co-sponsors is a Republican. It is our understanding that the House Republicans locked down their Caucus and told their members not to support the issue. In the Senate, there is an effort to introduce companion measures with bi-partisan support; however, no bills have yet been dropped. With cut-off fast approaching, it seems unlikely bills will be introduced. And even if they do eventually get introduced, it is extremely unlikely at this late date they would receive a hearing. It took well-over 30 years to successfully advance the simple majority for levies; successfully advancing the simple majority for bonds won't happen overnight.

K–12 levies were the focus of a Senate Ways & Means Committee work session on Wednesday. The hearing (and all hearings) is archived on [TVW](#) and you're encouraged to take a look (it's just under 40 minutes long). It will give you a bit of an insight into the thoughts of some senators regarding K–12 funding and the issue of levies, specifically. The questions and comments from Committee members were interesting. As you can probably guess, there were some pointed questions when the subject of Local Effort Assistance (LEA or levy equalization) came up. There was also a bit of confusion when Committee staff talked about “ghost” money in levy bases. Questions also were raised about the upcoming automatic reduction of levy lids (from the current temporary cap of 28 percent to 24 percent, for non-grandfathered districts). While it did not garner much conversation, the issue of the “levy swap” was raised; under the heading of “recent proposals,” Committee staff mentioned the potential of “increasing the state property tax and making some kind of corresponding reduction to local levy capacity.” Several legislators continue to meet behind-the-scenes to craft some solutions to the education funding conundrum; however, very little has been discussed publicly to date.

Elections

Election issues of interest to schools are once again on the Legislature's plate this year. County Auditors, in an effort to ensure all of the necessary preparatory work for elections is completed in adequate time, have requested legislation to change the deadline for local governments, including school districts, to file ballot resolutions for the February or April special elections. That bill, **HB 1919**, was heard on Thursday in the House State Government Committee. Currently, ballot resolutions for special elections must be filed 45 days before the election; this bill would change that deadline to 60 days. Extending the resolution deadline should assist school districts and other local governments when they have to establish committees to prepare arguments for and against the measure for local voters' pamphlets. One concern about backing up the resolution deadline, however, is that it drastically shortens the gap between the certification of the February election and the filing deadline for the April election. There would only be four days available—if the issue failed, there would not be sufficient time to thoroughly analyze the election results or enough time to consult with the community, especially if any changes to the issue were deemed necessary for the April election. We expressed these concerns to the Auditors and they are working with the bill's

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sponsor and Committee staff to shorten the certification timeline, requiring certification to be conducted ten days following the election. The bill, with the certification amendments attached, is expected to move from Committee next week.

Other Committee Action

Last week, the House Education Committee held a public hearing on **HB 1386**, regarding school employee workforce reductions. The bill would provide for a new performance based framework and procedures for reductions in force due to enrollment decline or revenue loss. The bill would require workforce reduction decisions to be based on evaluation results rather than seniority. On Monday, the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee held a public hearing on a similar bill, **SB 5744**. SB 5744 includes almost identical language regarding employee reductions due to enrollment decline, but includes two parts. The second part of the bill is returning language from the past few sessions requiring principal and teacher “mutual agreement” for staffing assignments. As in the past, this bill provides more clear evidence that many legislators have no understanding of how school districts operate.

Also on Monday, the House Education Committee held a hearing on another returning issue, the definition of “school day.” **HB 1805**, like legislation introduced in previous sessions would prohibit early releases, late arrivals and partial days. Specifically, the bill would declare that a “school day” includes a minimum of six instructional hours. Representatives of the education community almost uniformly testified against the bill, arguing that the reason school districts feel the need to have early releases, late arrivals and partial days is because the Legislature has stripped school districts of any professional development assistance. There is no time during the day for professional development and districts lack funding for professional development outside the school day. In addition to “regular” professional development, providing educators an ongoing opportunity to collaborate has proven to be very successful. Finally, we expressed concerns that the limited definition in the bill makes no exceptions for weather- or other emergency-related early releases or late arrivals. The bill is not yet scheduled for executive action and appears it will not move.

On Tuesday, the House Education Committee held a public hearing on one of the “attack Seattle” bills: **HB 2048**. Last week, the Committee heard **HB 1497**, which would require that two of the Seattle School District’s current seven members be appointed by the mayor. HB 1497 appears to be a “message” bill and has not yet been scheduled for executive action. HB 2048 (a redraft of previously introduced **HB 1860**) is currently on the list for executive action. The bill would require OSPI and the ESDs to convene a workgroup to determine how to split the Seattle School District into two districts. WASA testified in strong opposition to the bill. Our testimony was not really focused on Seattle. Instead, we focused on the dangerous precedent this bill could set: if the Legislature intervenes to force the division of a school district, what would stop them from intervening in other districts and force consolidation? We argued that there is a process in law to dissolve school districts and a process to consolidate districts. That process involves the local school district(s) and the local community and is not directed by a detached Legislature.

On Tuesday, the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee held a public hearing on two bills related to the federal waiver under NCLB. **SB 5748** would require student results from relevant statewide assessments to be used as one of the multiple measures of student growth in teacher performance evaluations. In addition, the current law requirement that evaluation results for teacher and principals be used as one of multiple factors in making human resource and personnel decisions would be delayed from the 2015–16 school year to the 2016–17 school year. Finally, a required report from OSPI on district implementation would be delayed until December 2018.

The second bill, **SB 5749**, was requested by Superintendent Dorn. It would require state-based tools, when relevant, to be included in the student growth data elements that must be used in teacher and principal evaluations, beginning in the 2016–17 school year. Like

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SB 5748, this bill would: delay for one year the current law requirement that evaluation results for teacher and principals be used as one of multiple factors in making human resource and personnel decisions; and delay the required report from OSPI on district implementation until December 2018.

Upcoming Activities

In addition to some of the bills described earlier, there are several other priority issues set for action next week.

- On February 16, the Senate Human Services, Mental Health & Housing Committee will hold a work session on Becca. Following the work session, two Becca-related bills will be heard: **SB 5651** and **SB 5745**. SB 5651 would eliminate detention for truant students found in contempt of a court order. SB 5745 would implement truancy reform recommendations from the Becca Task Force, including the provision of truancy information to parents and school districts' required use of best practices and evidence-based interventions to reduce truant behavior. On February 17, the House Judiciary Committee will also address Becca, hearing **HB 1243**. The bill would provide flexibility in how school districts address truancy in an effort to reduce the administrative and paperwork load for school districts and the court system.
- On February 16, the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee will hold a public hearing on **SB 5803**. The bill modifies requirements enacted in SB 5946 (2013) which requires meetings to be scheduled with a student's parent/guardian if they score a Level I on the third grade ELA assessment. SB 5803 would modify this requirement and require teachers, during spring meetings with parents of students in third grade, to inform parents/guardians of students who are below grade-level in reading, or who are likely to receive a Below Basic score on the third grade ELA assessment, of the intensive reading improvement strategies that will be available to students before fourth grade.
- On February 16, the House Education Committee will hear **HB 2023** regarding the current May 15 staff nonrenewal notice deadline. The bill would stipulate that if the Legislature has not adopted an Operating Budget by the end of the regular legislative session, the current May 15 deadline would move to June 15.

AEA

By Mitch Denning

WASBO continues to do planning to develop strategies to assist legislators in dealing the overall underfunding of K–12 basic education salaries, based on the work that the WASBO/WASA Local Funding Group completed in December 2014. On Wednesday, Senate Ways and Means staff held a work session on a background of K–12 levies. Among the topics discussed was how local school districts are helping pay for these state funded basic education employees. Clearly, it was pointed out that to continue to do so violates the State Constitution. WASBO legislative leaders are working with their OSPI and Senate Ways & Means staff counterparts to determine the details necessary to share complete information, including new estimated state costs, with the caucus leaders. Overall, the awareness of this underfunding issue continues to resonate among lawmakers.

WASBO is also helping spearhead a drive among various K–12 stakeholders to support **HB 1941**, simple majority for bond issues, primed by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D-Mercer Island). Her bill would require a 2/3 vote from each house, and majority approval by the voters. If adopted, it would set the approval rate for school bonds at 50 percent at the November

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election only. All other dates for bond issue passage would require 60 percent. HB 1941 is scheduled for a public hearing on Monday, February 16, in House Education.

WAMOA has completed their individual legislator visits of members from all four caucuses. There is a good support among all four caucuses to separate the Small Repair Grant and the Healthiest Next Generation Grant in the 2015–17 Capital Budget; each grant would be stand-alone initiatives. The Governor has proposed \$5 million in his 2015–17 Capital Budget for both grants. The Legislature implemented the Small Repair Grant program from 2005–13, and over that eight-year period, 178 school districts received grants for urgent repairs to help insure a productive learning environment for students.

Both bills that WSNA has been working on are moving in the House. **HB 1164**, kitchen equipment grants, moved out of House Capital Budget on Tuesday, and is now in House Rules. **SHB 1295**, breakfast after the bell, moved from House Education to House Appropriations. Hopefully SHB 1295 will get a public hearing in House Appropriations, and move to House Rules prior to the February 27 cutoff for fiscal bills.

Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey – The Nexus Group

The beauty of the democratic system is that citizens have access to their political leaders. And often, those leaders listen and respond. This has certainly been the case in addressing the lack of substitute teachers for school districts. But, this only occurs if and when legislators hear from those in their communities. (See remarks below on SB 5148 for an important opportunity to be heard.)

As reported earlier, there have been at least three different approaches to increasing the pool of available substitute teachers.

Proposals range from removing the restrictions prohibiting early retirees from returning as substitute teachers to removing the same restrictions on both classified and certificated employees. The only bill to date that has had a hearing is one that lies somewhere in between:

HB 1737, addressing the availability of retired teachers as substitutes.

(A teacher in Plan 2 or plan 3 that has retired under the ERF factors may be employed with an employer for up to two hundred sixteen hours per school year (27 days) without suspension of his/her benefits.)

Sponsors: Representatives Orcutt, Santos, Magendanz, Bergquist, Ortiz-Self, Kilduff, Kagi, Zeiger, Tarleton, Muri, Condotta, Pollet

This bill had its first public hearing February 11, before the House Appropriations Committee. Numerous persons testified in support of the concept of the bill but not its specific restrictions. Superintendents from McCleary and Olympia pointed out that the 27 day limitation would not serve students well. Other persons testifying indicated the same.

Some members of the committee asked the prime sponsor, Rep. Orcutt, if he would entertain an increase in the number of days. He said he would, but only a minor increase. A fellow Republican suggested 12 weeks as the limit since that was the leave granted under FMLA. No response.

WASA's position continues to favor Senate bill SB 5148:

SB 5148, allowing members who retire early under alternate early retirement provisions as set forth in RCW 41.32.765(3) and 41.32.875(3) to work as substitute teachers and continue receiving retirement benefits at the same time.

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Sponsors: Senators Parlette, Dammeier, Chase, Conway, McAuliffe, O'Ban

This bill directly addresses the need for substitutes with no limit as to the number of days allowed. Should a district and students need a long-term sub, then a district could hire one, instead of a series of short-term subs as would be the case in HB 1737 cited above. This bill stands a solid chance of being passed. Its prime sponsors in the Senate are leading Republicans.

It is scheduled for a public hearing on Monday, February 16, at 3:30 p.m. before the Senate Ways & Means Committee. This is an important time for representatives from the education community to be heard by committee members. You are urged to attend and let them know how important this issue is to your school and students. Please contact Dan Steele if you can attend.

Now, to shift slightly, but still on the topic of substitute availability, late this last week, SB 5941 was introduced:

SB 5941, concerning certification of adjunct faculty as common school substitute teachers.

Sponsors: Senators Rivers, Rolfes, Litzow, Dammeier, Angel

This bill requires the Professional Educator Standards Board to amend or adopt rules that provide for issuance of the certification necessary to serve as substitute teachers, other than emergency substitute certification, to adjunct faculty currently employed in institutions of higher education who meet certain criteria.

This bill, if passed, would help increase the pool of substitute candidates, a good thing.

Clearly, legislators are aware of the need for qualified substitutes. This issue has grabbed their attention because they have heard from their constituents.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Legislative Resources

Committee Meeting Schedule

Legislative Committees Meetings are scheduled to be held at the following times but are subject to change.

Up-to-date meeting schedules and agendas are available on the [State Legislature website](#).

Mondays

1:30–3:25 p.m.

Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education
Senate Hearing Room 1

House Education
House Hearing Room A

3:30–5:30 p.m.

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

Tuesdays

1:30–3:25 p.m.

Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education
Senate Hearing Room 1

House Education
House Hearing Room A

3:30–5:30 p.m.

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

Wednesdays

1:30–3:25 a.m.

Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education
Senate Hearing Room 1

3:30–5:30 p.m.

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

Thursdays

8–9:55 a.m.

Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education
Senate Hearing Room 1

House Education
House Hearing Room A

3:30–5:30 p.m.

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

Useful Links

Washington State Government
<http://www.access.wa.gov>

State Legislature
<http://www.leg.wa.gov>

Senate
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate>

House of Representatives
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/House>

Legislative Committees
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/committeelisting.aspx>

Legislative Schedules
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/calendar.aspx>

Office of the Governor
<http://www.governor.wa.gov>

OSPI
<http://www.k12.wa.us>

TVW
<http://www.tvw.org>

Session Cutoff Calendar

January 12, 2015

First Day of Session.

February 20, 2015

Last day to read in committee reports in house of origin, except House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation committees.

February 27, 2015

Last day to read in committee reports from House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation committees in house of origin.

March 11, 2015

Last day to consider bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).

April 1, 2015

Last day to read in committee reports from opposite house, except House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation committees.

April 7, 2015

Last day to read in opposite house committee reports from House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation committees.

April 15, 2015*

Last day to consider opposite house bills (5 p.m.) (except initiatives and alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session).

April 26, 2015

Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

*After the 94th day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, messages pertaining to amendments, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session may be considered.

Bill Watch

TWIO tracks critical education bills each week as they are introduced. Detailed bill information can be accessed by clicking on the bill number. The following is a list of the bills of highest interest to school administrators. A more comprehensive bill watch list is located on the [WASA website](#).

Bill #	Abbreviated Title	Status	Sponsor
HB 1001	Education, funding first	H Appropriations	MacEwen
HB 1003	Schools, disaster recovery	S Early Learning/K–12	Hawkins
HB 1008	Agency data practices audits	H Gen Government & Info.	Smith
HB 1028	Court security	H Judiciary	Appleton
SHB 1031	College in the high school	H 2nd Reading	Johnson
HB 1036	Domestic partnerships & PERS	H 2nd Reading	Moeller
HB 1050	Annual leave payments	H State Government	Hunt
HB 1051	Supreme court elections	H Judiciary	DeBolt
HB 1058	Lobbyists, electronic filing	H State Government	Moeller
HB 1072	Prevailing wage surveys	H Labor	Manweller
HB 1073	Prevailing rate of wage	H Labor	Manweller
HB 1074	Prevailing wage survey data	H Labor	Manweller
HB 1075	Prevailing wages, paying of	H Labor	Manweller
SHB 1079	Joint utilization contracts	H 2nd Reading	Kochmar
HB 1081	College in the high school	H Education	Sullivan
HB 1086	Public record commercial use	H State Government	Moeller
HB 1087	Traffic safety cameras	H 2nd Reading	Takko
HB 1101	Conservation districts	H Local Government	Wilcox
SHB 1105	Operating Sup Budget 2015	H Passed FP	Hunter
HB 1106	Operating Budget 2015–2017	H Appropriations	Hunter
SHB 1109	OSPI certified employees/TRS	H 2nd Reading	Reykdal
HB 1115	Capital Budget 2015–2017	H Cap Budget	Dunshee
HB 1116	Capital Sup Budget 2015	H Cap Budget	Dunshee
SHB 1120	School bus driver immunity	H Rules R	Wilcox
SHB 1121	Financial education partnership	H 2nd Reading	Parker
HB 1142	Parking fees/H.S. students	H Education	Wilcox
HB 1149	Students/military families	H Education	Muri
HB 1154	Affordable college grant program	H Higher Education	Bergquist

HB 1163	Paid vacation leave	H Labor	Tarleton
HB 1164	Student nutrition/grant program	H CDBP	Riccelli
HB 1166	State gen obligation bonds, accts	H Cap Budget	Dunshee
HB 1168	Retiree return-to-work/PERS	H Rules R	Ormsby
HB 1189	City, district public records	H 2nd Reading	Hunt
HB 1230	Interest arbitration	H Labor	Sells
SHB 1236	College bound scholarship	H Rules R	Ortiz-Self
HB 1239	Tax exemption accountability	H Finance	Pollet
HB 1240	Student restraint, isolation	H Education	Pollet
HB 1242	Educational employee strikes	H Labor	Muri
HB 1243	Truancy of students	H Judiciary	Muri
HB 1254	Prevailing wages/pilot project	H Labor	Manweller
SHB 1273	Family & medical leave insurance	H Appropriations	Robinson
HB 1293	Paraeducators	H Education	Bergquist
SHB 1295	Breakfast after the bell	H Appropriations	Hudgins
HB 1297	Trans Sup Budget 2013–2015	H Transportation	Clibborn
HB 1299	Trans Budget 2015–2017	H Transportation	Clibborn
HB 1300	Transportation revenue	H Transportation	Clibborn
HB 1322	State retirement plans	H 2nd Reading	Reykdal
HB 1331	School library & tech programs	H Education	Muri
HB 1335	Rec. marijuana businesses	H Commerce & Gaming	Condotta
HB 1345	Professional learning	H Education	Lytton
HB 1349	Exempted info/public records	H State Government	Hunt
SHB 1354	Employee anti-retaliation	H Appropriations	Ryu
HB 1355	Minimum hourly wage increase	H Appropriations	Farrell
HB 1356	Sick & safe employment leave	H Appropriations	Jinkins
HB 1363	H.S. certificates/graduation	H Education	Hunt
HB 1379	Feb, April special elections	H State Government	Shea
HB 1385	Revenue growth for education	H Appropriations	Magendanz
HB 1386	School employees/reductions	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1408	Family engagement coordinator	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1413	Rec. marijuana businesses	H Commerce & Gaming	Moscoso
HB 1420	School siting and aid	H Local Government	Wilcox

HB 1433	Firearms in school zones	H Judiciary	Scott
SHB 1436	Homeless youth	H Appropriations	Kagi
HB 1444	Property tax relief	H Finance	Hunt
HB 1445	Computer science/world languages	H Higher Education	Reykdal
HB 1455	Prevailing wage/local governments	H Labor	Pike
HB 1477	Quarterly revenue forecasts	H Finance	MacEwen
HB 1483	Investment income B&O deduct.	H Finance	Pollet
HB 1484	Capital gains excise tax	H Finance	Jinkins
SHB 1491	Early care & education system	H Appropriations	Kagi
HB 1492	Technology literacy	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1495	Student user privacy	H Education	Reykdal
HB 1497	School district's board	H Education	Pettigrew
SHB 1511	Tribal history, culture, etc.	H Rules R	Ortiz-Self
HB 1528	Epinephrine autoinjectors	H Health Care/Wellness	Robinson
HB 1538	Education employee COLAs	H Appropriations	Sells
HB 1541	Educational opportunity gap	H Education	Santos
HB 1542	PERS, TRS, SERS/earlier ages	H Appropriations	Hunt
HB 1546	Dual credit education opportunities	H Education	Reykdal
HB 1562	Allergen info in public schools	H Education	Sullivan
HB 1568	Dropout prevention/farming	H Education	Reykdal
HB 1570	Educator retooling/program	H Education	Gregory
HB 1583	School construction taxes	H Finance	Young
HB 1591	High school and beyond plans	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1592	Tuition waivers/state employees	H Higher Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1614	K-12 employee wages	H Appropriations	Reykdal
HB 1615	Postretirement employment	H Appropriations	Appleton
HB 1616	Beginning teacher salaries	H Appropriations	Riccelli
HB 1633	Housing trust fund projects	H Rules R	Zeiger
HB 1640	School district waivers	H Education	Hargrove
HB 1643	Bill & budget fiscal impact	H Appropriations	Wylie
HB 1661	Capital budget resources	H Appropriations	Pike
HB 1665	School director compensation	H Education	Carlyle
HB 1666	State-wide student assessments	H Education	Magendanz

HB 1682	Homeless students	H Education	Fey
HB 1684	Public records, charges for	H State Government	Takko
HB 1691	Public records act, remedies	H State Government	Van De Wege
HB 1703	High school assessment system	H Education	Santos
HB 1709	Impact fee payment	H Local Government	Springer
HB 1711	Public works contractors	H CBDP	Senn
HB 1714	Achievement index rating system	H Education	Manweller
HB 1737	Retired teachers/substitutes	H Appropriations	Orcutt
HB 1743	High school equivalency tests	H Higher Education	Lytton
HB 1745	Voting rights	H State Government	Moscoco
HB 1750	Sudden cardiac arrest	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1760	Student skills	H Education	Senn
HB 1770	Teacher certification	H Education	Bergquist
HB 1771	Prof. educator standards board	H Education	Gregory
HB 1783	Dual language instruction	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1785	Academic achievement certificate	H Education	Reykdal
HB 1790	Nurse in school setting	H Education	Springer
HB 1795	Learning assistance program	H Education	Sullivan
HB 1804	Educator professional growth	H Education	Springer
HB 1805	“School day” definition	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1813	Computer science education	H Education	MacEwen
HB 1834	Higher education facilities use	H Higher Education	Klippert
HB 1840	Conflict resolution/schools	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1854	Certificated instructional staff	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1855	Local graduation requirements	H Education	Caldier
HB 1860	Large 1st-class school districts	H Education	Santos
HB 1862	School counselors, etc.	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1864	High school graduation	H Education	Kilduff
HB 1865	Visual screening in schools	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1867	Classroom teacher evaluation	H Education	Bergquist
HB 1899	Public education system	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1900	School counselor, etc.	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1902	Spirits retail license tax	H Finance	Harmsworth

HB 1919	Special elections, timing of	H State Government	Hunt
HB 1936	Certificated employee contracts	H Labor	Muri
HB 1937	School employee insurance	H Appropriations	Magendanz
HB 1941	School district bonds/voting	H Education	Gregerson
HB 1947	Students/disability, special need	H Education	Pollet
HB 1950	High school science assessment	H Education	Lytton
HB 1952	School district territory	H Education	Pike
HB 1960	WA cmtly learning center program	H Education	Sullivan
HB 1971	Charter schools	H Education	Fey
HB 1974	School safety, security centers	H Education	Stambaugh
HB 1981	Elementary science education program	H Education	Pollet
HB 1982	Student completion	H Higher Education	Pollet
HB 1983	Teacher financial assistance	H Education	Pollet
HB 1991	Education employee orgs	H Labor	Muri
HB 1992	Capital budget resources	H Appropriations	Stanford
HB 1996	Music education/elementary schools	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1999	Foster youth education outcomes	H Early Learning/Health Svc	Carlyle
HB 2003	Retired or disabled/coverage	H Appropriations	Ormsby
HB 2006	Limited-English parents	H Education	Moscoso
HB 2009	Immunization exemptions./children	H HC/Wellness	Robinson
HB 2019	Teacher and principal evaluation	H Education	Muri
HB 2023	School employee contracts	H Education	Parker
HB 2037	Violence, mental health/K-12	H Education	Klippert
HB 2048	Large 1st-class school districts	H Education	Santos
HB 2083	State retirement system employers	H Appropriations	Hunter
HB 2075	Certification of elections	H State Government	Bergquist
HB 2076	Racial disproportionality	H State Government	Sawyer
HB 2083	State retirement system employers	H Appropriations	Hunter
HB 2100	School-age childcare programs	H Early Learning/Health Svc	Kagi
HB 2117	State board of education	H Education	Pollet
HJR 4204	Initiative measures	H State Government	Kagi
HJR 4206	Tax increase restrictions	H Finance	Orcutt
HJR 4209	Balanced budget	H Cap Budget	Scott

HJR 4210	School district bonds/voting	H Education	Gregerson
SB 5045	Union security provisions	S Ways & Means	Angel
SSB 5063	Revenue growth for education	S Rules 2	Hill
SB 5064	Quarterly revenue forecasts	H Appropriations	Hill
SSB 5065	Homeless students	S EDUDPS	Froctt
SB 5076	Operating Sup Budget 2015	S Ways & Means	Hill
SB 5077	Operating Budget 2015–2017	S Ways & Means	Hill
SSB 5080	Dual credit education options	S Ways & Means	Dammeier
SSB 5081	State government expenditures	H State Government	Miloscia
SSB 5082	Career & tech education/elem. school	S Ways & Means	McAuliffe
ESSB 5083	Sudden cardiac arrest	S Passed 3rd	McAuliffe
SB 5086	Dual credit ed. opportunities	S Early Learning/K–12	Litzow
SSB 5093	Nuclear energy education program	S Ways & Means	Brown
SB 5095	State gen obligation bonds, accts	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5096	Capital Sup Budget 2015	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5097	Capital Budget 2015–2017	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5102	Rural schools/urban services	S Govt. Operations & Security	Padden
SB 5110	School siting outside UGAs	S Govt. Operations & Security	Brown
SB 5120	School district dissolutions	S Rules 2	Parlette
SB 5148	TRS early retire/substitutes	S Ways & Means	Parlette
SB 5160	Native early childcare & education	S Early Learning /K–12	McCoy
SSB 5163	Students/military families	S 2nd Reading	Hobbs
SSB 5179	Paraeducators	S EDUDPS	Hill
SB 5190	Public art and buildings	S Ways & Means	Benton
SSB 5202	Financial education partnership	S Rules 2	Mullet
SB 5211	Retiree return-to-work/PERS	S Rules 2	Bailey
SB 5229	Technology literacy	S Ways & Means	Litzow
SSB 5252	School safety, security centers	S Ways & Means	Dammeier
SB 5285	Minimum hourly wage increase	S Commerce and Labor	Jayapal
SB 5286	Higher education support	S Higher Education	Baumgartner
SB 5291	Epinephrine autoinjectors	S Health Care	Mullet
SSB 5294	School library & tech programs	S 2nd Reading	McAuliffe
SB 5303	Washington AIM program	S Ways & Means	Litzow

SB 5306	Sick & safe employment leave	S Commerce and Labor	Habib
SB 5312	Educator retooling/program	S 2nd Reading	Litzow
SSB 5316	Identifiable student info	S EDUDPS	Dammeier
SB 5327	H.S. certificates/graduation	S Early Learning/K–12	McCoy
SSB 5329	Public employee bargaining	S Rules 2	Braun
SB 5334	Basic education/local levies	S Early Learning/K–12	Mullet
SB 5336	Traffic safety cameras	S Rules 2	Miloscia
SB 5351	Education T.O.	S Early Learning/K–12	Litzow
SB 5352	Education T.O.	S Early Learning/K–12	Litzow
SB 5358	Transportation revenue	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5359	Trans Sup Budget 2013–2015	S Transportation	Hobbs
SB 5360	Trans Budget 2015–2017	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5361	Transportation projects/bonds	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5384	Income to meet basic needs	S Commerce and Labor	Miloscia
SB 5390	Investment pools/state & county	S Govt. Operations & Security	Dansel
SB 5391	Teacher cert. degree programs	S Early Learning/K–12	Litzow
SB 5392	Quality education council	S Rules 2	Litzow
SB 5393	Schools/exemplary performance	S Early Learning/K–12	Litzow
SB 5396	Children/guardians, family	S Rules 2	Roach
SB 5404	Homeless youth	S Human Ser./Mental Health	O’Ban
SB 5415	Prof. educator learning days	S Early Learning/K–12	McAuliffe
SB 5419	Student user privacy	S Early Learning/K–12	Litzow
SSB 5433	Tribal history, culture, etc.	S Rules 2	Litzow
SB 5435	State deferred comp program	S Ways & Means	Bailey
SSB 5437	Breakfast after the bell	S EDUDPS	Litzow
SB 5452	Early care & education system	S Early Learning/K–12	Litzow
SB 5459	Family & medical leave insurance	S Commerce and Labor	Keiser
SB 5469	Education employee COLAs	S Ways & Means	Hasegawa
SB 5473	PERS, TRS, SERS/earlier ages	S Ways & Means	Chase
SB 5478	Education reform/facilities	S Ways & Means	Dammeier
SB 5492	Tax exemption accountability	S Ways & Means	Frocht
SB 5495	Educator professional growth	S Govt. Operations & Security	Litzow
SB 5496	Teacher certification	S EDUDP	Litzow

SB 5497	Prof. educator standards board	S EDUDP	Litzow
SB 5500	Firearms at schools/officers	S Law & Justice	Roach
SB 5506	Sexual health ed./abuse, etc.	S Early Learning/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5517	Sexual harassment prevention	S Early Learning/K-12	Kohl-Welles
SB 5520	High school assessment system	S Early Learning/K-12	Rolfes
SB 5526	Bullying, etc., in schools	S Early Learning/K-12	Lias
SB 5533	Electronic data, charges for	S Govt. Operations & Security	Hobbs
SB 5544	K-12 employee wages	S Early Learning/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5545	Postretirement employment	S Ways & Means	McAuliffe
SB 5546	Beginning teacher salaries	S Early Learning/K-12	Lias
SB 5548	School bus driver immunity	S Early Learning/K-12	Lias
SB 5559	Tuition waivers/state employees	S Rules 2	Billig
SB 5578	Housing trust fund projects	S Rules 2	Dammeier
SB 5602	Bargaining unit reps	S Rules 2	Warnick
SB 5636	GET ready for college program	S Higher Education	Hasegawa
SB 5637	Peer mentoring program	S Higher Education	Hasegawa
SB 5651	Truant students, detention	S Human Ser./Mental Health	Darneille
SB 5657	School day extension/homework	S Early Learning/K-12	Mullet
SB 5667	Bill & budget fiscal impact	S Ways & Means	Hargrove
SB 5668	Voting rights	S Govt. Operations & Security	Habib
SB 5675	Dual language instruction	S Early Learning/K-12	Roach
SB 5676	High school equivalency tests	S Higher Education	Roach
SB 5679	Special education students	S Early Learning/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5681	State lottery accounts	S Ways & Means	Hill
SB 5688	Student skills	S Early Learning/K-12	Litzow
SB 5690	Learning assistance program	S Early Learning/K-12	Dammeier
SB 5699	Capital gains excise tax	S Ways & Means	Nelson
SB 5715	Initiatives, fiscal impact	S Ways & Means	Fain
SB 5718	Public education system	S Early Learning/K-12	Jayapal
SB 5721	Expanded learning opp's council	S Early Learning/K-12	Billig
SB 5724	Safe routes to school program	S Transportation	Billig
SB 5744	School workforce reductions	S Early Learning/K-12	Litzow
SB 5745	Truancy reform	S Human Ser./Mental Health	Hargrove

SB 5748	Teacher and principal evaluation	S Early Learning/K–12	Litzow
SB 5749	Student growth data elements	S Early Learning/K–12	Litzow
SB 5752	Racial disproportionality	S Govt. Operations & Security	Hasegawa
SB 5765	Nurse in school setting	S Early Learning/K–12	Jayapal
SB 5774	Prevailing wage surveys	S Commerce and Labor	Braun
SB 5775	Prevailing rate of wage	S Commerce and Labor	Braun
SB 5787	Limited-English parents	S Early Learning/K–12	Jayapal
SB 5791	Charter schools	S Early Learning/K–12	Darneille
SB 5803	3rd grade English assessment	S Early Learning/K–12	Dammeier
SB 5805	Conflict resolution/schools	S Early Learning/K–12	Rivers
SB 5807	Educator professional development	S Early Learning/K–12	Litzow
SB 5814	WA cmtly learning center program	S Early Learning/K–12	Dammeier
SB 5825	High school science assessment	S Early Learning/K–12	Mullet
SB 5837	School management & performance	S Acct & Reform	Miloscia
SB 5850	Student restraint, isolation	S Early Learning/K–12	Rivers
SB 5851	College bound scholarship	S Higher Education	Frocht
SB 5854	Employee org collective bargaining	S Commerce and Labor	Braun
SB 5856	College bound scholarship	S Early Learning/K–12	Frocht
SB 5859	School construction	S Ways & Means	Pedersen
SB 5890	Education employee salaries	S Early Learning/K–12	Rolfes
SB 5905	Special education services	S Early Learning/K–12	McAuliffe
SB 5907	School technology tax exempt	S Early Learning/K–12	McAuliffe
SB 5908	Student restraint, isolation	S Early Learning/K–12	McAuliffe
SB 5915	Dynamic fiscal impact statements	S Ways & Means	Brown
SB 5922	Highly capable students	S Early Learning/K–12	Rolfes
SB 5927	School construction taxes	S Ways & Means	Sheldon
SB 5928	Education T.O.	S Ways & Means	Dammeier
SB 5930	Music education/elementary schools	S Early Learning/K–12	Chase
SB 5941	Adjuncts/substitute teachers	S Early Learning/K–12	Rivers
SB 5942	National guard youth challenge	S Early Learning/K–12	McAuliffe
SB 5944	State spending programs	S Ways & Means	Hill
SB 5946	Students with disabilities	S Early Learning/K–12	Rivers
SB 5966	HS career and tech courses	S EL/K-12	Rolfes

SB 5967	Eliminating board of education	S EL/K-12	McCoy
SB 5976	School employee insurance	S Ways & Means	Litzow
SB 5978	Presidential primary	S Govt. Operations & Security	Roach
SB 5980	Elected officials retirement	S Ways & Means	Braun
SB 5981	State debt limitations	S Ways & Means	Braun
SB 5982	Retirement age/state systems	S Ways & Means	Braun
SJM 8006	Sexual abuse/children, peers	S EDUDP	Kohl-Welles
SJR 8200	2/3 vote for tax increases	S Govt. Operations & Security	Roach
SJR 8201	Initiative measures	S Ways & Means	Fain
SJR 8202	Income tax	S Ways & Means	Chase
SR 8601	Adopting senate rules	S Adopted	Schoesler

