



TWIO

This Week In Olympia

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About TWIO

This Week in Olympia (TWIO) is published by WASA in support of our members and members of our partners in WASBO, WSPA, and AEA.

TWIO is emailed each Friday during the Legislative Session and archived on WASA's website at <https://wasa-oly.org/WASA/TWIO>.



This Week in Review

The Legislature continued to move at a furious pace in Week Three of this 2022 Legislative Session. Committees continued to have full agendas, although much of the activity is beginning to shift to executive action with less public hearings. And as fast as the Legislature has been moving, things tend to speed up even more as the Legislature's self-imposed cut-off deadlines arrive. Remember, the house of origin policy committee [cut-off date](#) arrives on Thursday, February 3. Bills must be adopted by their original house policy committee (that is, House bills out of House policy committees, and Senate bills out of Senate policy committees) by this deadline to remain alive. Then, action quickly turns to budget issues, as all bills with a fiscal impact must be out of their original house budget committee (that is, House bills out of the House Appropriations, Finance, Capital Budget, or Transportation Committees, and Senate bills out of the Senate Ways & Means or Transportation Committees) by Tuesday, February 7 to remain alive.

Given the limited time to act on bills in a short session, most Committee Chairs tend to only hear bills they intend to move. Occasionally, a bill or two are dropped in the mix to spark conversation or to throw a bone to a legislator; however, when that happens those bills usually hit a dead end fairly quickly. As these cut-off dates arrive, hundreds of bills will fall off the table and the Legislature's real priorities will become more into focus.

Legislators also spent time in their respective Chambers (mostly remotely) as the two Rules Committees continue to receive bills being moved from policy and/or fiscal committees. Remember also that both Rules Committees already had a stack of leftover bills from last session.

Long-Term Care Insurance.

One high profile bill that has already passed both houses is [HB 1732](#), addressing the Long-Term Care program, known as Washington Cares. As we have discussed before, legislative leaders and the governor came into the session committed to addressing this issue, and with payroll deductions required to begin on January 1, 2022, there was some urgency in addressing the issue quickly. Legislators introduced HB 1732 to delay the implementation of Washington Cares for 18 months (July 2023) and fast-tracked the bills through the process.

In recent years, legislators have been accused of a lack of transparency as they used procedural maneuvers to side-step timelines, public hearings, and other rules to quickly move priority legislation. This year, legislative leaders were careful to not circumvent the process while they shepherded HB 1732 swiftly through process.

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Following all applicable rules, the bill was heard and adopted by the House Appropriations Committee during the first week of session. Last week, the full House debated and adopted the bill. This week, the bill was heard in the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Monday, adopted by the Committee on Tuesday, and quickly moved to debate and adoption by the full Senate on Wednesday. The governor signed the bill this morning.

With the bill signed into law, employer questions (including from school districts) about collecting premium assessments (should they or shouldn't they?) are now answered. The date for beginning the collection of premium assessments for Washington Cares is delayed by 18 months from January 1, 2022, until July 1, 2023. For school districts and ESDs that have already begun payroll deductions, it is important to know the new law clarifies that employers must refund those premiums to employees within 120 days of the collection.

Voter's Pamphlets.

With a round of school levy elections coming on February 8, there has been a lot of discussion (and consternation) in local districts regarding local voter's pamphlets and the "new" requirement that any local jurisdiction (including school districts) that have a measure on the election ballot must formally appoint a committee to prepare arguments supporting the measure and a committee to prepare arguments opposing the measure. First, it is important to note that this "new" requirement was adopted by the Legislature in 1984. Most school administrators and school directors, however, were unaware of this long-standing requirement because the requirement only kicked in if counties published voter's pamphlets for special elections. Most counties chose not to prepare local voter's pamphlet (or were not asked to publish one by local jurisdictions), so most school districts did not need to appoint For or Against committees to draft statements.

This all changed with legislation adopted in 2020 ([HB 2421](#)) which required ALL counties in ALL elections to prepare a local voter's pamphlet. Because of this new law, the previously "hidden" requirement that local jurisdictions must appoint committees to prepare arguments supporting and opposing election measures was laid bare. As HB 2421 was moving through the Legislature, WASA and local governments (including Counties, Cities, Fire Districts, Public Utilities Districts, and others), opposed the legislation, but were unsuccessful. Since adoption of the bill, WASA and WSSDA (and our bond counsel friends) have been working with legislators, as well as County Auditors, in an effort to either eliminate the requirement to appoint For/Against committees or find a more palatable solution. We continue to negotiate with the County Auditors; however, at the same time, we are having incremental success with legislators.

While legislators are reticent to strike the ballot measure committees entirely, they are taking steps to provide school districts (and other local governments) with assistance. Earlier this week, the full House adopted [HB 1453](#), addressing local voter's pamphlets. The focus of the bill is the standardization of state and local voter's pamphlets, including content-based restrictions for candidates and candidate statements. Regarding the For/Against committee process, the bill makes two important changes. First, if the local governing body (school boards in the case of school districts) fails to appoint committees supporting or opposing a ballot measure, the County Auditor is required to issue a media release and publish information on the election website. The Auditor then must appoint people on a first-come, first-served basis if they contact the Auditor by the appropriate deadline. If no statement is produced, the Auditor is required to include a statement to that effect in the pamphlet.

Second, when making appointments to For/Against committees—whether by the local governing body or by the County Auditor—those appointed must reside within the jurisdictional boundaries. This is important because in year's past there have been several cases where statewide organizations (which regularly oppose school ballot measures) "volunteer" with County Auditors to write the "con" statement

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if committee members are not appointed. In some counties, these organizations have a standing request to be contacted if Against committees are not appointed.

HB 1453 is a positive first step, but with or without adoption of this bill, we will continue to work with County Auditors to seek solutions that are amenable to both school districts and the Auditors.

Prejudgment Interest.

We addressed this issue last week, following the Senate’s adoption of [SB 5155](#); however, this issue is important enough it warrants additional discussion. In short, under current law, if public agencies (including school districts), individuals, or entities are sued for tortious conduct and lose, interest on judgments begin to run on the date a judgment is entered.

SB 5155, introduced last year, would alter this current practice. The bill would have interest on judgements against public agencies (including school districts), individuals, or entities begin to run from the date on which the cause of action accrues. If this bill was to pass, interest would begin accruing at the time the event is believed to have first occurred, which would mean that interest on a claim would begin to accrue before a public agency became aware of the claim and long before any investigation into the validity of the claim.

Positively, before the bill moved from the Senate, “public entities” (including school districts) were amended out of the bill (in other words, if the bill passed as currently written, current law [that is, “post-judgment” interest] would prevail). We are not out of the woods, yet, however. Sponsors, supporters, and the Trial Lawyers Association (which requested the bill and counts this as their highest 2022 priority) are on a full court press and working on House members to get the amendment stripped. On our side, WASA and WSSDA, alongside the Washington School Risk Management Pool (WSRMP) and Clear Risk—plus our school district lobbyist colleagues—are working to get the bill stalled or at the very least maintain the current, amended language.

This is one of those issues that would be worthy to connect with legislators—especially if they sit on the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee. The bill has not yet been scheduled; however, there is apparent interest in the Committee, as they already heard a companion bill, [HB 1754](#).

For additional information, please check out some useful [Talking Points](#), along with [testimony provided by WSRMP](#).

Pupil Transportation Contracts.

A returning bill from last year (and actually an issue that has surfaced the last several years) is [SB 5326](#), regarding contracts with private Pupil Transportation companies. The bill would prohibit school districts from entering into contracts for private pupil transportation services unless employees are provided with health and pension benefits equivalent to school district employees. This issue has made incremental progress, but has not been able to get over the hump to be adopted. Last year, the bill made it out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee, but died in the Senate Rules Committee. Like SB 5155 above, this is one of those bills that was automatically reintroduced on the first day of session, which provides a shortcut to passage, as it starts its legislative journey this year in the Senate Rules Committee, avoiding a trip through a Senate policy or fiscal committee. Last week, the Senate Rules Committee added it to the Senate Floor Calendar, so it is ready to spring at any time.

For those of you who have not been following the issue, the concerns are simple. First, a private transportation company already can provide additional health and/or retirement benefits to their employees. They choose not to because, they are expensive, they are not required to do so, and they probably do not need to in order to hire their employees. If this bill were to pass, that is great for those employees,

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but it is almost guaranteed the companies would not eat the increased costs—they would simply pass them off to districts. We are also concerned about the “slippery slope” issue. Even if your district does not contract for pupil transportation, there is a huge concern the Legislature won’t stop with bus services. Which contractors or vendors would be next? Food services? Special Education? Legislators have dismissed this argument, saying that all legislation is debated on its merits and there will be no slippery slope. Of course, when legislators open a door, they can certainly close it right back up; however, if the unions see this bill passed, legislators (especially if Democrats remain in charge) will be hard-pressed to keep the door closed when the next union comes knocking.

Certainly, school administrators want employees to have good benefits and good retirement plans. If the Legislature thinks this is a good policy, however, they should pay for it. Adoption of this bill would turn into an untenable unfunded mandate.

Finally, if the Legislature wants to adopt this bill, NOW is the worst time to do it. Pupil transportation is already in chaos due to the pandemic.

A striking amendment sits on the bar with SB 5326. The sponsor of the bill, Senator June Robinson (D-Everett) introduced this striking amendment in an effort to appease opponents and believes the new bill addresses school district concerns. Positively, there is a provision that states a school district that experiences cost increases as a result of this bill “is eligible for supplemental transportation allocations.” Striker language introduced last year stated districts “MAY” be eligible, so the new language is more concrete than previously. We appreciate the sponsor’s attempts to work with us; however, we still aren’t there, yet.

Other Issues.

Priorities. The legislative process is cumbersome—intentionally so. Adopting laws that impact everyone’s lives shouldn’t be easy. In the current remote or virtual mode, the process is even more difficult to navigate. Successfully adopting legislation in this environment requires focus. This is true during any session, but even more so in a fast-paced, 60-day short session.

Given the number of issues of importance this year, you would expect legislators to prioritize and remain keenly focused. K–12 education has a bucket full of crucial issues—and beyond K–12, there are hundreds of other issues legislators must deal with. (Just look through the governor’s nearly 700-page budget proposal to get a feel for the overwhelming number of issues being addressed.)

With a short amount of time and an overwhelming list of “to dos,” again, you would expect legislators to be more concerned about prioritizing their time. Legislators worked hard the first three weeks of session to address the Long-Term Care mess. They prioritized the issue and got it done. But for every “Good Job” sticker they get for those kinds of efforts, there are some real question marks. Let’s talk about three examples that are kind of mind-boggling when you look at the list of critical issues that need to be addressed.

Two examples have made it to their respective Floor Calendars, ready to be moved at any time. The first is [SB 5615](#). This vital bill would make Pickleball Washington’s official state sport. Let’s be honest, pickleball is a fun game and easy to learn (if you’ve never played, check it out). But how much time and energy is this taking when school districts are facing staffing shortages so drastic that some schools have been forced to close on occasion?

The second is [HB 1067](#). This critical bill would establish the *Suciasaurus rex* as Washington’s state dinosaur. It is so important that this bill has been introduced at least the last four years. The bill was requested by students at Franklin Pierce’s Elmhurst Elementary School, so this is a good civics lesson. Perhaps those students would benefit more, however, if the district and school had appropriate state funding to hire a school nurse, a school counselor, and other important support staff.

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The third example, [SB 5512](#), is a step ahead of these other bills, as it has already passed its original house. This all-important bill would designate “The Evergreen State” as Washington’s official state nickname. Um, OK. Previous Legislatures have not taken the time to officially designate an “official” state nickname; however, who doesn’t recognize “The Evergreen State” as Washington’s “un-official” nickname? Just Google it (go ahead, I’ll wait). The first entry?

Why Is Washington Called the Evergreen State?

Washington is called the Evergreen State for its physical geography and climate, which supports the growth of deep green forests of pine and fir trees. The origins of *Washington’s state nickname* can be traced to the late 19th century when the state first became an official part of the United States [emphasis added].

Maybe it is important to reiterate in state law something most people (in and out of Washington) already recognize, but shouldn’t legislators be more concerned with school districts facing enrollment declines and/or budget difficulties?

It is frustrating to see legislators neglect the state’s only constitutional paramount duty, K–12 education, and spend their time and energy on issues that may be fun and interesting to discuss but have no real impact on the lives of Washingtonians—or its students. I hesitate to say these issues are frivolous, but it is hard to come up with a better word.

Education Priorities Update

With the speed of the session continuing to ramp up, let’s take a break to review some of our key bills, their progress, and their current status.

Staffing Allocations.

There are three bills on the table:

- [SB 5595](#) is the governor’s request bill to enhance staffing ratios in the Prototypical School Funding Model for a new category called “Physical, Social, and Emotional Support Staff.” The following positions are included in the new grouping: school nurses, social workers, psychologists, guidance counselors, classified staff providing student and staff safety, and parent involvement coordinators. School districts may use allocations provided for staff in this grouping only for salaries and benefits for staff employed in these positions. There is flexibility within the grouping, but not outside of the grouping. For example, a district can use nurse funding for school counselors, but the district would be prohibited from using nurse allocations for office support or custodians. This compromise position—between ultimate flexibility in the Model and no flexibility with specific, legislatively defined spending mandates—aligns with recommendations made by the [Staffing Enrichment Workgroup](#) (2019). This compromise is also supported by the [School Funding Coalition](#).

SB 5595 was heard in and adopted by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee. Prior to adoption two changes were made. First, “guidance counselors” were renamed “school counselors,” with a clarification that school counselors address “academic, career development, and social and emotional needs.” The original language described “guidance counselors” as staff that perform functions that include “parent outreach and graduation advising.”

Second, the amended language specifically allows school districts to use allocations provided for Physical, Social, and Emotional Support Staff for salaries and benefits of those contracted to serve as Physical, Social, and Emotional Support Staff.

SB 5595 has been referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee. It is scheduled to be heard Monday, January 31, 4:00 p.m.

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- [HB 1985](#) is an identical companion to SB 5595. It has not been heard or otherwise acted upon.
- [HB 1664](#) would implement Superintendent Reykdal’s proposal to enhance staffing allocations. Specifically, it would provide full funding (over three years) only for school nurses; however, a policy revision would allow school districts to use those funds for other staff within a new category in the Prototypical School Funding Model called “Physical, Social, and Emotional Support Staff.” The positions included are identical to the positions described in the original SB 5595: school nurses, social workers, psychologists, guidance counselors, classified staff providing student and staff safety, and parent involvement coordinators.

HB 1664 was heard in and adopted by the House Education Committee. Prior to adoption a Proposed Substitute was introduced. The Substitute bill essentially mirrors SB 5595. Rather than funding only nurses, minimum allocations are increased for nurses, social workers, psychologists, and counselors within the Prototypical School Funding Model. Minimum staffing is addressed slightly differently in HB 1664. The amended bill specifies the OSPI “may only allocate funding, up to the combined minimum allocations, for nurses, social workers, psychologists, counselors, classified staff providing student and staff safety, and parent involvement coordinators to the extent of and proportionate to a school district’s demonstrated actual staff to student ratios for ratios of: full-time equivalent physical, social, and emotional support staff to full-time equivalent students.” Essentially, you must staff to the level funded or you don’t receive the funding. By providing flexibility within the “Physical, Social, and Emotional Support Staff” box, however, this shouldn’t be much of a problem. The amended bill specifically defines “Physical, Social, and Emotional Support Staff” to include nurses, social workers, psychologists, counselors, classified staff providing student and staff safety, parent involvement coordinators, and other school district employees and contractors who provide physical, social, and emotional support to students as defined by the Superintendent. This is somewhat different than SB 5595, but is substantially similar.

Unlike SB 5595, the amended HB 1664 directs OSPI to adopt rules that require school districts to prioritize funding allocated for Physical, Social, and Emotional Support Staff who hold a valid Educational Staff Associate certificate appropriate for the provider’s role. The language does not require ESAs to be hired; however, new rules will require school districts to “prioritize” the hiring of ESAs. Until rules are in place, it is unclear how compliance would be addressed. An additional issue not addressed by SB 5595 is an accountability mechanism. HB 1664 would require OSPI to submit to the Legislature four biennial reports analyzing the implementation of the bill’s allocation provisions, including comparing allocated staffing units to actual staffing levels, trends related to employed staff and contracted staff, and the percentage of staff with a valid Educational Staff Associate certificate.

The Committee also adopted one amendment to the Substitute. The amendment requires each public school to have at least one school nurse and one counselor on site, dedicated to serving the students of that public school. While this may make sense philosophically, it does not make sense practically—especially for our smaller school districts. Even with increased allocations, some school districts will not receive enough funds to buy one nurse and one counselor. We are working with sponsors to either soften or eliminate this amendment.

HB 1664 was referred to the House Appropriations Committee and is scheduled to be heard Tuesday, February 1, 3:30 p.m.

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Enrollment Stabilization.

There are two bills addressing enrollment stabilization:

[SB 5563](#), and its companion [HB 1590](#), are similar to legislation introduced last year and ultimately funded in the final budget. There are two parts to these bills:

- Part I: the legislation would provide enrollment stabilization funding in the 2021–22 School Year if a school district’s combined state revenue generated in the 2021–22 School Year is less than what its combined state revenue would be using 2019–20 enrollment amounts. (NOTE: Not all school districts have declining enrollment this year; if your district’s 2021–22 funding is MORE than provided in 2019–20, these provisions will not reduce your funding.)
- Part II: the legislation would provide for a stable calculation of levy lids and Local Effort Assistance (LEA or “levy equalization”). If adopted, the legislation would allow the use of 2019–20 enrollment values to calculate levy limits in the 2023 and 2024 Calendar Years and to calculate Local Effort Assistance in the 2022 and 2023 Calendar Years.

It is important to note that the enrollment stabilization provisions (Part I) in these bills will eventually be stripped out and the discussion will shift to proviso language in the Supplemental Operating Budget. The reason there is legislation on the table now is to provide school administrators (and other supporters) specific, tangible language to support. For many, asking legislators to support a specific bill (SB 5563/ HB 1590) is easier than trying to describe support for a budget proviso. The hope, however, is that one of the two bills will survive with the levy/ LEA provisions, because they require a statutory change that can only be made through adoption of a bill, not as a budget proviso.

If you were watching last year, this was the strategy with [ESHB 1476](#). The bill was introduced with specific enrollment stabilization language and levy/LEA provisions. The enrollment stabilization language was ultimately stripped out and included (and funded) in the budget, while the slimmed down bill was adopted to secure school district levy capacity.

SB 5563 was heard in and adopted by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee and has been referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee. It is scheduled to be heard Monday, January 31, 4:00 p.m.

HB 1590 is in the House Appropriations Committee and has not been heard or otherwise acted upon. Efforts continue to get a public hearing to ensure legislators understand the issue and what we are seeking. Even though Part I (enrollment stabilization) of the bill is set to be removed, we need specific action on Part II (levy/LEA stabilization). When SB 5563 lands in the House, we will be approaching “budget season,” so we may just have to rely on action on the Senate bill; however, it would be beneficial to get the message across to House budget leads before they start to shift their thinking towards budget-writing. Once they move behind-closed-doors, decisions become solidified and it becomes difficult to get them to move.

Seeking enrollment stabilization funds is a difficult ask. We continue to remind legislators, however, that the funding we are requesting is not “new” money. We are asking the Legislature to maintain the funding they already approved in the 2021–23 Operating Budget for the 2021–22 school year. Some districts’ enrollment has stabilized (and a few districts are seeing increased enrollment), but for a district that has declining enrollment, losing current funding could be devastating. State caseload predictions showed that enrollment would bounce back this year—but those predictions were wrong. School districts hired staff relying on those caseload counts and based on the dollars committed by the 2021 Legislature. If anticipated apportionment is cut mid-year, districts will not be able to cut staff who are contracted until the end of the year. Current programs then will likely have to be trimmed back—at the exact time our students and schools who are dealing with an ongoing pandemic need even more support.

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Many of those districts that have stable or increasing enrollment may have other budget issues. No legislation has been introduced, yet (and likely won't be), but conversations have begun regarding the provision of additional stabilization funding (call it "budget stabilization" rather than "enrollment stabilization"). You might recall, in addition to enrollment stabilization funding, the 2021–23 Operating Budget provided "school funding stabilization" for districts that had low or no Title I funding and as a result were shutout from federal ESSER funds. The state provided funding to ensure all school districts received at least \$500 per pupil. Details are not solidified, but it appears there will be an effort to provide similar (or more) support in the 2022 Supplemental Operating Budget to shore up all districts.

Pupil Transportation.

There are two bills on the table:

[SB 5581](#) and [HB 1808](#) are not companion bills; however, they are substantially similar.

Under the current Pupil Transportation funding model (STARS), many districts experience significant funding gaps, receiving state allocations well-below their actual costs. The Office of Financial Management (OFM) recently conducted an analysis of Pupil Transportation and found the current STARS model will not provide adequate resources to school districts. OFM recommended, at the very least, that more funding be provided to the system. Providing additional resources might be a shortterm fix; however, the funding formula desperately needs to be revised.

SB 5581 and HB 1808 are intended to make the pupil transportation system more transparent, predictable, and funded appropriately. The bills are crafted as a two-step process. The first step is to reimburse school districts for the actual costs of transporting: special education students; homeless students (under the federal McKinney-Vento Act); and foster care students. School districts would be required to submit data regarding actual costs and miles of these three categories of students. Using this data, OSPI would be required to reimburse 100 percent of school district costs for transporting these students.

The second step, hopefully to begin in the 2023 Legislature is to update the base formula.

Both bills would also require OSPI to provide an analysis of school district transportation costs and allocations by January 1, 2025 to assist the Legislature as they continue to revise the pupil transportation model.

SB 5581 was heard in and adopted by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee. It has been referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee. It is scheduled to be heard Monday, January 31, 4:00 p.m.

HB 1808 was heard in and adopted by the House Appropriations Committee. It awaits action by the full House in the House Rules Committee.

Workforce Shortage Relief.

Many school districts are dealing with severe staffing shortages, sometimes impacting the ability to open schools. One possible support would be [HB 1699](#). Under current law, public retirees are allowed to work up to 867 hours per year without negatively impacting their pension benefits. This bill would temporarily (through July 1, 2025) allow public retirees to work for a school district for up to 1,040 hours per school year before pension benefits are impacted.

The bill is intended to provide some relief to districts as staffing shortages continue. It certainly will not solve the problem, but it can be one of many tools available to provide relief. As drafted, HB 1699 limits its provisions to nonadministrative positions. There continues to be discussion about including BUILDING administrators (but not DISTRICT administrators); however, thus far there has been no effort to amend the bill.

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HB 1699 was heard in and adopted by the House Appropriations Committee. Prior to adoption, the bill was amended. The first amendment was a technical fix to ensure members in the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) Plan 1 are included in the bill, along with members in TRS Plans 2 & 3; the School Employees' Retirement System (SERS) Plans 1, 2 & 3; and the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) Plans 1, 2 & 3.

The second amendment added an emergency clause to the bill, which would make its provisions effective immediately upon the governor's signature.

HB 1699 is in the House Rules Committee, awaiting action by the full House.

YOUR ENGAGEMENT.

Each of these priority issues have some movement—and momentum. We can only maintain this positive momentum, however, if we have your assistance. If you have been waiting for a time to engage in the process, TODAY is a great time to do so. Contact your legislators about any or all of these issues. A very painless and easy way to jump in, is to sign up to support any of these bills—you don't even have to testify (unless you want to). Simply sign in as "Pro" to get our numbers up. (Links are below, which include complete instructions. If you need assistance, reach out.)

Senate Ways & Means is tackling several of these issues this coming Monday: **SB 5595** (staffing allocations); **SB 5563** (enrollment stabilization); and **SB 5581** (pupil transportation). At the same hearing, [SB 5933](#) to establish a school seismic safety grant program is up. And a bill of concern we have discussed previously is [SB 5487](#), Sen. Hawkins' voluntary consolidation incentives bill.

On Tuesday, House Appropriations is hearing **HB 1664** (staffing allocations).

Don't wait for someone else speak for you! Here are the links to sign in: [SENATE](#) and [HOUSE](#)

Budget Update

Prior to reviewing Governor Inslee's 2022 Supplemental Operating Budget proposal, the December 17 [Special Edition of TWIO](#) provided a state budget update. A month prior to the budget release, the [Economic & Revenue Forecast Council](#) (ERFC) had projected the state's Ending Fund Balance to be over \$6.0 billion in 2022, growing to \$8.7 billion in the 2023–25 biennium—not including a projected \$1.2 billion in the Budget Stabilization Account (BSA), an additional \$1.0 billion in the Washington Rescue Plan Transition Account, created last session, or \$1.3 billion in remaining federal relief funds.

Since the [November forecast](#), monthly revenue collection reports continue to show overall revenues well-above forecast and projected Maintenance Level (cost of continuing current levels of service, adjusted by enrollment and inflation) savings is approximately \$2.3 billion over four years (\$1.1 billion in 2021–23 and \$1.2 billion in 2023–25).

Do all the math and the projected Ending Fund Balance in the remainder of the current biennium is \$6.7 billion—plus \$600 million in the Rainy Day Account (BSA), \$1.0 billion in the Washington Rescue Plan Transition Account, and \$1.3 billion in federal relief funds. The Legislature is required to have a balanced budget over four years, so it's important to look beyond this biennium. The projected Ending Fund Balance in 2023–25 is more than \$11.0 billion—plus \$1.2 billion in the BSA, \$1.0 billion in the Washington Rescue Plan Transition Account, and \$1.3 billion in federal relief funds.

All these budget estimates are exclusive of the governor's proposed policy changes; however, if you include his requested spending of \$4.2 billion (less \$1.1 billion in Maintenance Level savings, for a net increase of \$3.0 billion), you can see that his larger-than-normal request is still well-below the total revenues available. It's anyone's guess if the Legislature will get spend-happy and go beyond the

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governor’s request or if they’ll go conservative and spend less. Either way, the governor’s plan provides a look at how much revenue is “left-over” even with a \$4.2 billion policy package.

We know we can’t expect K–12 education to get a major windfall; however, the budget is so healthy right now (and projected to be in the out years) that you have to feel a little bit positive about our chances of bringing home at least pieces of our major priorities. We have waited over ten years for the Legislature to even have a real conversation about updating the staffing ratios in the Prototypical School Funding Model. Even in 2020, following the requirement that OSPI create the Staffing Enrichment Workgroup (2019) to provide recommendations for phasing in enhanced values, the issue fell flat. A bill was introduced to implement the recommendations, but it received a short, perfunctory hearing in the Senate and quickly died unceremoniously.

Following the Decision Package that included nurses coming from Superintendent Reykdal and an even bigger staffing allocation ask from Governor Inslee, we finally have, not only a platform to discuss the issue, but actually some momentum. There is every reason to believe if school administrators continue to press the issue and “tell your stories,” we will ultimately leave the session with a positive outcome on staffing allocations. (And maybe enrollment stabilization. And maybe movement on pupil transportation. It’s hard not to be greedy.)

That’s the “hope for the best.” The “expect the worst” is another rejection on staffing allocation updates. And realistically, you have to believe that if the Legislature balks at this issue in 2022, we have little hope that they will ever live up to their commitment. Honestly, if the Legislature declines our ask (which is only the first step of a multi-step request) when the state has perhaps the biggest surplus—both percentage of the budget and actual dollars—ever, when will they come through?

A final note about the budget. The first quarterly revenue forecast is scheduled to be released on February 16. If tradition holds, we should see the first legislative budget proposal shortly after. This biennium, it is the Senate’s turn to release the first budget (the houses alternate as the body to initiate the process each biennium); however, it is unclear what will happen this year. In 2021, the Senate and House released Transportation Budgets at the same time; the House jumped in front of the Senate in releasing a Capital Construction Budget; and the Senate’s Operating Budget was released first—although the House released its Operating Budget the same day a few hours after the Senate release.

Regardless of which body starts the process, we should start seeing budgets mid-February. And we’ll see pretty quickly whether the scales lean toward “hope for the best,” or “expect the worst.”

AEA

By Mitch Denning

On Tuesday, Doug Vanderleest, Director, Maintenance and Operations, Franklin Pierce SD, and I met virtually with 27 members or their LA’s of the House Capital Budget Committee and the Senate Ways & Means Committee to discuss WAMOA’s 2022 Legislative Priorities. The priorities include, (1) adequate funding for the lead in school water remediation projects as required by [SHB 1139](#) (2021); (2) funding of the [HB 1781/SB 5651](#), **Governor’s 2022–23 Supplemental Capital Budget**, including West Sound Technical Skill Center in Bremerton SD (\$50.3 million), the building of a new Almira Elementary School in Lincoln County through the Distressed Schools Program (\$11.3 million), and the continuation of the School Seismic Safety Retrofit Program (\$8.6 million); (3) supporting [HB 1775](#), **capital financial assistance for small districts with funding challenges**; and (4) supporting [HB 1226/HJR 4200](#), **simple majority for bonds**.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 3, January 24–28, 2022

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The meetings were quite successful, and with 18 representatives and senators requesting WAMOA-facilitated school visits during the interim.

On Thursday, 14 WSNA school nutrition directors, Donna Parsons, WSNA's Public Policy and Legislative chair, and I met with 22 legislative champions or their LA's in all four caucuses to discuss WSNA's 2022 Legislative Priorities. The directors were primarily constituents, and their testimony resonated with their members. WSNA's priorities include supporting, (1) the emergency food cost reimbursement (\$7 million) in [HB 1816/SB 5693](#), **Governor's 2022–23 Supplemental Capital Budget**; (2) [HB 1833](#), **electronic free/reduced meal applications**; and (3) [HB 1878/SB 5798](#), **increasing public school participation in the USDA Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)**.

Both House bills, **HB 1833** and **HB 1878**, passed out of the House Education Committee yesterday. HB 1833 now goes to the House Rules Committee, and **HB 1878** to the House Appropriations Committee. **SB 5798** is scheduled to move out of the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Committee this morning.

One of WSNA's talking points on HB 1878/SB 5798 yesterday dealt with how qualifying school district nutrition programs that are mandated to join CEP would remain financially whole as their federal meal reimbursements would be decreased by joining CEP. We explained that the bill's fiscal note indicates that the cost of OSPI staffing would be \$166,700 during FY 2022 and \$282,000 in the 2023–25 biennium. The note further estimates that OSPI's total annual allocation to the new CEP schools would be \$21.5 million, beginning in SY 2023–24. The note further states that some districts may have difficulty in applying for CEP in SY 2022–23 and being accepted in CEP by USDA's June 30, 2022, deadline. The bill includes a null and void clause. We will speak to this fiscal impact when public hearings in the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Ways & Means Committee are scheduled.

Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey – The Nexus Group

Health, Pension, and Other Benefit Issues

“Goals are dreams with deadlines.”

Unknown

“Deadlines just aren't real to me until I'm staring one in the face.”

— Rick Riordan, *The Lightning Thief*

The first major deadlines of this short session are February 3 for policy bills and February 7 for fiscal bills with the ultimate deadline for bills to make it out of their houses of origin being February 15.

As before, below is a brief report on selected bills that appear to have some support for advancing. Although any bill from the last or current session can always reappear. (See SSB 5326 below).

Retirement Related Proposals

[HB 1699](#): Permitting individuals retired from the Public Employees' Retirement System, the Teachers' Retirement System, and the School Employees' Retirement System additional opportunities to work for a school district for up to 1,040 hours per school year while in receipt of pension benefits until July 1, 2025.

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****Comment:* This bill passed committee and is now before the Rules Committee awaiting action. Two amendments were passed; one dealt with insuring that it applied to Plan 1 members; the other, was an addition of an emergency clause. With the addition of the emergency clause, if and when it passes both houses and the Governor signs, it will be in immediate effect. Swift passage of this is essential if it is going to help the current school year.

HB 1721/SB 5676: Providing a benefit increase to certain retirees of the Public Employees' Retirement System Plan 1 and the Teachers' Retirement System Plan 1.

Summary: This bill would provide a three percent increase not to exceed \$110/month for TRS1/PERS1 Plan retirees. The governor included this one-time increase in his released supplemental budget.

HB 1721: The Rules Committee was relieved of further consideration and the bill was placed on the floor calendar for second reading. SB 5676 is in the Senate Rules Committee awaiting action.

Comment: Passage of either bills seems certain. The question becomes, "Which bill will be the one that passes which chamber?" The answer often comes down to egos. Who wants credit? And sadly, this battle can end up killing the bill as time runs out.

SB 5676/HB 1721: Providing a benefit increase to certain retirees of the Public Employees' Retirement System Plan 1 and the Teachers' Retirement System Plan 1.

Summary: See HB 1721 above.

HB 1752: Adding a Roth option to deferred compensation plans.

Comment: The Rules Committee relieved it of further consideration. It has been placed on second reading/floor calendar awaiting action.

Potential Fiscal (\$\$) Impact (Often, Unfunded) to Districts

HB 1486: Concerning qualifications for unemployment insurance when an individual voluntarily leaves work.

Comment: This bill expands eligibility to receive unemployment insurance benefits to those who voluntarily quit their jobs. Under current law, there are a limited number of circumstances when an employee can receive UI benefits after voluntarily leaving their job. Under the bill, a person would be eligible for UI benefits if they leave a job due to a family member's death or need to care for a child or adult.

The Rules Committee was relieved of further consideration and this bill was moved to the floor calendar awaiting action.

HB 1613: Concerning shared reporting responsibilities for both the paid family and medical leave and the long-term services and supports trust programs to clarify that information collected from employer reports shall remain private.

Comment: This bill is in House Rules Committee.

HB 1617: Aligning state and school holidays. The Legislature intends to clarify that Juneteenth, like all other state legal holidays, is a school holiday on which school may not be taught.

Comment: This bill passed committee and is before the Rules Committee awaiting a move to the floor calendar.

HB 1732: This bill delays the start date for the premium assessments under the Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Program (LTSS Trust Program) from January 1, 2022, to July 1, 2023. Delays the date benefits become available under the LTSS Trust Program from January 1, 2025, to July 1, 2026. Allows individuals born before January 1, 1968, who do not meet the LTSS Trust Program's vesting requirements, to receive partial benefits based on the number of years of premium payments. Requires employers to refund employees any LTSS Trust premiums collected before July 1, 2023.

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Comment: This bill has been passed by both houses and has been delivered to the governor.

HB 1733: Establishing voluntary exemptions to the long-term services and supports trust program for certain populations. This bill establishes exemptions from the payment of premiums under the Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Program for certain veterans, spouses and registered domestic partners of military service members, nonimmigrant temporary workers, and employees who work in Washington and maintain a primary residence outside of Washington.

Comment: This bill has passed both houses and is awaiting an expected signature from the governor.

HB 1759: Requiring school districts and other public education entities to make information from the department of health about substance use trends, overdose symptoms and response, and the secure storage of prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, and firearms and ammunition, available through their websites and other communication resources.

Comment: This bill has been moved to the Rules Committee.

HB 1763: Concerning injured workers' rights during independent medical examinations.

Comment: Scheduled for executive session on February 2.

HB 1803: Updating school district director compensation through the revision and preservation of a uniform compensation structure and an examination of future needs. Districts may compensate school directors up to \$128 per board meetings or other services for the district. Reimbursable expenses will also include childcare.

Comment: This bill has been moved to the Rules Committee.

HB 1837: This bill repeals the restriction on the regulation of work-related musculoskeletal disorders and ergonomics.

Comment: This bill has been sent to the Rules Committee.

HB 1900: Improving school districts' responses to complaints of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying. This bill directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to update, and publicly post, model student handbook language to include information about policies and complaint procedures related to discrimination, including sexual harassment, and information about policies and complaint procedures related to harassment, intimidation, and bullying, as well as the overlap between the policies and complaint procedures. Requires that each school district to include the model student handbook language in any student, parent, employee, and volunteer handbook. Codifies an administrative rule requiring each school district and charter school to designate one person in the school district as the primary contact regarding compliance with state laws prohibiting discrimination in public schools.

Comment: A public hearing is scheduled for January 27. Executive session has been scheduled for February 3.

HB 1992: Concerning vacation leave accrual for public employees. This bill increases the cap on accrued vacation leave for state employees from 240 hours to 280 hours. Removes limits on the maximum amount of sick leave a school district employee may accumulate or use for the purposes of unused-leave compensation. Requires school districts to establish an emergency leave pool for staff who become ill or need to quarantine.

Comment: This bill is scheduled for executive session on February 1.

E2SSB 5155: Concerning prejudgment interest. This bill, as amended, starts interest running on a judgment entered following trial of the matter and arbitration awards for tortious conduct, other than medical malpractice claims, from the date

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on which the cause of action accrues for individuals and entities, but not public agencies. Starts interest running on a judgment for a medical malpractice claim from the date of entry of judgment.

Comment: This bill passed the Senate 31/18 and has been referred to the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee.

SSB 5326: Concerning health and pension benefits for school bus drivers employed by private nongovernmental entities. This bill provides that school districts may only enter into pupil transportation service contracts with nongovernmental entities that provide health and retirement benefit contributions to their employees' equivalent to those received by school employees.

Comment: This bill was resurrected from last session and has been placed on the Senate floor calendar awaiting action.

SSB 5628: Concerning cyber harassment, addressing concerns in the case of Rynearson v. Ferguson, and adding a crime of cyberstalking.

Comment: This whole area of internet 'bullying' either at or outside of school is a landmine of potential liability for districts. (IMHO). This bill has been moved to the Senate Rules Committee.

SB 5539: Concerning state funding for educational service districts. This bill requires that state funding be provided to each educational service district (ESD) for the employer cost of school employees' benefits for employees of the ESD that are covered by collective bargaining.

Comment: It is scheduled for a public hearing before the Senate Ways & Means Committee on January 27.

SB 5562: Concerning health care for non-represented employees of educational service districts. This bill requires that non-represented employees of an educational service district receive health care benefits through the Public Employees' Benefit Board beginning January 1, 2024.

Comment: This bill is scheduled for a public hearing on January 27.

SSB 5564: Protecting the confidentiality of employees using employee assistance programs. It is unlawful for an employer to obtain individually identifiable information regarding an employee's participation in an EAP. Individually identifiable information gathered in the process of conducting an EAP must be kept confidential. An employee's participation or nonparticipation in an EAP must not be a factor in a decision affecting an employee's job security, promotional opportunities, corrective or disciplinary action, or other employment rights.

Comment: This bill is in the Rules Committee awaiting further action.

SB 5649: Modifying the Washington state paid family and medical leave act. This bill provides that an allowable purpose for family leave is any leave taken by an employee during the seven calendar days following the death of the family member for whom the employee would have qualified to take medical leave for the birth of their child or would have qualified for family bonding leave. Specifies that leave taken by certain employees in the first six weeks after giving birth must be medical leave, unless the employee chooses to use family leave. Expires the collective bargaining exception contained in the Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) program. Establishes an actuarial office within the Employment Security Department (ESD), which must report annually on the financial condition of the PFML program and requires ESD to report on specified fiscal areas of the PFML program. Requires ESD to publish a list of employers with approved voluntary plans on its website. Requires the Office of Financial Management to coordinate with another agency for actuarial services relative to the PFML program and report to the Legislature by October 1, 2022. Creates a legislative task force on PFML program premiums.

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Comment: It has been referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee for a public hearing.

SB 5835: Concerning workers' compensation. This bill provides the same percentages of the worker's wages to be received by an injured worker for a permanent and temporary total disability whether a worker is married or unmarried. Removes the requirement that an injured worker be married to receive an additional \$10 per month when the worker is receiving the minimum monthly payments for a permanent or temporary total disability.

Comment: It has been scheduled for executive session on February 2.

SB 5873: Concerning unemployment insurance, family leave, and medical leave premiums. This bill decreases the maximum Unemployment Insurance (UI) social cost factor for 2022 and 2023 (Approx. 33 percent decrease). Sets a maximum UI rate class for the purposes of the percentage of the social cost factor to be paid by small businesses in 2023. Decreases the Paid Family & Medical Leave employee premium rate, subject to appropriation.

Comment: Scheduled for executive session January 31.

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

1:30–3:30 p.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12
Virtual

3:30–5:15 p.m.
House Appropriations
Virtual

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Virtual

Tuesdays

8–10 a.m.
House Education
Virtual

1:30–3:30 p.m.
House Appropriations
Virtual

3:30–5:15 p.m.
House Appropriations
Virtual

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Virtual

Wednesdays

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12
Virtual

Thursdays

1:30–3:30 p.m.
House Appropriations
Virtual

3:30–5:15 p.m.
House Appropriations
Virtual

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Virtual

Fridays

8–10 a.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12
Virtual

10–11 a.m.
House Education
Virtual

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 Cut-off Calendar

January 10, 2022

First Day of Session.

February 3, 2022

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

February 7, 2022

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

February 15, 2022

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

February 24, 2022

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

February 28, 2022

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

March 4, 2022*

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).

March 10, 2022

Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

* After 5:00 p.m. on the 54th day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, matters that affect state revenue, 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 #	Title	Status	Sponsor
HB 1006	Immunization, declining	H HC/Wellness	Klippert
HB 1010	Motor vehicle sales tax	H Appropriations	MacEwen
HB 1024	Sunshine committee/juveniles	H State Govt & Tribal Rel.	Springer
HB 1029	Emergency orders and rules	H State Govt & Tribal Rel.	Walsh
HB 1032	TRS & SERS early retirement	H Appropriations	Harris
HB 1039	Bicycle & pedestrian travel	H Transportation	McCaslin
HB 1040	Retired school empl. health	H Appropriations	Dolan
ESHB 1056	Public meetings/emergencies	H Rules 3C	Pollet
HB 1065	Epidemic, pandemic vaccines	H HC/Wellness	Eslick
HB 1066	Ed. service district boards	H Education	Stonier
HB 1067	State dinosaur	H 2nd Reading	Morgan
2SHB 1076	Workplace violations/qui tam	H Rules 3C	Hansen
HB 1077	Federal Way school district	H Appropriations	Johnson
HB 1079	Charter schools time frame	H Education	Dolan
SHB 1081 (ESSB 5084)	State gen. obligation bonds	H Rules X	Tharinger
HB 1093 (SB 5091)	Operating Budget, 2nd supp.	H Appropriations	Ormsby
SHB 1094 (ESSB 5092)	Operating Budget	H Rules X	Ormsby
HB 1098 (ESSB 5061)	Unemployment insurance	H Labor & Workplace	Sells
HB 1149	Public health education	H Education	Pollet
SHB 1153	Language access in schools	H Appropriations	Orwall
SHB 1156	Local elections	H Rules C	Harris-Talley
2SHB 1162	High school graduation	H Rules R	Stonier
HB 1180	Public testimony	H Local Govt	Kraft
HB 1182 (SB 5209)	Crisis response services	H HC/Wellness	Orwall
HB 1195 (SB 5443)	Charter school time frame	H Education	Dolan
HB 1212	Repair of electronics	H ConsPro&Bus	Gregerson
HB 1215	K-12 education scholarships	H Education	Kraft
HB 1226	School district elections	H Education	Stonier

SHB 1264 (SB 5274)	Equity impact statement	H Appropriations	Thai
HB 1270	Leadership skills grant prg.	H Appropriations	Young
HB 1305	Right to refuse vaccines	H HC/Wellness	Kraft
SHB 1306	School boards/bond training	H Education	Sells
HB 1308	Apprenticeship utilization	H Cap Budget	Riccelli
HB 1317	Right to refuse/health	H HC/Wellness	Young
HB 1321 (SB 5114)	Reopening/public health	H HC/Wellness	MacEwen
ESHB 1329	Public meetings	S State Govt & Elections	Wicks
HB 1334	Appropriations/COVID-19	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
HB 1338	School resources/COVID-19	H Civil R & Judiciary	Harris
SHB 1340	Pandemic task force	H Appropriations	Lovick
HB 1343	Unemployment ins./employers	H Labor & Workplace	Hoff
2SHB 1354	Suicide review teams	H Rules C	Mosbrucker
HB 1358	State school levies	H Finance	Orcutt
SHB 1366	In-person instruction	H Rules C	Caldier
HB 1371	State property tax levies	H Finance	Sutherland
HB 1390	Athletic scholarship funding	H Coll & Workforce Dev.	Walsh
HB 1396	US history & gov/high school	H Education	Dufault
ESHB 1410	Home foreclosure/taxes	C 257 L 21	Volz
HB 1415	Skill center class size	H Appropriations	Paul
HB 1419	Certificated staff/factors	H Appropriations	Dolan
HB 1420	School empl/COVID-19 vaccine	H HC/Wellness	MacEwen
HB 1422	Sexual health ed./dates	H Education	MacEwen
HB 1440	Small wireless facilities	H Comm & Economic Dev.	Boehnke
HB 1442	Epidemic preparedness	H HC/Wellness	Chase
HB 1450	School computers/device tax	H Education	Gregerson
SHB 1451	ECEAP entitlement date	H Appropriations	Sullivan
HB 1452	Physical education credit	H Education	Mosbrucker
EHB 1453	Voters' pamphlets	H Passed 3rd	Bergquist
2SHB 1460	Telecommunications access	H Rules C	Gregerson
HB 1466	Outdoor education	H Appropriations	Rule
HB 1481	School employees/firearms	H Civil R & Judiciary	Chase
HB 1500	School district audits	H Appropriations	Sullivan

HB 1519	Levy shifts/court rulings	H Finance	Paul
HB 1536	Regional apprenticeship prgs	H Education	
HB 1544	Ag., food, nat. resource ed.	H Education	Klippert
HB 1553 (SB 5473)	“Open safe, open now” plan	H State Govt & Tribal Rel.	MacEwen
HB 1555	Freedom in education	H Education	Chase
HB 1556	School athletics/eligibility	H Education	Chase
HB 1557	Gubernatorial proclamations	H State Govt & Tribal Rel.	MacEwen
HB 1563	Gubernatorial orders/relief	H Civil R & Judiciary	Young
HB 1565	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	H Appropriations	Johnson
HB 1568	Unemployment insurance	H Appropriations	Bergquist
HB 1570	Proof of vaccination	H HC/Wellness	Walsh
HB 1590 (SB 5563)	Enrollment stabilization	H Appropriations	Dolan
HB 1591	Charter schools/local enrich	H Appropriations	Dolan
HB 1594	Long-term care/peal	H Appropriations	Abbarno
HB 1596	Long-term care/outside WA	H Appropriations	Abbarno
HB 1597	Long-term care/hardship	H Appropriations	Abbarno
HB 1598	Long-term care/death	H Appropriations	Abbarno
HB 1599	Long-term care/new graduates	H Appropriations	Abbarno
HB 1601	Student homelessness pilot	H Appropriations	Leavitt
HB 1603	Transportation/general fund	H Appropriations	Barkis
HB 1604	Motor vehicle sales tax	H Appropriations	MacEwen
HB 1607	Safe routes to schools prg.	H Appropriations	Rude
HB 1611	Highly capable students	H Education	Dolan
SHB 1617	State and school holidays	H Rules R	Morgan
HB 1628	Voter pamphlet statements	H State Govt & Tribal Rel.	Jacobsen
SHB 1629 (SB 5538)	Aerial imaging technology	H Rules R	Dolan
SHB 1630	Weapons/certain meetings	H Rules R	Senn
HB 1633	K–12 education scholarships	H Education	Walsh
SHB 1642 (SB 5614)	National guard ed. grants	H Rules R	Leavitt
HB 1644	Pupil transp./electric	H Appropriations	Senn
SHB 1664	Schools/support funding	H Appropriations	Rule
HB 1693	Home school day	H State Govt & Tribal Rel.	Chase
SHB 1699	Work in retirement/schools	H APPDPS	Bergquist

HB 1714	Impact fee deferrals	H LGDP	Duerr
HB 1721 (SB 5676)	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	H 2nd Reading	Stokesbary
HB 1722 (SB 5775)	Broadband deployment	H Local Govt	Boehnke
SHB 1723	Telecommunications access	H Appropriations	Gregerson
SHB 1727	Odd-numbered year elections	H SGOVDPS	Gregerson
SHB 1732	Long-term care/delay	Del to Gov	Sullivan
ESHB 1733	Long-term care/exemptions	Del to Gov	Paul
SHB 1736	State student loan program	H Appropriations	Sullivan
HB 1742	Long-term care program	H Appropriations	Schmick
SHB 1746	Students/COVID-19 pandemic	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
HB 1754	Prejudgment interest	H Civil R & Judiciary	Hackney
HB 1757	ESDs/PEBB health plans	H Appropriations	Cody
HB 1759	School websites/drug info.	H Education	Callan
HB 1760	Dual credit program access	H Education	Paul
HB 1762 (SB 5539)	Ed. service district funding	H Appropriations	MacEwen
HB 1775	Capital assistance/schools	H Cap Budget	McEntire
HB 1778	Election security	H State Govt & Tribal Rel.	Klippert
HB 1781 (SB 5651)	Capital Budget, supplemental	H Cap Budget	Tharinger
HB 1786 (SB 5689)	Transportation Budget, supp.	H Transportation	Fey
HB 1791	Prof. educator reprimands	H Education	Harris
SHB 1800	Behavioral health/minors	H Appropriations	Eslick
HB 1803	School director compensation	H Education	Callan
HB 1805 (SB 5797)	Opportunity scholarship prog	H CWDDP	Paul
HB 1807	Civic education	H Education	Walsh
HB 1808	Pupil transportation funding	H Rules R	Stonier
SHB 1810	Electronic products repair	H Appropriations	Gregerson
HB 1816 (SB 5693)	Operating Budget, supp.	H Appropriations	Ormsby
HB 1819	Property tax exemption	H Finance	Leavitt
HB 1829	African American studies	H Education	Johnson
HB 1833	School meals/electronic info	H Education	Berg
HB 1834	Student absences/mental health	H Education	Callan
HB 1842	School board director qualif	H Education	Taylor
HB 1865	Certified peer specialists	H HC/Wellness	Davis

HB 1867	Dual credit program data	H Education	Paul
HB 1875	Budget stabilization account	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
HB 1878 (SB 5798)	Schools/comm. eligibility	H Education	Riccelli
HB 1886	Critical race theory	H Education	Klippert
HB 1887	COVID-19/children's sports	H State Govt & Tribal Rel.	Klippert
HB 1898	State school levies, reduce	H Finance	Orcutt
HB 1900	Schools/discrimination, etc.	H Education	Senn
HB 1911	Insurance/plan 2 members	H APPDP	Bronoske
HB 1938	Student financial education	H Education	Stonier
HB 1941	Active shooter drills	H Education	Walen
HB 1942	Paraeducator course of study	H Education	Donaghy
HB 1955	Dependency/education	H Education	Rule
HB 1962	Charter school time frame	H Education	Entenman
HB 1968	Schools/immunization	H Education	Klippert
HB 1969	Traffic cameras/speed	H Transportation	Fey
HB 1973	School board recordings	H Exec Action	Rude
HB 1974	Education elections/WSSDA	H Education	Ybarra
HB 1976	Schools/eating outside	H Education	Corry
HB 1985 (SSB 5595)	Schools/support funding	H Education	Dolan
HB 1986 (SB 5601)	School district boards	H Education	Klippert
HB 1992	Vacation leave accrual	H Labor & Workplace	Bateman
HB 2000	OSPI basic education funds	H Appropriations	Rule
HB 2011	Skill center funding	H Appropriations	Rule
HB 2014 (SB 5905)	Outdoor school	H Education	Rule
HB 2016	Sex trafficking/education	H Education	Morgan
HB 2018	Sales and use tax holiday	H Finance	Paul
HB 2019	Careers in retail	H Exec Action	Boehnke
HB 2031 (SB 5873)	Unempl. & leave premiums	H Labor & Workplace	Berg
HB 2039 (SB 5768)	Vapor products	H Comm & Economic Dev.	Pollet
HB 2042	K–12 education scholarships	H Education	Kraft
HB 2054	School bus video recording	H Education	Jacobsen
HB 2056	K–12 instructional materials	H Education	Steele
HB 2068	Imagination library	H Children, Youth, & Families	Stonier

HB 2078 (SB 5925)	Outdoor school	H Education	Rule
HB 2087	Education/parent rights	H Education	Klippert
HB 2090	Tribal activities/credit	H Education	Lekanoff
HB 2093 (SB 5921)	County timber tax distrib.	H Appropriations	Abbarno
HB 2095 (SB 5933)	School seismic safety grants	H Cap Budget	Pollet
HJR 4200	School district bonds	H Education	Stonier
HJR 4203	2/3rd vote for tax increases	H Finance	Sutherland
HJR 4206	K–12 education funding	H Appropriations	Chase
ESB 5017	School district procurement	H Cap Budget	Wellman
SB 5037	School opening metrics	S EL/K–12	Braun
SB 5043	School employee housing	S 3rd Reading	Salomon
SB 5070 (ESHB 1273)	Menstrual products/schools	S EL/K–12	Rivers
ESSB 5083 (SHB 1080)	Capital Budget 2021–23	S Rules X	Froct
SB 5091 (HB 1093)	Operating Budget, 2nd supp.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SSB 5105	Office of equity task force	S Ways & Means	Hasegawa
SB 5110	Telecommunications companies	S Environment, Energy & Tech.	Ericksen
SB 5111	Public employee independence	S State Govt & Elections	Ericksen
SB 5114 (HB 1321)	Reopening/public health	S State Govt & Elections	Braun
SSB 5129	Vapor & tobacco/minors	S Rules 2	Saldaña
SSB 5130	Personnel files & discipline	S 2nd Reading	Kuderer
SB 5144	COVID-19 vaccine, declining	S Health & Long	Ericksen
2SSB 5147	Learning stabilization, etc.	S Rules X	Hawkins
SB 5153 (ESHB 1113)	School attendance	S EL/K–12	Wilson
SB 5156	Budget stabilization approps	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5161	Teaching tribal history, etc	S Rules X	Wellman
SB 5162	Unanticipated revenue	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5171	Unemployment insurance	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SSB 5181	Low-income school districts	S 3rd Reading	Honeyford
SB 5197	Unemp. contributions/wages	S Labor, Comm & Tribal Aff.	Schoesler
SB 5200	Scholarships/tax credit	S EL/K–12	Schoesler
ESB 5202	School depreciation subfunds	H Education	Schoesler
SB 5205	K–12 education vouchers	S EL/K–12	Schoesler
SB 5208	Public records fees/approval	S State Govt & Elections	Wilson

SB 5209 (HB 1182)	Crisis response services	S Behavioral Health	Dhingra
2SSB 5211 (ESHB 1189)	Tax increment financing	S Rules X	Frockt
SB 5216	Tax preferences	S Ways & Means	Carlyle
SB 5223	Motor vehicles sales tax use	S Ways & Means	Fortunato
SB 5242	Media literacy & digital cit	S Rules X	Liias
SB 5252	School consultation/tribes	S EL/K–12	Wellman
SB 5257	School levy exemption	S EL/K–12	Fortunato
ESB 5264	Americans of Chinese descent	H State Govt & Tribal Rel.	Wagoner
2SSB 5265	Bridge year pilot program	S Rules X	Hunt
SB 5274 (SHB 1264)	Equity impact statement	S State Govt & Elections	Hasegawa
SB 5277	Early achievers prg/suspend	S EL/K–12	Short
SB 5289	Senior citizens/prop. taxes	S Ways & Means	Fortunato
SSB 5326	School bus driver benefits	S 2nd Reading	Robinson
2SSB 5327	Youth safety tip line	S Rules X	Brown
SB 5334	Levy authorization info.	S EL/K–12	Dozier
SSB 5340	School board director qualif	S Rules 2	Salomon
SB 5343 (HB 1367)	Medicaid appropriations	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5344 (ESHB 1368)	Federal funding/COVID-19	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5352	Retirement system opt-out	S Rules X	Braun
ESSB 5357	Capital broadband program	S Rules X	Honeyford
SB 5359	Motor vehicle sales tax	S Ways & Means	Braun
SB 5366 (SHB 1103)	Building materials	S State Govt & Elections	Stanford
SB 5374	Political systems/K–12 study	S EL/K–12	Honeyford
SSB 5376	Education ombuds awareness	H Education	Wilson
SB 5386	School district elections	S Ways & Means	Randall
SB 5389	Computer science teaching	S Ways & Means	Wellman
ESSB 5439	Broadband/state highways	S Rules X	Saldaña
SB 5442	Superintendent salaries	S EL/K–12	Van De Wege
SB 5443 (HB 1195)	Charter school time frame	S EL/K–12	Mullet
SB 5449	Motor vehicle sales tax	S Ways & Means	King
SB 5450	Native American names, etc.	S EL/K–12	Ericksen
SB 5451	Operating Budget	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SB 5453	Retirement plans 1 & 2	S Ways & Means	Schoesler

SB 5464	In-person learning option	S EL/K–12	Wilson
SB 5466	Sales tax/transp. projects	S Ways & Means	Fortunato
SB 5473 (HB 1553)	“Open safe, open now” plan	S State Govt & Elections	Brown
SB 5481	Transportation funding bonds	S Rules 2	Hobbs
SSB 5482	Additive trans funding	S Rules 2	Hobbs
SSB 5483	Transportation revenue	S Rules 2	Hobbs
SB 5487	School consolid. incentives	S Ways & Means	Hawkins
SB 5497	Board of ed. student members	S EL/K–12	Wilson
SB 5498	Posthumous H.S. diplomas	S Rules 2	Wilson
SB 5501	Board of education members	S EL/K–12	Fortunato
SB 5537	Compulsory school attendance	S EL/K–12	Wellman
SB 5538 (SHB 1629)	Aerial imaging technology	S State Govt & Elections	Hunt
SB 5539 (HB 1762)	Ed. service district funding	S Ways & Means	Hunt
SB 5540	Election dates and timelines	S State Govt & Elections	Hunt
SB 5562	ESD employee health care	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SB 5563 (HB 1590)	Enrollment stabilization	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SB 5581	Pupil transp. allocations	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SSB 5584	Local elections	S RecComm	Trudeau
SB 5594	Bone marrow donation aware.	S EL/K–12	Short
SSB 5595 (HB 1985)	Schools/support funding	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SSB 5597	Voting rights	S RecComm	Saldaña
SB 5601 (HB 1986)	School district boards	S EL/K–12	Short
SB 5630	Early learning/basic ed.	S EL/K–12	Hasegawa
SSB 5638	Mental health prof. licenses	S Rules 2	Wagoner
SSB 5649	Family and medical leave	S RecComm	Robinson
SB 5651 (HB 1781)	Capital Budget, supplemental	S Ways & Means	Frockt
SB 5657	Juvenile instit./comp sci.	S Rules 2	Wellman
SB 5676 (HB 1721)	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	S Rules 2	Conway
SB 5682	COVID-19 vaccination choice	S Health & Long Term Care	McCune
SB 5689 (HB 1786)	Transportation Budget, supp.	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5693 (HB 1816)	Operating Budget, supp.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5696 (HB 1912)	Capital gains tax/repeal	S Ways & Means	Braun
SB 5697 (HB 2003)	Recycling system & waste	S Environment, Energy & Tech.	Das

SB 5698	Plan 1 retiree COLAs	S Ways & Means	Hunt
SB 5715	Definition of broadband	S Environment, Energy & Tech.	Wellman
SB 5718	School employees/insurance	S Ways & Means	Conway
SSB 5719	Dual credit costs	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SB 5720	Student financial literacy	S EL/K–12	Mullet
SB 5734	Physical & health education	S EL/K–12	Dhingra
SB 5735	Async. instructional hours	S EL/K–12	Dhingra
SB 5761	Wage and salary information	S Labor, Comm & Tribal Aff.	Randall
SB 5768 (HB 2039)	Vapor products	S Health & Long	Kuderer
SB 5775 (HB 1722)	Broadband deployment	S Environment, Energy & Tech.	Wellman
SB 5777	COVID-19 vaccine/children	S EL/K–12	Braun
SB 5798 (HB 1878)	Schools/comm. eligibility	S EL/K–12	Wilson
SB 5805	Sexual ed. parent approval	S EL/K–12	McCune
SB 5806	Instructional materials	S EL/K–12	McCune
SB 5820	Superintendent, appointing	S EL/K–12	Carlyle
SB 5824	Dependent youth financial ed	S Human Svcs, Reentry & Rehab.	Nobles
SB 5831	State & local taxation	S State Govt & Elections	Wilson
SB 5833	School director compensation	S EL/K–12	Carlyle
SB 5858	Education/parent rights	S EL/K–12	Dozier
SB 5871	Microschool pilot project	S EL/K–12	Wilson
SB 5873 (HB 2031)	Unempl. & leave premiums	S Ways & Means	Keiser
SB 5874	Military student residency	S Higher Ed & Workforce Dev.	Nobles
SB 5878	Arts instruction	S EL/K–12	Rolfes
SSB 5892	High schools/nursing pilot	S RecComm	Brown
SB 5897	Fuel tax suspension	S Transportation	Sefzik
SB 5902	High school grad. credits	S EL/K–12	Wellman
SB 5905 (HB 2014)	Outdoor school	S EL/K–12	Hunt
SB 5921 (HB 2093)	County timber tax distrib.	S Ways & Means	Braun
SB 5922	K–12 education funding	S EL/K–12	Braun
SB 5925 (HB 2078)	Outdoor school	S EL/K–12	Hunt
SB 5932	Sales and use tax rate	S Ways & Means	Das
SB 5933 (HB 2095)	School seismic safety grants	S Ways & Means	Frockt
SJR 8204	School district bond voting	S Ways & Means	Randall

SJR 8207	Revenue for highway purposes	S Transportation	Fortunato
SJR 8208	Car purchase taxes	S Ways & Means	Fortunato
SJR 8212	Superintendent	S EL/K–12	Carlyle