

TWIO

This Week In Olympia

WEEK 14—IN THIS ISSUE:

April 14, 2023



- Budget Update
- This Week in Review
- End of Session Report
- WAMOA
- Pensions/Health Benefits
- Useful Links
- Bill Watch

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 WAMOA.

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



On Wednesday evening, the 2023 Legislature's last self-imposed [cutoff](#) deadline arrived. All bills needed to be adopted by their opposite house (Senate bills out of the full House; House bills out of the full Senate) by Wednesday to remain alive. With the Legislature's last allowed day for the Regular Session, April 23, rapidly approaching, legislators' focus has narrowed considerably. In fact, the Legislature's focus must be narrowed, as actions in the final days of session are limited. During the "reconciliation phase," the Legislature is only allowed to act on: Initiatives to the Legislature (there are none this year); the three budgets (2023–25 Operating, Capital, and Transportation Budgets); bills that are "Necessary to Implement the Budget" (NTIB); differences between the houses; and matters regarding the closing of the session. There is one additional allowance: during this time, in addition to addressing NTIB bills, the Legislature is also allowed to take action on bills that "affect state revenue." We will discuss some of the rising conversation about "revenue" below.

While there will be much activity during the last nine days of this session, much of it will occur behind-the-scenes. Additionally, there will be times of rapid movement, interspersed with no visible action. We will try to keep you as up-to-date as possible; however, understand that our next regularly scheduled newsletter will not be produced until next Friday. Hopefully, by that point (Day 103), most of the main action will be complete. We will attempt to provide details on a final 2023–25 Operating Budget as quickly as possible and will likely have a Special Edition TWIO out between today and next Friday's newsletter, presuming budget negotiators have cut a deal by then. (This is likely, as a late-arriving budget will flirt with the need for a Special Session. NO ONE wants to see that.)

Budget Update

As budget negotiators have been hammering out deals, we have little new information at this point. There have been some hints about where budget conversations are going; however, until we see a final, compromise budget released, most of the thinking on what is in—or out—of the budget is speculation. (Jerry Cornfield, a member of the Capitol Press Corp, representing the Everett Herald, explained it best by saying the closing days of session "will be filled with false rumors and bad guesses.")

While we wait for anything concrete, we continue to press on a number of issues. As we discussed last week, we have narrowed our focus to five key priorities:

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

- Special Education;
- Pupil Transportation;
- Regionalization and Experience Factor;
- Local Effort Assistance (LEA or “levy equalization”); and
- Learning Assistance Program (LAP)

(For more details, see [TWIO, Week 13](#), page 7.)

This week, there was also a more specific focus on Local Effort Assistance funding and regionalization/experience factor. We caught the ear of two key legislators in the House—Representative Kristine Reeves (D-Federal Way) and Representative Beth Doglio (D-Olympia)—who headed an effort to connect with budget-writers, specifically requesting a final 2023–25 Operating Budget to include funding to mitigate a loss of LEA and funding to provide for a two-year “phase down” for districts that are set to lose regionalization and/or the experience factor. These two “friends of education” asked educators to request their local legislators to sign onto a [letter to budget-writers](#) addressing these issues.

WASA Legislative Report Podcast



The Podcast will be available on a regular basis on the [WASA website](#), or [subscribe to the Report](#) via multiple podcast apps.

As we have discussed, there comes a point where our efforts to connect with budget-writers becomes more difficult and perhaps less effective; however, by maintaining contact with local legislators, those rank-and-file members can bring to bear the kind of pressure that we do not have the ability to do. This peer-to-peer effort can be effective because budget-writers know that regardless of what agreements are made behind-the-scenes, a budget must ultimately receive 50 votes in the House and 25 votes in the Senate to be adopted. If rank-and-file members indicate those votes may not be available, it certainly complicates budget decisions—and puts pressure on budget-writers to address their colleagues’ concerns.

In the last week, we have also addressed a more obscure—but no less important—issue. First, a bit of background. Between 2004 and 2008, the Washington State Board of Health (BOH) undertook a comprehensive review and rewrite the School Environmental Health and Safety Rules. Most of the new Rules would impose significant costly (and unfunded) obligations on school districts. The BOH adopted the new Rules in August 2009, with an implementation date of July 1, 2020. In the 2009 legislative session, we approached key legislators and asked for assistance. They were sympathetic to the concerns and adopted a proviso in the 2009–11 Operating Budget that specifically prohibited BOH from implementing the new Rules until they presented a final cost estimate to the Legislature and the Legislature provided funding in the budget. Because BOH was blocked from implementing the Rules, in March 2010, they voted to delay implementation until July 1, 2011.

The Board of Health continues to try and advance their Rules; however, because the restrictive proviso language has been in every two-year Operating Budget since the original adoption in 2009, they continue to be blocked. They have voted eight times to delay implementation of the Rules in an effort to wait out the Legislature. Most recently, in June 2022, they voted to delay the implementation until August 1, 2023.

To date, BOH has not presented a final cost estimate to the Legislature—and the Legislature has not provided the necessary funding. So, we were pleased to see the long-standing proviso language in the Senate’s budget proposal. (To give you an idea about how obscure and embedded this proviso is, the language was included in the governor’s original budget bill.) Unfortunately, prior to the budget being adopted by the House Appropriations Committee, an [amendment was introduced](#) and adopted to strip the original restrictive proviso. It was replaced with language that allows the Board to implement the Rules; however, implementation must be delayed until the start of the next Fiscal Year (at least July 1, 2024).

As budget-writers moved to negotiations, we put on a full court press, urging budget-writers to maintain the long-standing, restrictive proviso. Like most issues

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

we have addressed in budget conversations, we have not been given any indication of whether or not our efforts will be successful.

During this session there has been a healthy amount of conversation regarding school construction, and the growing need of state assistance—especially for small school districts. While this attention has been positive, it is hard to imagine that school facility funding concerns will not explode if the BOH proviso is lifted, and the new Rules are allowed to be implemented. This issue, however, is just one more checkmark on the list of reasons why the Supreme Court should rule against the state in the [Wahkiakum school construction lawsuit](#).

A final “big picture” note on the Operating Budget before we talk about some action on pieces of the budget. As we have discussed over the last few weeks, budget-writers are negotiating on the budget behind-the-scenes. We predicted that an official, formal Conference Committee would not be called, except perhaps after a deal has been struck. Well, yesterday, the Senate officially moved to “Do Not Concur” on the House amendments (to SB 5187) and requested a Conference Committee. Could this be a signal that budget negotiations are coming to an end? Probably not. How the House responds will provide us with a better indication. If they immediately respond and appoint members to serve on the Conference Committee, a final budget is likely imminent. More likely, the House will wait to respond—and if so, that will clearly indicate more work is to be done. As always, stay tuned.

Special Education

While special education is a major part of budget negotiations, due to the potentially significant enhancements on the table (special education funding is the largest K–12 Policy Level increase in each legislative budget), we have little clear evidence of movement. As noted above, however, we do have some potential hints (hopefully not a bad guess) about where we will end up.

On Wednesday, the full Senate adopted [HB 1436](#), the House’s vehicle for special education funding. Remember, as the bill came out of the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee, all of the funding pieces were removed (all language regarding the enrollment funding cap; the tiered multipliers; and the special education safety net threshold), leaving only three specific policy items: language directing OSPI to annually review data to ensure there is not a disproportionate identification of students—as previously adopted by the House; language requiring OSPI to provide technical assistance to school districts experiencing issues related to disproportionality and make professional development opportunities available to promote inclusionary teaching practices (putting the Inclusionary Practices Project, or IPP, in statute)—as previously adopted by the House; and language requiring the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee and the State Auditor to conduct a performance audit of the state’s system of providing special education—as previously adopted by the House. Soon after, the Senate Ways & Means Committee adopted the bill, in the same form as it was adopted by the Education Committee.

When HB 1436 was moved to the Senate Floor Calendar, a new [striking amendment](#) was introduced. The striking amendment essentially melded the House’s HB 1436 and the Senate’s [SB 5311](#). The major policy items from the House, as described above, are included, along with funding pieces from SB 5311, as adopted by the Senate. This includes: increased tiered multipliers (above the House’s level); an increase of the 13.5 percent enrollment funding cap to 15.0 percent; and adjustments to the Special Education Safety Net. It also requires the governor’s Office of Education Ombuds to coordinate the work of special education advocates—although this is subject to funding in the Operating Budget. Finally, both the House and Senate proposals included “accountability” language. The striking amendment included the accountability language as proposed by the Senate, which requires OSPI to develop an allocation and cost accounting methodology to ensure general apportionment funding is allocated to special education students. (Remember, the

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

House’s accountability language included the disconcerting, required diversion of general apportionment funding to special education.)

The striking amendment was adopted by the full Senate unanimously and the bill returns to the House for concurrence. While the bill’s adoption does not indicate budget-writers have struck a deal on special education, it certainly signals the Senate’s position. It is also an indication (although not a guarantee) that HB 1436 will likely be the final vehicle to advance special education funding.

Pupil Transportation

There has also been a major movement on Pupil Transportation, with the House’s adoption of [SB 5174](#) on Monday. The bill was adopted by the full House (with a vote of 60-38) in the same form as it was adopted by the House Appropriations Committee. It includes two pieces. First, it establishes a Special Passengers Safety Net to provide support for the transportation of special education students, homeless students, and foster students. The language is substantially similar to what the Senate adopted. Second, it inserts the requirement that pupil transportation contractors must provide their employees with health and pension benefits, or school districts would be prohibited from entering into the contracts.

We remain concerned about the potential unfunded mandate regarding the provision of benefits for contracted employees; however, legislators have provided assurances that funding will be available if the new requirement negatively impacts school districts. We appreciate this “promise,” but until we see funding in the budget, we remain skeptical.

It appears, however, that we may not have to deal with the contracted employee benefit issue after all. As the bill moved back to the Senate, they already have taken responsive action. Yesterday, the Senate refused to concur in the House amendments (a “Do Not Concur” motion) and has asked the House to recede from its amendments. In discussing the motion, Senator Wellman (D-Mercer Island), Chair of the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee and sponsor of the bill, noted that the original attempt of the bill was to address a new pupil transportation funding formula (revising the current STARS formula) to ensure all school districts received adequate funding. She stated that the House amendments remove all this funding. Although, technically, the formula would not have been revised by the bill as it passed the Senate; it would have required OSPI to analyze the system and make recommendations about the formula. Never mind the revisionist history, however, as Sen. Wellman also spoke against the insertion of a requirement for contracted employee benefits. She noted that the Legislature should wait for a complete STARS overhaul, making sure all school districts have adequate transportation funding before costs are added. This was a bit of an indication that she supported the provision of benefits for contracted employees, but believes the priority is building a system that provides appropriate funding for pupil transportation first.

The bill now moves back to the House for its further action. While it is unclear what the House will do, the odds are looking greater that the bill will die. Assuming that happens, however, there is still a possibility funding will be provided to support special passenger transportation—a priority for legislators in both houses. If this happens, this might be for the best. Our priority is to revise the current funding formula and if a bill is adopted that is limited to special passengers, some legislators will say “problem solved” and move onto other issues. If no bill is adopted, we likely have a better chance of holding legislators’ feet to the fire as we continue to press for an updated, more predictable, more transparent, and adequately funded system.

In terms of funding special passengers, this is a priority for a number of legislators; however, the Senate and House are \$100 million apart of the issue. The Senate provides \$100.6 million to fund the Special Passenger Safety Net, while the House includes NO funding. Given all the major disagreements within the K–12 budget, is it more likely the Senate gives up pupil transportation funding, or more likely

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

the House finds funding to support pupil transportation funding? At this point it is unclear.

Revenue

If you have read any newspaper reviews (or legislative newsletters) regarding the House and Senate 2023–25 Operating Budget proposals, those stories likely noted that neither budget includes tax increases. While true, some legislators have concerns about the sustainability of the budgets without additional revenue. As budget negotiators are trying to reach agreement on a final, compromise plan, the conversation of increasing revenue is heating up.

One of the major considerations is property taxes. Since 2001, annual increases in local property taxes have been capped at one percent (101 percent growth), preventing property tax from keeping pace with inflation and population growth. Increasing this one percent cap has been a major issue for cities and counties for several years. And a late arriving bill has come on the scene to make a change.

[SB 5770](#), introduced just two days ago (April 12), would “reform” property taxes. The bill would reform property taxes by increasing the current growth limit of 101 percent to 100 percent, plus population change and inflation, with a cap of 103 percent. Additionally, the bill would change the definition of inflation from the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD) to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which would cause property taxes to grow faster. These changes would apply to both local property taxes and the state property tax.

The local property tax change, sought by cities and counties for several years, would allow for additional resources to fund critical community services, especially in areas that have significant population growth. It should be noted that excess levies require voter approval and, by definition, all school levies are considered excess levies, so this change in local property taxes would not have a direct impact on school districts—except that, as property taxes increase, it may become increasingly difficult to pass school levies.

Of greater concern is applying these changes to the state property tax. Constitutionally, the state property tax is dedicated to schools and, theoretically, increasing the state property tax would provide for additional funding to schools. In fact, the intent section of SB 5770 notes: “Because the state portion of the property tax is entirely devoted to support of public schools, raising the cap on the state portion of property taxes will help provide the resources in coming years for the Legislature to make ample provision for the education of students with disabilities.”

This is a great argument (although there is already more than enough money to fully fund special education—it is just a matter of priorities). Unfortunately, as we often do, schools are being used—again. Yes, state property taxes are dedicated to schools; however, the state collects around \$9.0 billion in state property taxes and funding for K–12 education is about \$28.0 billion. Sure, all of that property tax money goes to K–12, but our budget far exceeds the revenues; most of our appropriation comes from the General Fund. That \$9.0 billion gets dumped in the big pot of state money and is comingled with other tax dollars, which is why you often hear comments like: “all dollars are green.” Let’s say state property taxes increase by \$1.0 billion. That does not mean that K–12 education would increase to \$29.0 billion. And trying to insinuate that will occur (specifically talking about the underfunded special education program) is disingenuous.

This is not to say that we should oppose SB 5770 (assuming it even moves). Even though school districts will not directly reap the benefits of a property tax increase, it would relieve some pressure and hopefully allow legislators to enhance the K–12 budget. The more critical issue is the growth of the property tax. The more the tax grows, the harder it will be to pass levies. And we should feel for cash-strapped cities and counties; however, you should also remember other local governments can access funds beyond property taxes—sales taxes, for example. School districts

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

have one option: property taxes. Seeking an M&O levy? Property taxes. A Capital Levy? Property taxes. A bond issue? Property taxes (with a supermajority).

It is unclear if SB 5770 can be adopted (although it should be noted it is sponsored by twenty Senators); however, its introduction provides a last-minute wrinkle in budget discussions. We will keep a close eye on it.

This Week in Review

With the Legislature fully in the “reconciliation phase,” legislators are spending much time in their respective Chambers—and also considerable time in their respective Caucuses—as they move through their Concurrence Calendars.

Principals

One of the first bills on the Senate’s Concurrence Calendar was [SB 5175](#), AWSP’s bill to allow two- or three-year contracts for principals. As amended by the House, the bill continues to allow two- or three-year contracts with principals; however, to be eligible, a principal: must have been employed as a principal for three or more consecutive years; must have been recommended by the superintendent as a candidate for a two- or three-year contract because the principal has demonstrated the ability to stabilize instructional practices and received a comprehensive performance rating of level three or above in their most recent comprehensive performance evaluation; and must have met the school district’s requirements for satisfying an updated record check.

As we have noted multiple times, we are concerned about this bill (and continue to oppose it). The bill still does NOTHING to provide principals with additional support to address workload issues or other pressure principals continue to face. And the House amendments increase our concerns about the bill being divisive. The amendments put superintendents squarely in the crosshairs, as they are put in the position of recommending which principals should have 2- or 3-year contracts—and who should not. There are also, new concerns about the language conflicting with current law regarding continuing contracts.

Well, all those additional concerns may be moot. Yesterday, the Senate refused to concur with the House amendments and requested the House to recede from its amendments. In discussing the “Do Not Concur” motion, Senator Wellman, (D-Mercer Island), Chair of the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee and sponsor of the bill, stated that SB 5175 was a “simple bill” that showed respect for principals, but the House amendments have “too many people involved in decision-making and makes people jump through hoops.” Further, she expressed concerns that the House amendments direct districts what to do, stripping them of flexibility.

Republicans, for their part, argued against the motion, saying they agreed with the House amendments. They noted the amendments would provide appropriate “side boards.”

SB 5175 now returns to the House for its further action. Given the passionate support of the amendments in the House, it is unclear what will happen next.

Transitional Kindergarten

On Wednesday, the full Senate adopted [HB 1550](#), moving from Transitional Kindergarten (TK) to a Transition to Kindergarten (TTK) program. The Senate adopted the [second striking amendment](#), as adopted by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee. This bill is not perfect; however, it is significantly improved compared to the earlier versions of the bill, including the first striking amendment addressed by the Senate Education Committee. Most of the opponents of HB 1550 have moved their position to support the version adopted by the Senate—even though not everyone is completely satisfied with the bill. It was adopted 39-10, with only Republicans opposing the bill.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

The new bill now heads back to the House, where it faces an uncertain future. The proponents of the early versions of HB 1550 (including the sponsor, Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos, D-Seattle) do not appear to support the Senate amendments. There are multiple scenarios. The best-case scenario may be that the House agrees with the Senate amendments and adopts the bill. Again, this bill is not perfect; however, it may be the best we can get. Another option is that the House rejects the amendments; however, the Senate appears pretty firm in its position, so returning the bill to the Senate will likely not help. Presumably, the Senate would insist on its position—or potentially set the bill down. One of the houses could also request a formal Conference Committee; however, members in both houses have been working on the bill since it landed in the Senate and formalizing a negotiation process probably will not help achieve a resolution. Although not very likely, the House could just sit on the bill. While it seems the odds are high that this bill could die, it does not seem very likely the House would kill its own bill—unless they came to a point where they knew the Senate would not budge.

If HB 1550 dies, the situation rolls back to status quo. This seems positive. Unfortunately, given the animosity toward TK (and OSPI) in the House, the fear is that a more forceful—and negative—bill could be on the table next year. If HB 1550 dies, it will be automatically reintroduced in 2024, but with the growing anger about this issue, a new bill could be introduced that is worse than HB 1550.

Anyway, if you are interested in TK, you will have to wait for a solid answer about how this story will end. And it may not end until the gavel falls on April 23. Stay tuned.

End of Session Report

With nine days left in this session, there are numerous bills still in play—including all three two-year budgets—but WASA staff has begun working on our annual End of Session Report. The Report, which will not be completed until all the dust settles, will include full details of the 2023–25 Operating Budget and the 2023–25 Capital Budget, along with a comprehensive review of the many education-related bills the Legislature addressed this session. It will be emailed to all *TWIO* subscribers (and available on the WASA website) as soon as it is completed.

WAMOA

By Mitch Denning

Update on WAMOA priority bills:

- **[E2SSB 5174, pupil transportation funding](#)**—passed the House on Monday, 60-38. Yesterday, the Senate refused to concur with the House amendments, and asked the House to recede from their amendments, meaning to withdraw their amendments. If they don't, then a Conference Committee could be appointed by both houses to develop a bill they can agree on. Then the bill goes back to each house for approval.

The original bill directs OSPI to gather additional data to develop a new pupil transportation formula that adequately funds current transportation services. It provides funding on an excess cost basis to districts who demonstrate a need to serve special passengers. Public charter and tribal compact schools would also be eligible, and such funding is not part of basic education. By July 1, 2026, OSPI will provide the legislature with a cost analysis from SY 2024–25, including mileage, ridership, and costs for each type of special students, and for all other to and from pupil transportation. OSPI will also include recommendations on how to incorporate geographic

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

differences faced by rural and high population density urban districts in the transportation funding model.

The bill as amended by the House does the following: (1) requires OSPI to award transportation safety net awards to school districts with a demonstrated need for additional funding for special passengers (special ed, homeless, and foster students), with the award amounts determined in the operating budget; (2) removes OSPI's requirement to include a review of a district's percentage of students served under the McKinney-Vento Act from outside the district as part of the current transportation funding grant program award process; (3) provides that no earlier than a contract affecting SY 2024–25, districts may only enter into a pupil transportation services contract if that entity provides the following coverage on behalf of its K–12 employees who choose the coverage. Such coverage includes a health benefit contribution equal the employer payment dollar amount in effect for the first year of the contract at the SEBB health care benefit rate, and an amount equal to the salaries of the employees of the contractor multiplied by the employer normal cost contribution rate determined under the entry age cost method for the school employees' retirement system; and (4) provides reimbursement subject to funding provided for increased costs to districts that are directly attributable to increased benefits as required in this bill. Additional reporting requirements for contracting districts are included to show the dollar equivalency for health care and retirement benefits as provided in this bill.

- **ESHB 1436, funding special education**—passed the Senate on Wednesday, 49-0, and now goes back to the House for concurrence.

The bill increases the special ed multiplier over the next four years to 1.059 for special ed students who are in the regular classroom more than 80 percent of the time, and to 1.043 for those students who spend less than 80 percent of the time in the regular classroom. The enrollment limit for K–21 students would be gradually increased until it is removed in SY 2027–28. OSPI is required to review district data for disproportionate identification and to support district's efforts in using inclusionary teaching practices. Beginning July 1, 2025, OSPI would be required to redirect up to 50 percent of the district's special ed students' basic ed allocations for special ed if the special ed expenditures exceed revenues in the previous school year. A null and void clause is added. The fiscal impact is \$179 million.

Coming out of the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee on March 27, the striking amendment now only directs OSPI to annually review data to ensure there is not a disproportionate identification of students. It requires OSPI to provide technical assistance to districts experiencing issues related to disproportionality and make professional development opportunities available to promote inclusionary teaching practices. JLARC & SAO are required to conduct a performance audit of the state's system of providing special ed services.

Sen. Lisa Wellman's striking floor amendment which places E2SSB 5311 on top of this bill was passed on Wednesday.

- **E2SSB 5311, special education funding formula**—remains in House Rules. The bill increases the special ed funding cap from 13.5 percent to 15 percent. The special ed multiplier in SY 2023–24 to PreK (1.2); K–12 > 80 percent (1.12); K–12 < 80 percent (1.06). Beginning in SY 2023–24, a high-need student is eligible for safety-net award if the student's IEP costs exceed: (a) 2 times the average per-pupil expenditure of districts with fewer than 1,000 FTE enrollment; or (b) 2.2 times the average per-pupil expenditure of districts with more than 1,000 FTE enrollment. OSPI and the State Auditor are directed to develop an allocation cost accounting methodology that ensures state apportionment funding is allocated to a

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

student's special ed program and accounted for as excess costs when these basic ed services are provided in an alternative setting. The Office of Education Ombuds must certify a special ed ombudsman in each ESD to provide resource assistance to special ed students and their parents in the IEP process.

On April 4, the House Appropriations Committee in a striker amendment placed the original provisions of SHB 1436 on this bill.

- **[E2SHB 1238](#), providing free school meals for all students**—passed the Senate on Tuesday, 44-5. The bill now goes back to the House for concurrence.

The bill removes the language that would make it a part of the State's program of basic education. In 2023–24, it requires districts in their schools which contain grades K–4, and in which 40 percent or more of the students meet federal eligibility for free or reduced-price lunches, to serve their K–4 students for free. Then in SY 2024–25, a qualifying K–4 school would become one in which 30 percent of the students meet federal eligibility for free or reduced school lunches.

It also specifies that schools who are participating in the federal Community Eligibility Provision program (CEP) and who have not completed the CEP four-year program would not be eligible for universal free meals under this bill. The threshold of 40 percent free and reduced-price lunch eligibility for the mandatory establishment of the school breakfast program is restored. Beginning in SY 2024–25, districts are required to implement school breakfast in schools that are required to provide meals to students at no charge. Also, the bill limits the applicability of LAP and National Board bonus provisions to qualifying schools that are required to provide meals to students at no charge.

Further, schools who are required to provide free meals in qualifying schools, but don't participate in the federal meal program would be reimbursed at the whole amount of what USDA reimburses plus the difference between that rate and the free rate. Thus, these schools, since they have to serve all free meals if they are at 30-40 percent F/R, would be able to do so without having to comply with federal meal program requirements. Also, public schools are encouraged to provide school meals to students by serving WA produced food whenever practicable and the cost is comparable on non-WA produced food. A revised fiscal note is \$23.8 million.

On Tuesday, Senate floor amendments were adopted, which include: (1) provides that the requirements related to certain schools serving grades K–4 to provide breakfast and lunch at no charge to any requesting student will lapse if federal reimbursement for any school breakfasts or lunches is eliminated; (2) removes subject to appropriations language as it relates to districts being required to implement a breakfast program in each school providing meals at no charge beginning in SY 2023–24; (3) removes state reimbursement for districts that are not participating in the federal lunch or breakfast program who have qualifying schools to receive state reimbursement under this bill; and (4) removes the provision that requires public schools to participate in CEP when they have an identified student percentage of less than 40 percent if authorized by federal law.

- **[SHB 1044](#), capital financial assistance to small school districts with demonstrated financial challenges**—passed the Senate, 46-3, on Tuesday, and now goes back to the House for concurrence.

This bill creates a supplementary capital grant program for districts with enrollments of 1,000 students or fewer for comprehensive instructional facility modernization or replacement. It requires that the grants be coordinated with the SCAP program to the extent that the district has

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

program eligibility. Further, it requires the district awarded the grant to provide a district share equal to 50 percent of the district’s remaining debt capacity for capital purposes, capped at an estimated property tax rate increment of \$1.75 per \$1,000 of assessed district value. According to the fiscal note, OSPI’s cost would be \$137 million.

As amended in the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Con March 27, the bill is expands eligibility to participate in the grant program to include districts with a student headcount enrollment of 3,000 or fewer students that meet the following criteria: (1) is located in an ESD with rural communities that experience prohibitive access to skill centers or other workforce development programs; (2) a district that has been unable to pass a bond issue in the prior 25 years and has had at least three bond measures that failed in consecutive years during that 25 year period; and (3) the district has classroom buildings that do not meet structural, environmental or emergency requirements.

As amended in the Senate Ways & Means Committee on April 4, the bill now includes provisions that do the following, including place the policy of ESSB 5126 on the bill: (1) eliminates the 100-point scoring scaled used by the advisory committee to prioritize construction grant applications; (2) directs the advisory committee to prioritize those districts with the lowest remaining debt capacity, most significant building deficiencies and lowest head count enrollment, and allows the advisory committee to weigh such factors as appropriate given the pool of applicants and the extent each factor deviates from the statewide average; (3) makes the prioritized project list of the Small School Modernization Grant Program the first priority of the Common School Construction Fund (CSCF) after payment of principal and interest for skill center bonds; and (4) starting in 2025–27, no less than \$60 million in new appropriations in the Capital Budget must be used to fund the small school district prioritized list, and any remaining amounts in the CSCF may be appropriate for the common school construction purposes. This amount increases to \$70 million in 2027–29, to \$80 million in 2020–31 and every biennium thereafter.

Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey—The Nexus Group

Health, Pension, and Other Benefit Issues

“The finish line is just the beginning of a whole new race.”

Anonymous

As Sine Die approaches the Legislature will go ‘dark’. Negotiations between both chambers, caucus members, the Governor’s office, and Legislature leadership will be taking place outside of the public eye. Budgets need to be adopted and altered bills need to be reconciled/concurred by the opposite body. The balls/bills will continue bouncing back and forth until finally caught by the Governor. Bill signings are occurring.

The status of selected bills is given below. Note that anything can change with little notice. Some, such as SB 5294 that were assumed ‘dead’, may come back. There also will be bills yet to come or that will resurrect, whose passage will be needed because they are linked to the budget. And some bills are truly dead that did not make the most recent cutoff (4/12/23).

A reminder that unless noted otherwise, bills that have been signed by the Governor are effective 90 days after adjournment. (7/23/23)

Retirement Related Proposals

This Week in Olympia:
 Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

HB 1008: Concerning participating in insurance plans and contracts by separated Plan 2 members of certain retirement systems.

Comment: It allows certain individuals who separate from a position covered by the Public Employees', School Employees', and Teachers' Retirement System Plans 2, without retiring, the opportunity to participate in retiree benefits of the Public Employees' Benefits Board.

This bill has been sent to the Governor for action.

SHB 1056: Repealing some postretirement employment restrictions.

Comment: Changes the postretirement employment restrictions on benefits eligibility for Public Employees' Retirement System, Teachers Retirement System, and School Employees Retirement System Plans 2 and 3 members that retired under the 2008 Early Retirement Factors (ERFs). • Permits 2008 ERF members to work in retirement system–covered employment for up to 867 hours per year without suspension of retirement benefits. • Adjusts benefits for individuals that chose the 3 percent per year early retirement reduction to the level of reduction in the 2008 ERFs for future benefit payments. Effective 1/1/2024.

The Senate adopted a striker with an amendment that reads: Removes the recalculation of retirement benefits for retirees that were eligible to take a 2008 early retirement factor but took a higher reduction in benefits so that they could return to work.”

This bill passed the Senate and will be sent to the House for concurrence.

Note Regarding Pension Funding: A number of bills dealing with pension funding have been offered this session. The primary difference between them is how to fund or not fund any cost-of-living increase. See below for status.

ESHB 1057: Providing a benefit increase to certain retirees of the public employees' retirement system plan 1 and the teachers' retirement system plan.

Comment: This would grant a one-time, capped 3 percent COLA for TRS1/PERS1 plan members. It also directs the SCPP to recommend a path to regaining permanent COLA for these retirees. It was amended by the Senate Ways & Means Committee to remove provisions delaying the imposition of the contribution rate increases attributable until July 1, 2027, and directing that the supplemental contribution rate not be charged for the benefits created in this bill until July 1, 2027, and directs that the supplemental contribution rate not be charged for the benefits created in this bill. SB 5350 was a companion prior to the adoption of the House amendment. It was presumed 'dead' since no action had been taken since 3/28. However, the decision obviously was made to put ESHB 1057 aside in favor of SB 5350.

ESHB 1057 is 'dead'. See SB 5350 below.

ESSB 5294: Concerning actuarial funding of state retirement systems.

Comment: This bill was amended by the House Appropriations Committee. It lowers the surcharge contribution rates in effect for the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), currently 3.5 percent and the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) Plans 1 rates, currently 5.75 percent. PERS 1 would be lowered to 2.5 percent in 2024; 2.0 percent in 2025; 1.5 percent in 2026; 1.0 percent in 2027 and 0.0 percent in 2027. TRS 1 rates would be 1.0 percent in 2024; .50 percent in 2025 and 0.0 percent from 2026 forward. It reduces the scheduled payment of \$800 million into the TRS 1 fund to \$250 million. The substitute Senate bill was included in their budget.

This bill passed the House as amended and has been sent back to the Senate for concurrence. The Senate did not concur. The bill is in dispute.

SB 5350: Providing a benefit increase to certain retirees of the public employees' retirement system plan 1 and the teachers' retirement system plan 1.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

Comment: This bill was amended by the House to Delay the impact of the benefit cost on the contribution rate for benefits added to the PERS and TRS 1 after June 30, 2009, until July 1, 2027. It specifies that a supplemental contribution rate shall not be charged for the benefits granted in the bill. Effective 1/1/2023.

It will be sent back to the Senate for concurrence. The Senate did not concur on 4/13/23. The bill will be sent back to the House. The bill is in dispute. They will be asked to reconsider.

SB 5490: Concerning health care coverage for retired or disabled employees denied coverage for failure to timely notify the authority of their intent to defer coverage.

Comment: A retired or disabled employee who was eligible to defer coverage when they left employment, but failed to do so and later applied for retiree coverage and was denied solely for failure to notify HCA of their plan to defer coverage, and appealed the denial of benefits by December 31, 2022, may enroll in retiree health care. A retired or disabled employee enrolling in benefits may only enroll in a fully insured Medicare advantage or Medicare supplement plan. A retiree taking advantage of this provision must apply by the end of the open enrollment period for the plan year beginning January 1, 2024.

The Governor signed the bill, and it became effective 3/30/2023.

Other areas of potential fiscal (\$\$) impact and (often, unfunded) to districts

SHB 1068: Concerning injured workers' rights during compelled medical examinations.

Comment: Allows an injured worker to make an audio and video recording of an independent medical examination, and to have one person of the worker's choosing present during the examination.

This bill was amended, then approved by the Senate. One adopted amendment reads, "Requires (1) the worker to provide seven calendar days' notice to the entity scheduling the exam that the independent medical exam will be recorded and (2) the department of labor and industries to adopt rules to define the notification process. Another adopted amendment reads, "Removes the prohibition on recording neuropsychological exams. Prohibits the worker from materially altering the recording or posting it to social media."

This bill will be sent back to the House for concurrence.

ESHB 1106: Concerning qualifications for unemployment insurance when an individual voluntarily leaves work.

Comment: Expands access to unemployment insurance benefits by adding circumstances where a person may voluntarily quit for a good cause. Senate adopted amendments expands access to unemployment insurance (UI) benefits by adding circumstances where a person may voluntarily quit for good cause and requires a report to the legislature regarding UI claims related to benefits for separations from employment because of inaccessible care for a child or vulnerable adult. Another adopted amendment provides that benefits paid because care for a child or vulnerable adult in the claimant's care is inaccessible shall not be charged to the experience rating account of any contribution paying employer.

This bill has been sent back to the House for concurrence.

ESHB 1187: Concerning privileged communication between employees and the unions that represent them.

Comment: Creates a privilege from examination and disclosure for a union representative and a union employee concerning any communication between the union representative or union employee made during union representation and creates exceptions to this privilege. • Applies the privilege from examination and disclosure to the union members and organizations that represent employees of

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

college districts, employees of school districts, public employees, faculty at public four-year institutions of higher education, civil service employees, ferry employees, port employees, and labor unions.

This bill was amended by the Senate and will be sent back to the House for concurrence.

SHB 1200: Requiring public employers to provide employee information to exclusive bargaining representatives.

Comment: The bill requires certain public employers to provide exclusive bargaining representatives employee information, such as contact information, date of hire, salary, and jobsite location, of employees in bargaining units if the employer has that information in its records. It allows an exclusive bargaining representative to bring a court action if a public employer fails to comply with the requirement to provide information.

The bill was amended by the Senate and will be sent back to the House for concurrence.

EHB 1210: Concerning the recording of school board meetings.

Comment: Requires all school district board meetings to be audio recorded, subject to exceptions for executive sessions and emergencies, with recordings kept for one year. • Specifies that a public records request for recordings of meetings of a school district board of directors must include the date of the meetings requested or a range of dates. • Encourages school districts to make the content of school board of directors' meetings available in formats accessible to individuals who need communication assistance and in languages other than English.

This bill passed Senate 48/0 and will be sent to the Governor for signature.

SHB 1521: Concerning the duties of industrial insurance self-insured employers and third-party administrators.

Comment: This bill specifies that self-insured employers and third-party administrators have a duty of good faith and fair dealing to workers with respect to all aspects of workers' compensation. • Requires the Department of Labor and Industries to enforce the duty of good faith and fair dealing. • • Provides penalties for violations of this duty. One adopted amendment reads, "Provides that nothing be interpreted as allowing a private cause of action outside of the original jurisdiction of the Department to assess penalties and rights to appeal." Another adopted amendment reads, "Limits the duty of good faith and fair dealing and related penalties to self-insured municipal employers and their third-party administrators."

This bill was amended by the Senate and will be sent back to the House for concurrence.

2SHB 1618: Concerning the statute of limitations for childhood sexual abuse.

Comment: This bill would remove the statute of limitations for recovery of damages as a result of childhood sexual abuse. • • Applies the act retroactively and prospectively.

This bill was scheduled for Executive Session on 3/4/23 but no action was taken. This bill did not make cutoff so may be 'dead,' however there is a strong lobby promoting this so note that 'dead' is in quotes.

SB 5084: Creating a separate fund for the purposes of self-insured pensions and assessments.

Comment: Creates a self-insurance reserve fund for payments from self-insured employers related to workers' compensation pensions and from the overpayments reimbursement fund.

This bill has been sent to the Governor for signature.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

ESSB 5123: Concerning the employment of individuals who lawfully consume cannabis.

Comment: This bill was amended by the House. It prohibits employers, with some exceptions, from discriminating against a person in hiring if the discrimination is based on the person's use of cannabis outside of work or on certain employer-required drug screening tests. The House amended the bill to exclude from the bill persons seeking positions: • with a general authority law enforcement agency; • with a fire department, fire protection district, or regional fire protection service authority; • as a position as a first responder; and • as a position as a corrections officer. It also codifies the underlying bill in chapter 49.94 RCW, rather than chapter 49.44 RCW, subjecting its provisions to enforcement by the Attorney General and other limitations provided under the Fair Chance Act.

Passed House 57/41 with amendments will be sent to Senate for concurrence.

SSB 5127: Clarifying school districts' ability to redact personal information related to a student.

Comment: Creates a new exemption to the Public Records Act for personal information in any records pertaining to a student currently or previously enrolled in a local education agency.

This bill will be sent to the Governor for his signature.

E2SSB 5174: Providing adequate and predictable student transportation.

Comment: Requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to administer transportation safety net awards to school districts with excess special passenger costs for special education, homeless, and foster students, as defined in the operating budget. • Provides that, no earlier than for a contract affecting the 2024–25 school year, school districts may only enter into a pupil transportation services contract if the contractor provides certain health benefit and retirement contributions to employees who choose to opt in for coverage. • Provides reimbursement subject to funding provided specifically for increased costs to school districts that are directly attributable to increased benefits as required in the bill. (Although the sponsor suggests that legislators will try their best to fully fund, but.....)

This bill was amended by the House and sent back to the Senate for concurrence.

ESSB 5217: Concerning the state's ability to regulate certain industries and risk classes to prevent musculoskeletal injuries and disorders.

Comment: This bill repeals the law prohibiting the Department of Labor and Industries (Department) from adopting rules related to ergonomics or musculoskeletal disorders. • Provides limitations on the adoption of new rules, including allowing rules only for industries or risk classifications where compensable claims involved musculoskeletal injuries and disorders that are at a rate greater than two times the overall state claim rate for these types of injuries and disorders over a recent five-year period. • Requires the Department to: (1) identify industries and risk classifications most likely to be selected for rulemaking; (2) review and report certain claims data; and (3) consider certain factors during • Allows the Department to provide funding to certain employers to purchase additional equipment and requires up to three additional ergonomists to provide consultation to certain employers. Provides that no rule may be effective prior to July 1, 2026. (6) Modifies the review of claims data to data identified as compensable claims over the five-calendar year period that ended two calendar years before the report is published. Requires L&I to provide up to three additional ergonomists, funded from the accident and medical aid funds, to provide consultation to employers in the industries and risk classifications in the published list. Requires L&I annually to identify a list of industries or risk classes most likely to be selected for future rule making and prioritize efforts to provide technical assistance to those employers.

This bill has been sent to the Governor for his signature.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 14, April 10–14, 2023

Continued

SSB 5275: Expanding access to benefits provided by the school employees' benefits board.

Comment: Allows tribal compact schools, employee organizations representing school employees, and school board directors the option of providing health care through the School Employees Benefits Board through SEBB beginning January 1, 2024. Employers opting into coverage under SEBB may determine the terms of employee and dependent eligibility and must pay premiums set by HCA.

Passed House 97/0. The Governor signed the bill on 3/30/23. Becomes effective 1/1/2024, however, HCA will be reaching out to eligible parties prior to that date with information.

SSB 5286: Modifying the premium provisions of the paid family and medical leave program.

Comment: Modifies the statutory formula for determining the premium rates for the Paid Family and Medical Leave Program.

This bill has been sent to the Governor for his signature.

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 9, 2023

First Day of Session.

February 17, 2023

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

February 24, 2023

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

March 8, 2023

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

March 29, 2023

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

April 4, 2023

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

April 12, 2023*

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 23, 2023

Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

* After 5:00 p.m. on the 94th 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
SHB 1003	Dual credit program access	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
HB 1008 (SB 5420)	Plan 2 members/insurance	S Passed 3rd	Bronoske
HB 1011	Long-term care/pepal	H HC/Wellness	Abbarno
2SHB 1013	Regional apprenticeship prgs	S Pres Signed	Maycumber
SHB 1015 (SB 5264)	Paraeducator requirements	Del to Gov	Santos
HB 1020	State dinosaur	S Passed 3rd	Morgan
SHB 1044	Capital assistance/schools	S Passed 3rd	McEntire
ESHB 1048 (SSB 5047)	Voting rights act	Del to Gov	Mena
SHB 1056 (SB 5349)	Postretirement employment	S Passed 3rd	Stokesbary
ESHB 1057 (SB 5350)	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	S 2nd Reading	Stokesbary
HB 1064	School safety capital grants	H Cap Budget	Jacobsen
HB 1071	School resource officers	H Education	Walsh
EHB 1086	Community org. contracts	S Passed 3rd	Shavers
HB 1092	State property tax/valuation	H Finance	Walsh
HB 1093	K–12 scholarship program	H Education	Walsh
HB 1096 (SB 5731)	Amateur sports officials	H Community Safe	Low
SHB 1105	Public comment notice	S Rules 2	Kloba
SHB 1109	Special education funding	S Ways & Means	Senn
SHB 1113	Prof. educator reprimands	S EL/K–12	Harris
SHB 1118	School bus safety	H Appropriations	Mosbrucker
EHB 1125 (SSB 5162)	Transportation budget	H Passed 3rd	Fey
HB 1126 (SB 5164)	Transportation budget, supp.	H Transportation	Fey
E2SHB 1134	988 system	S Passed 3rd	Orwall
HB 1135 (SB 5452)	Impact fee use	H Rules R	Slatter
SHB 1140 (ESSB 5187)	Operating budget	H Rules R	Ormsby
HB 1141 (SB 5188)	Operating budget, supp.	H Appropriations	Ormsby
HB 1146	Dual credit program notice	S Rules 2	Paul
SHB 1147 (ESSB 5200)	Capital budget	H Rules R	Tharinger
SHB 1148 (SSB 5201)	State gen. obligation bonds	H Rules R	Tharinger

HB 1156 (SB 5711)	College grant eligibility	H Appropriations	Slatter
ESHB 1187 (SB 5706)	Employee-union privilege	S Passed 3rd	Hackney
SHB 1200 (SB 5273)	Employee information/unions	S Passed 3rd	Alvarado
HB 1201 (ESSB 5294)	Retirement system funding	H Rules C	Ormsby
SHB 1207	Harassment/schools	S Passed 3rd	Senn
EHB 1210	School board recordings	Del to Gov	Rude
HB 1211 (E2SSB 5311)	Special education funding	H Appropriations	Bergquist
SHB 1228	Dual & tribal language edu.	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
HB 1230	School websites/drug info.	S Passed 3rd	Callan
E2SHB 1238 (SSB 5339)	Free school meals	S Passed 3rd	Riccelli
2SHB 1239	Educator ethics & complaints	H Rules R	Santos
SHB 1241	Harassment	S Law & Justice	Leavitt
HB 1244 (SB 5692)	Enrichment levy authority	H Rules C	Ramel
HB 1246	Health benefits/SEBB	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
SHB 1248	Pupil transportation	H Rules R	Stonier
2SHB 1272	Voters' pamphlets	H Rules R	Bergquist
SHB 1273 (E2SSB 5243)	High school and beyond plans	H Appropriations	Berg
ESHB 1277	Paraeducator course of study	S 2nd Reading	Donaghy
HB 1294	Plan 1 retiree COLAs	H Appropriations	Steele
2SHB 1305	Students with disabilities	H Rules C	Pollet
SHB 1306 (2SSB 5268)	Public works procurement	H Rules C	Tharinger
HB 1308	Graduation pathway options	S Passed 3rd	Stonier
2SHB 1316	Dual credit program access	S Passed 3rd	Paul
E2SHB 1320 (SSB 5061)	Personnel records	S Ways & Means	Reed
HB 1328	Schools & families/funding	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
2SHB 1332	Tribes/K-12 instruction	S 2nd Reading	Lekanoff
SHB 1346 (2SSB 5071)	Purple star award	S Passed 3rd	Shavers
HB 1353	School district elections	H Education	Stonier
HB 1354	School volunteers/conviction	H Education	Stonier
SHB 1368 (SB 5431)	Zero emission school buses	H Appropriations	Senn
HB 1373	Illegal encampment removal	H Housing	Stokesbary
HB 1374 (SSB 5305)	Office of career connect WA	H Postsec Ed & W	Slatter
HB 1376	School practice standards	H Education	Santos

ESHB 1377	Continuing education/K-12	S Rules 2	Santos
SHB 1386	Youth development grants	H Appropriations	Rule
E2SHB 1392 (SB 5464)	Electronics repair	S Environment, E	Gregerson
SHB 1406	Youth seeking housing assist	S Pres Signed	Cortes
HB 1411	Cross-sector prof. dev.	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
HB 1418 (SB 5442)	Charter schools/enrichment	H Appropriations	Springer
HB 1423 (SSB 5372)	Trust land transfer program	H Cap Budget	Hackney
HB 1429	Educational employee strikes	H Labor & Workplace	Stokesbary
ESHB 1436	Special education funding	S Passed 3rd	Pollet
HB 1444 (SSB 5126)	Common school trust revenue	H Cap Budget	McEntire
HB 1459	PERS & TRS plan 1 adjustment	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
HB 1468	Impact fee deferrals	H Rules C	Goehner
HB 1472	Motor vehicle sales tax	H Appropriations	Barkis
EHB 1478	Student rights	S EL/K-12	Timmons
E2SHB 1479 (SB 5559)	Student restraint, isolation	S EL/K-12	Callan
HB 1483	State school levies	H Finance	Orcutt
HB 1489 (SB 5590)	Mt. St. Helens license plate	H Rules C	Orcutt
HB 1496 (SB 5556)	Naselle Youth Camp property	H State Govt & T	Walsh
HB 1497	Vapor and tobacco/minors	H Reg Subst & Gaming	Harris
SHB 1504 (ESSB 5257)	Elementary school recess	S EL/K-12	Low
HB 1527 (SB 5539)	Tax increment financing	S Passed 3rd	Wylie
HB 1536	H.S. diplomas/withholding	S Passed 3rd	Timmons
E2SHB 1541 (SB 5616)	Lived experience	S Ways & Means	Farivar
HB 1549	AP course options	H Education	Stonier
2SHB 1550	Transition to kindergarten	S Passed 3rd	Santos
HB 1556 (SB 5495)	Property tax rebates	H Finance	Berg
HB 1560	Property tax exemptions	H Finance	Shavers
E2SHB 1565	Prof. education workforce	S Ways & Means	Ortiz-Self
HB 1566	Vacation leave accrual	H Rules R	Bateman
SHB 1590	Oversight board for DCYF	S Pres Signed	Dent
HB 1605 (SSB 5668)	Small districts/skill center	H Appropriations	Rule
HB 1608	Anaphylaxis meds./schools	H Education	Bronoske
SHB 1609	School library info and tech	H Appropriations	Eslick

HB 1615	Education savings accounts	H Education	Eslick
2SHB 1618	Childhood sexual abuse/SOL	S Ways & Means	Farivar
SHB 1621	Local government procurement	S Passed 3rd	Ryu
HB 1622	Students/homelessness	S Passed 3rd	Fey
HB 1624	ESD election administration	Del to Gov	Ybarra
HB 1649	Prejudgment interest	H Civil R & Judi	Hackney
SHB 1658	Work experience/H.S. credit	S Pres Signed	Shavers
HB 1667 (SB 5563)	Prevailing wage	H Labor & Workplace	Schmidt
HB 1670	Property tax limit factor	H Rules R	Ormsby
HB 1675	School safety dashboard	H Education	McEntire
SHB 1676	Special ed. early support	H Appropriations	Senn
HB 1679 (SB 5719)	Student homelessness group	S Passed 3rd	Rule
SHB 1692	Student advisory groups	H Rules R	Bergquist
SHB 1693 (ESSB 5702)	Student homelessness pilot	H Rules R	Lekanoff
HB 1697	Early achievers, voluntary	H Human Svc, Youth	Walsh
SHB 1701	Institutional ed. programs	S Passed 3rd	Callan
HB 1703	Local property tax levies	H Local Govt	Orcutt
HB 1704	Sales and use tax rate	H Finance	Orcutt
HB 1710 (SSB 5248)	Tutoring & extended learning	H Appropriations	Rude
EHB 1714	Financial literacy grants	S Rules 2	Stonier
HB 1721	Skill center class size	H Appropriations	Paul
ESHB 1732	K–12 inflation adjustments	S Ways & Means	Bergquist
HB 1741	Prototypical school formulas	H Appropriations	Rule
ESHB 1744	Charter school oversight	S Passed 3rd	Rude
2SHB 1746 (SB 5718)	State broadband map	S Rules 2	Ryu
HB 1747 (SB 5680)	Seismic safety/schools	H Cap Budget	Chapman
HB 1749	Filipino Americans/schools	H Education	Chandler
HB 1750	Water safety education	S Passed 3rd	Berg
SHB 1756	Energy/tax	S Rules 2	Ramel
HB 1759	Chinese American month	H State Govt & T	Santos
HB 1793	Wireless devices tax	H Finance	Gregerson
HB 1819	K–12 music instruction	H Education	Reed
HB 1825	Teacher comp./state schools	H Appropriations	Harris

HB 1827	Vaccination status	H Civil R & Judiciary	Walsh
HJR 4203	School district bonds	H Education	Stonier
HJR 4205 (SJR 8206)	Property tax rebates	H Finance	Berg
SB 5000	Americans of Chinese descent	H Passed 3rd	Wagoner
SB 5008	K–12 instr. materials/access	S EL/K–12	McCune
SB 5009	Sex ed./parent approval	S EL/K–12	McCune
SB 5017	Motor vehicles sales tax use	S Ways & Means	Fortunato
SB 5018	Sales tax/transp. projects	S Transportation	Fortunato
SB 5019	School safety staff	H Rules R	Wellman
SB 5020	Education at 6 years of age	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SB 5024	K–12 education/parent rights	S EL/K–12	Dozier
SB 5029	School district boards	S EL/K–12	Short
SB 5031	Special ed safety net awards	H Passed 3rd	Wellman
SB 5038	K–12 empl. notice deadlines	S EL/K–12	Mullet
SSB 5047 (ESHB 1048)	Voting rights act	S Rules X	Saldana
2SSB 5048	College in high school fees	H Passed 3rd	Mullet
SSB 5054	Prof. learning communities	H Education	Wellman
SB 5059	Prejudgment interest	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SSB 5061 (E2SHB 1320)	Personnel records	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SB 5064	Special ed. excess costs	S EL/K–12	Wellman
SB 5065	Bone marrow donation/schools	H Passed 3rd	Short
SB 5068	Motor vehicle sales tax	S Ways & Means	MacEwen
2SSB 5071 (SHB 1346)	Purple star designation	S Rules X	Nobles
SSB 5072	Highly capable students	H Passed 3rd	Nobles
SSB 5085	School principals/employment	S Rules X	Wellman
ESSB 5102	School library info and tech	H Appropriations	Wellman
SSB 5126 (HB 1444)	Common school trust revenue	H Cap Budget	Pedersen
SSB 5127	Student information/PRA	S Pres Signed	Wilson
SB 5136	Sales and use tax exemptions	S Ways & Means	Fortunato
SB 5139	Vaccination refusal	S Health & Long	Fortunato
SSB 5158	State & local taxation	S Rules X	Wilson
SSB 5162 (EHB 1125)	Transportation budget	S Rules 2	Lias
SB 5164 (HB 1126)	Transportation budget, supp.	S Transportation	Lias

E2SSB 5174	Student transportation	H Passed 3rd	Wellman
ESB 5175	School principal contracts	H Passed 3rd	Wellman
SB 5180	Teacher mobility compact	H Education	Hunt
ESSB 5187 (SHB 1140)	Operating budget	H Passed 3rd	Rolfes
SB 5188 (HB 1141)	Operating budget, supp.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
ESSB 5200 (SHB 1147)	Capital budget	H 2nd Reading	Mullet
SSB 5201 (SHB 1148)	State gen. obligation bonds	S 2nd Reading	Mullet
2SSB 5225	Working conn. child care	S Pres Signed	Wilson
SSB 5237	Education law noncompliance	S Ways & Means	Wilson
E2SSB 5243 (SHB 1273)	High school and beyond plans	H Passed 3rd	Wellman
SB 5246	Supreme court fiscal notes	S Law & Justice	Holy
SSB 5248 (HB 1710)	Tutoring & extended learning	S Ways & Means	Braun
2SSB 5254	Leasing of state lands	S Rules X	Van De Wege
2SSB 5268 (SHB 1306)	Public works procurement	H Passed 3rd	Hasegawa
SB 5273 (SHB 1200)	Employee information/unions	S Labor & Comm	Valdez
SSB 5305 (HB 1374)	Office of career connect WA	S Ways & Means	Wellman
E2SSB 5311 (HB 1211)	Special education funding	H Rules R	Wellman
E2SSB 5315	Special education/nonpublic	H Passed 3rd	Wilson
SB 5327	Intern wages	S Labor & Comm	Keiser
SB 5332	Homeless camps/schools, etc.	S Loc Gov, Land	King
SSB 5339 (E2SHB 1238)	Free school meals	S Ways & Means	Nobles
SB 5343	School construction costs	S EL/K-12	Schoesler
SB 5344	Public school revolving fund	S Rules X	Schoesler
SB 5345	School buildings/energy	S Environment, E	Schoesler
SB 5346	Student art/school const.	S EL/K-12	Schoesler
SB 5349 (SHB 1056)	Postretirement employment	S Rules X	Conway
SB 5350 (ESHB 1057)	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	H Passed 3rd	Conway
ESB 5355	Sex trafficking prev. ed.	H Passed 3rd	Wilson
SB 5363	Cannabis advertising	H Rules R	MacEwen
ESSB 5365	Vapor and tobacco/minors	H Passed 3rd	Saldana
SSB 5372 (HB 1423)	DNR land	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5403	School depreciation subfunds	H Passed 3rd	Schoesler
SB 5404	Cannabis revenue/local gov.	S Labor & Comm	Wagoner

SB 5408	Ninth grade success grants	S Ways & Means	Liias
SB 5420 (HB 1008)	Plan 2 members/insurance	S Ways & Means	Conway
SB 5431 (SHB 1368)	Zero emission school buses	S EL/K-12	Shewmake
2SSB 5438	Supportive relationships	H Rules R	Warnick
SSB 5441	School district curricula	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SB 5442 (HB 1418)	Charter schools/enrichment	S EL/K-12	Mullet
SB 5444	Firearm sensitive places	S Law & Justice	Valdez
SB 5449	School buses/other use	S Transportation	Warnick
ESB 5462	Inclusive learning standards	H Education	Liias
SB 5464 (E2SHB 1392)	Electronics repair	S Environment, E	Stanford
SB 5479	Long-term care/referendum	S Labor & Comm	Schoesler
SB 5485	Public employees/child care	S Ways & Means	Shewmake
SB 5495 (HB 1556)	Property tax rebates	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SB 5505	School year expansion	S EL/K-12	Hawkins
SB 5511	K-12 education funding	S EL/K-12	Braun
SB 5514 (HB 1582)	Right turns	S Transportation	Lovick
SB 5527	Graduation pathway options	S Rules X	Mullet
SB 5554	College grant award amounts	S Ways & Means	Nguyen
SB 5556 (HB 1496)	Naselle Youth Camp property	S State Govt & El	Wilson
SB 5558	Rights of parents	S EL/K-12	McCune
SB 5559 (E2SHB 1479)	Student restraint, isolation	S EL/K-12	Wilson
SB 5563 (HB 1667)	Prevailing wage	S Labor & Comm	King
SB 5577	Capital broadband program	S Environment, E	Torres
SSB 5586	Paid leave data	H Passed 3rd	King
SB 5590 (HB 1489)	Mt. St. Helens license plate	S Rules 2	Wilson
2SSB 5593	Student data transfer	H Passed 3rd	Liias
SB 5595	State nickname	H Rules R	Wilson
SB 5616 (E2SHB 1541)	Lived experience	S State Govt & E	Valdez
SSB 5617	Career & tech. ed. courses	H Passed 3rd	Wellman
SB 5618	Local property tax limit	S Loc Gov, Land	Kuderer
SB 5625	Public employee retirees	S Ways & Means	Liias
SSB 5626	K-12 media literacy	H Appropriations	Liias
SB 5641	African heritage week	S State Govt & E	Fortunato

SB 5647	School safety/temp employees	S Rules X	Torres
SSB 5648	Board of education waivers	H Education	Wellman
ESB 5650	K–12 inflationary increases	C 50 L 23	Rolfes
SB 5653	Minors & parents/rights	S EL/K–12	Fortunato
SSB 5655	WA achievers grant program	S Rules X	Torres
SB 5656	School security grants	S EL/K–12	Torres
SB 5661	Skill center class sizes	S EL/K–12	Boehnke
SSB 5668 (HB 1605)	Small districts/skill center	S Ways & Means	Shewmake
2SSB 5670	Running start/10th grade	S Rules X	Hawkins
SB 5671	K–12 experience factors	S EL/K–12	MacEwen
SB 5678	Firearms safety/K–12	S EL/K–12	Wagoner
SB 5680 (HB 1747)	Seismic safety/schools	S EL/K–12	Schoesler
SSB 5684	Small works rosters	S Rules X	Hasegawa
SB 5688	Public lands/carbon seq.	S Ways & Means	Lovelett
SB 5692 (HB 1244)	Enrichment levy authority	S EL/K–12	Lovelett
SB 5706 (ESHB 1187)	Employee-union privilege	S Law & Justice	Frame
SB 5710	Behavioral health/youth	S Ways & Means	Torres
SB 5711 (HB 1156)	College grant eligibility	H Appropriations	Nobles
SB 5712	College grant/promise prg.	S Higher Ed & Work	Liias
SB 5713	Certain schools/reg. factors	S EL/K–12	Wagoner
SB 5718 (2SHB 1746)	State broadband map	S Environment, E	Wellman
SB 5719 (HB 1679)	Student homelessness group	S Ways & Means	Hunt
SSB 5723	Even-numbered year elections	S Rules X	Valdez
SB 5731 (HB 1096)	Amateur sports officials	S Law & Justice	Lovick
SSB 5743	Transportation resources	H Transportation	Liias
SJM 8007	IDEA funding	S EL/K–12	Kauffman
SJR 8200	Revenue for highway purposes	S Transportation	Fortunato
SJR 8203	Public school revolving fund	S Rules X	Schoesler
SJR 8206 (HJR 4205)	Property tax rebates	S Ways & Means	Kuderer