

TWIO

This Week In Olympia

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April 21, 2023



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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 WAMOA.

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The 2023 Legislative Session has finally reached its final days. Today is Day 103 of this scheduled 105-day session and it is still on track to end on time, Sunday night, April 23. This week, legislators have spent considerable time in their respective Chambers—and even more time in their respective political Caucuses—as they slowly wade through bills on their Concurrence or Dispute Calendars. A handful of “Necessary to Implement the Budget” bills have been acted upon; however, most of those will be addressed over this last weekend of business—after we see final, compromise budgets.

Budget Update

And speaking of the budgets, we understand that negotiators for the 2023–25 Operating, 2023–25 Capital, and 2023–25 Transportation Budgets essentially completed negotiating a few days ago; however, we have yet to see any details. The budgets reportedly have been sent to the Code Reviser and are being scrubbed to ensure details (including budget figures and proviso language) are accurate and represent negotiated agreements. It is unclear if budget-writers have briefed their Caucus colleagues on any of the Budgets; however, at this point they have likely been informed of the final proposals. This, of course, is an important step as agreements among negotiators mean nothing if the final Budgets cannot garner the required 50 votes in the House and 25 votes in the Senate.

Signaling that Budgets are done, or at least nearly done, legislators have been making the necessary procedural motions to set the stage for action. As we noted last week, the Senate officially refused to concur in the House amendments to [SB 5187](#), the 2023–25 Operating Budget, requested a Conference Committee with the House, and appointed its three Conferees (two Majority Democrats and one Minority Republican). We also noted that the House would likely stall in responding, which they did. The House officially granted the request on Monday and appointed its Conferees (two Majority Democrats and one Minority Republican). The Conference Committee has not yet met, however.

As we have discussed a couple of times, Conference Committees on the Budgets are mostly just for show to comply with the bare minimum requirement of the Rules. Remember, [Joint Rules of the House and Senate](#) require Conference Committees to be public; however, budget-writers have been negotiating on the Budgets for a few weeks completely behind-the-scenes. They can get away with this because they never established Conference Committees. Now that the Operating Budget negotiations are nearing completion, legislators have scheduled a public meeting of the Conference Committee, tomorrow, Saturday, April 22 at noon. This meeting

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WASA Legislative Report Podcast



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will not include any negotiating, however. It is simply held—again to comply with the bare minimum requirement of the Rules—to sign the final, compromise Conference Report. Presumably, the two appointed Republican Conferees will attend—which will be their first and only invitation to a Conference. To move, the Conference Report needs at least two signatures from each house. All four Democratic Conferees will sign the Report and it is highly unlikely to be signed by the House Republican Conferee. The question mark is the Senate Republican Conferee. Multiple Republicans supported the Budget as it left the Senate; however, following negotiations it will be interesting to see if the final Budget retains enough GOP-supported spending to gain their support.

In terms of process, when the Conference Report is forwarded to the House and Senate Floors, legislators will vote “up” or “down” on the Report, not the Budget bill. Part of the strategy of using a Conference Committee and a Conference Report is that no amendments are allowed. If budget-writers negotiated the Budgets behind-the-scenes, then simply introduced a striking amendment, opposing legislators could submit a stack of amendments, which could be politically dangerous (as the Majority would likely reject all of the amendments) and could take up valuable time as the Sine Die clock ticks loudly.

Last week, the House refused to concur with Senate amendments to [HB 1125](#), the 2023–25 Transportation Budget, officially requested a Conference Committee with the Senate and appointed its three Conferees (two Majority Democrats and one Minority Republican). On Tuesday, the Senate officially granted the request and appointed its Conferees (two Majority Democrats and one Minority Republican).

A public meeting of the Conference Committee on HB 1125 has been scheduled for later today, at 2:00 p.m. This meeting will follow the same process as above; the four Democratic members will sign the Conference Report, while the Republican members will likely not sign. It will then be forwarded to the two Chambers for final action—again, voting “up” or “down” on the Report.

While it has not been confirmed, it appears the Transportation Budget will be debated and adopted tomorrow, and the Operating Budget will be debated and adopted on Sunday. Part of the reason for this is that legislative Rules require bills (in this case, the Conference Reports) to be “on the bar” for 24 hours before being acted upon. This gives legislators time to review the documents before having to vote on them. Typically, like many Rules, this 24-hour Rule is waived for other legislation; however, because the Budgets are so public and important to most legislative observers (and are mammoth documents), legislators try to comply with this Rule when they are able.

You will notice in this conversation of Budget movement, the 2023–25 Capital Budget is absent. That is because, as we have discussed before, the Capital Budget is among the most bi-partisan (or non-partisan) bills addressed each session. This was true again this year as the Senate Capital Budget, [SB 5200](#), was introduced jointly by the Majority Democratic and Minority Republican leads on the Capital Budget. The same was true for the House Capital Budget, [HB 1147](#), which was introduced jointly by the Democratic House Capital Budget Committee Chair and the Republican Ranking Minority Member of the Committee. At this point, neither HB 1147 or SB 5200 has passed both houses—and therefore, legislators technically cannot call for a Conference Committee (because a bill cannot be in dispute if the original house has not had an opportunity to act on the opposite house’s amendments). Because these bills are being negotiated among the four Caucuses, they will likely introduce a striking amendment to SB 5200, which was adopted by the Senate and was advanced straight to the House Floor Calendar (HB 1147 went through the Committee process, but never was adopted by the full House). Also, while there is a fear of amendments on the Operating and Transportation Budgets, amendments are less likely on a bill that has been negotiated and vetted by all four Caucuses.

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While it is not confirmed, word is that the Capital Budget will be debated and adopted tomorrow, Saturday, along with the Transportation Budget. Also, neither Capital Budget Bond bill ([HB 1148/SB 5201](#)) has been adopted by either house. A striking amendment to SB 5201 will likely be moved alongside SB 5200.

Because budget action will occur over the weekend, we will provide a final Sine Die/ Budget Special Edition of *TWIO* on Monday. If you want to review the details of the Budgets before you see our review next week, budget documents will be available on the Legislature’s budget website at www.fiscal.wa.gov, under “Latest Budget Proposals.” Note that the documents will not be released until the Conference Committees meet, so Operating Budget materials will be available tomorrow after noon and Transportation Budget materials will be available today after 2:00 p.m. Without a Conference Committee, it is unclear when Capital Budget documents will be available; however, they should be released by this afternoon. For the Capital Budget, you need to review the most recent Budget bill, not a Conference Report.

This Week in Review

During the waning days of a session, there is a lot of “hurry up and wait,” as legislators will act on a small handful of bills and then go at ease, for Caucus discussions, or simply to wait until amendments and votes are lined up. Then they reemerge to act on a couple of bills, then go back at ease.

It seems like every year, K–12 education becomes a sticking point in Budget negotiations and both budget-implementing bills and policy bills get wrapped up in last minute disputes. This year is no different. We tried to elevate public education all session, attempting to get legislators to focus more on K–12. Now, we’d rather have our legislation put to bed and budget decisions made; however, there is a heavy focus on K–12, as several of education-related bills acted upon this week have been hung up in budget discussions.

Special Education

We started to feel pretty comfortable about where special education funding was going and where it looked like we would end up in final budget decisions. Unfortunately, special education has landed in the quagmire and the ultimate outcome has become cloudy.

Last week, the Senate adopted [HB 1436](#), the House’s vehicle for special education funding. The [striking amendment](#) that was adopted on top of HB 1436 merged key policy items from HB 1436, as adopted by the House, and funding components from [SB 5311](#), as adopted by the Senate. There were three House-adopted policy provisions included in the striking amendment:

- OSPI was directed to annually review data to ensure there is not a disproportionate identification of students;
- OSPI was required to provide technical assistance to school districts experiencing issues related to disproportionality and make professional development opportunities available to promote inclusionary teaching practices (which would put the Inclusionary Practices Project, or IPP, in statute); and
- The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee and the State Auditor were required to conduct a performance audit of the state’s system of providing special education.

The following funding components from SB 5311 were included in the striking amendment:

- Special education tiered multipliers were increased for Pre-K and K–12 students. The increases were accelerated in the 2023–24 school year and remain static in the out years;
- The special education enrollment funding cap was increased from 13.5 percent to 15.0 percent (beginning in the 2023–24 school year);

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- The special education safety net threshold was reduced from the current 2.3 times the Average Per-Pupil Expenditure (APPE) to 2.0 times APPE for districts with less than 1,000 FTE and to 2.2 times APPE for districts with more than 1,000 FTE;
- The Office of the Education Omsbud was required to contract with special education advocates (although this was specifically subject to funding in the Operating Budget); and
- “Accountability” language was added to require OSPI to develop an allocation and cost accounting methodology to ensure general apportionment funding is allocated to special education students.

On Wednesday, the House moved to “Do Not Concur,” refusing to accept the Senate amendments and asked the Senate to recede from its amendments.

We understood there were some intense budget negotiations over special education in the last few weeks and we were hopeful that the Senate’s adoption of an amended version of HB 1436 meant a deal had been struck. Apparently not.

We have heard two specific pieces may be at the center of the dispute. The first is the “accountability” language. Word is that the House is holding out for its language, which requires OSPI to divert “up to 50 percent” of a district’s general apportionment funding to special education if special education expenditures in the previous year exceeded state funding provided for that year.

The second issue is the funding level. It is unclear how low the House wants to go and it is unclear where they would make this reduction if budget-writers lowered the overall funding level currently provided by the Senate. Perhaps the simplest way to reduce the expenditure level would be to reduce the tiered multipliers. If the funding level is in dispute, likely the budget-writers would find a funding level they are comfortable with, then “back in” to that number to determine the calculation of the multipliers.

As we have mentioned before, until we see a budget, this is all just speculation. The Senate appeared to be holding firm on its funding level, so hopefully this gossip is just wrong.

Pupil Transportation

[SB 5174](#), funding pupil transportation, was adopted by the Senate on March 3. At that point, the bill boiled down to two pieces:

- OSPI was required to establish a Special Passenger Safety Net Program and provide Safety Net awards to school districts with a “convincingly demonstrated need for additional transportation funding for special passengers.” Special passengers were defined as: students eligible for and receiving special education that require transportation as a related service of their individualized education program; homeless students requiring transportation under the federal McKinney-Vento Act; and foster students receiving transportation as required by federal law; and
- OSPI was required to analyze school district transportation costs and allocations, providing a report to the Legislature by June 1, 2026. The bill’s intent section stated, “the Legislature intends to direct OSPI to gather additional data to inform the development and implementation of a new student transportation formula that adequately funds modern transportation services across the state.”

The Senate-adopted bill took a winding road through the House and was ultimately adopted by the full House on April 10. [As adopted](#), the bill continued to include two pieces; however, they were not the same two pieces. The first piece regarding a Special Passenger Safety Net Program was substantially the same as adopted by the Senate. The House, however, dropped the required OSPI analysis and inserted a completely different provision (which was previously included in the House’s

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dead pupil transportation vehicle, [HB 1248](#)). The added provision prohibits school districts from entering into pupil transportation contracts unless the contractor provides its employees with health care and pension benefits similar to what school employees receive. There is language regarding this provision which would provide reimbursement “for increased costs to school districts that are directly attributable to increased benefits as required in the bill,” however, this reimbursement is subject to funding in the Operating Budget. We are skeptical if adequate (or any) funding would be provided. Again, we have to wait for a budget...

Last week, the Senate moved to “Do Not Concur” and 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. Sen. Wellman also spoke against the insertion of the 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.

Unfortunately, pupil transportation is another issue that is getting hung up. On Wednesday, the House moved to insist on its position and asked the Senate to concur.

As we have discussed several times before, this bill may end up dying, with the final action being the addition of some additional dollars for special passengers in the budget. If that happened, it could be the best-case scenario. It would provide some additional needed support for special passengers and next year we could start with a clean slate. On the flipside, the concern is if a bill is adopted, legislators may be less receptive to continuing to have a conversation about pupil transportation, believing they “already addressed the issue.”

School Construction

We have talked a lot about school facilities funding, and the increasing conversation about supporting school construction, especially regarding small schools. [HB 1044](#) would create a new capital construction and planning grant program for the modernization and replacement of instructional facilities in financially distressed school districts. It was amended by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee, to address school districts with 1,000 or fewer students; or a district with 3,000 or fewer students if:

- the school district is located in an ESD with rural communities that have limited access to Skills Centers;
- the school district has been unable to secure voter approval to issue bonds for capital purposes in the prior 25 years and has had at least three bond measures rejected by voters in consecutive years during that 25-year period; and
- the school district has instructional buildings that do not meet structural, capacity, environmental, or emergency requirements.

Additionally, the bill requires a school district to provide a district share equal to 50 percent of its remaining debt capacity for capital purposes, capped at an estimated property tax rate of \$1.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Later, the Senate Ways & Means Committee adopted the bill, retaining the Education Committee amendment, but also adding language that mirrored [SB 5126](#). SB 5126, which died earlier in the House, makes the funding of the Small School District Modernization Grant Program the first priority of appropriations from the Common School Construction Fund.

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HB 1044 was adopted by the full Senate and in the last nine days has ping-ponged back and forth between the houses. The most recent action yesterday was the House's continued insistence on its position (rejecting the Senate amendments) and asking the Senate for a Conference Committee. Presumably the Senate will accept the Conference today and quickly get to working on a compromise.

What is interesting about this fight is that HB 1044 is broadly supported by both houses. And, while SB 5126 is only broadly supported by the Senate, the House supports the underlying policy of SB 5126. Both the House and Senate Capital Budgets include about \$100 million to support the Small School District Modernization Grant Program and that funding will stick. The difference between the two positions is that the Senate wants the funding mechanism from SB 5126 in statute; the House (in particular, the House Capital Budget Committee Chair) supports the program, but is resistant to embedding the program into permanent law.

With or without HB 1044, we can expect the approximately \$100 million for the Modernization Program; however, we hope a last-minute call for a Conference Committee boosts HB 1044 and does not doom it to failure.

Transitional Kindergarten

[HB 1550](#), to change Transitional Kindergarten (TK) to a new Transition to Kindergarten (TTK) program, continues to look like Mr. Toad's Wild Ride. There continues to be significant discussion (and debate) about the bill. Remember, after the bill arrived in the Senate, intense negotiations resulted in a new [striking amendment](#) that gave the original bill a major facelift. The new bill still caused some heartburn for some school leaders, but the new bill moved most opponents to a supportive position.

As the bill moved from the Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee, the Senate Ways & Means Committee, and then the full Senate, there were major questions about whether the House would set the bill down, killing it for the session; adopt the amended bill; or fight for its original position.

Yesterday, the House finally took action, moving to formally “Do Not Concur” with the Senate amendments and asking the Senate to recede. The immediate assumption is that the House wants to move its original bill; however, the current scuttlebutt is that is not the case. Apparently as the bill continued to be revised, it raised questions about whether Charter Schools could offer TTK or not. Work is ongoing behind the scenes to draft amendments to address this issue.

If language can be crafted for Charter Schools, the assumption is the Senate will recede from its current amendments and adopt a new striking amendment. The word is that the new striking amendment would be substantially similar to the Senate striking amendment already contained in the bill—with the addition of provisions for Charter Schools. The assumption is the House would concur with this and the bill would advance to the governor's office. If it appears the House will not accept this new striking amendment or if there is some other unforeseen glitch, it is likely the Senate would hold the bill, killing it for this session.

Principals

[SB 5175](#), AWSP's bill to allow principals to receive two- or three-year contracts, was acted upon again this week. Remember, as adopted by the House, the bill continued 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.

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As we discussed last week, when the bill returned to the Senate, they refused to concur with the House amendments. In supporting the motion to “Do Not Concur,” Senator Wellman, (D-Mercer Island), Chair of the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee and sponsor of the bill, noted the House amendments have “too many people involved in decision-making and makes people jump through hoops.” She expressed concerns that the House amendments direct districts what to do, stripping them of flexibility.

On Tuesday, the House insisted on its position and asked the Senate to concur. Following a brokered deal between the Senate and the House, the Senate backed off its opposition on Wednesday and moved to accept the House amendments. Even though Sen. Wellman continued to express concerns that the bill is too directive, saying that she “does not like the language that requires managers what to do.” She also noted, however, that AWSP was OK with the amendments (that they helped craft), so she was willing to back off her opposition. Without getting into too many details, let’s just say this was more of a disappointing political decision than a robust policy decision.

As the bill moved to final passage, it was adopted 32-17 and is on its way to the governor’s office for his action. Now that the bill has passed, we will move to work on implementation; however, we have to reiterate our frustration that this bill does NOTHING to provide principals with additional support to address workload issues or other pressure principals continue to face. While school administrators continue to work on solutions to provide support to our principals (which is the right thing to do), WASA will also have to turn our attention to how we can support superintendents who have now been placed in the untenable position of recommending which principals should have two- or three-year contracts—and who should not. We will also continue to be in contact with our attorney colleagues who have expressed concerns about these new contract provisions conflicting with current law regarding principal continuing contracts.

We will also work to address some of the ambiguities of the bill. For example, in order to be eligible for a multi-year contract a principal must have “been employed as a principal for three or more consecutive years.” Does this mean they are eligible for a multi-year contract only in the district in which they have served for three or more years? Or can they have three-plus years of service and be eligible for a two- or three-year contract in a new district? What about if a principal’s three-year service is split between two or three districts?

How about another issue: the sponsor of the House amendments and AWSP have both said this multi-year contract allowance does not apply to assistant principals. But where is the distinction in the bill between principals and assistant principals?

Bottom line:

- This bill does not provide the kind of support school administrators believe principals want and need—and it does not provide the support we have heard principals ask for, nor does it provide the kind of support AWSP has requested on behalf of their members;
- The bill includes several concerning ambiguities that need to be addressed; and
- At a time when more collaboration between school administrators and building administrators is even more important, this bill has caused and will continue to cause division.

Unfunded Liabilities

The Public Employees’ Retirement System Plan 1 (PERS 1) and the Teachers’ Retirement System Plan 1 (TRS 1) closed to new members in 1997 because the cost of providing benefits to new members was projected to be significantly higher than the contributions. When the plans were closed, a system to fund the unfunded portion of the liabilities associated with PERS 1 and TRS 1 was created. In 2009,

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an unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) rate was established to fund the unfunded portion of the liabilities associated with PERS 1 and TRS 1.

The UAAL rate is collected in addition to the base funding rates and are only paid by employers for all employees in TRS for TRS 1, and by employers on all employees in PERS, the School Employees' Retirement System, and the Public Safety Employees' Retirement System for PERS 1.

This session, the Legislature adopted [SB 5294](#), which addresses actuarial funding of state retirement systems. In very simple terms it does two things:

1. The bill eliminates current Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) rates after Fiscal Year 2023; and the following UAAL contribution rates are established:

TRS Plan 1 UAAL Rate

<u>Current Law</u>	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>
3.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%

PERS Plan 1 UAAL Rate

<u>Current Law</u>	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>
5.75%	2.5%	2.0%	1.5%	0.5%

Beginning July 1, 2027, a new minimum UAAL rate is established for both TRS 1 and PERS 1 of 0.5 percent.

2. In the 2021–23 Operating Budget, \$800 million was appropriated for deposit on June 30, 2023, into the TRS 1 fund to increase the funded status of the plan. Based on current actuarial projections this amount is expected to exceed the total UAAL on that date. SB 5294 reduces the scheduled payment of \$800 million into the TRS 1 fund to \$250 million.

With the passage of SB 5294, the state is projected to save \$888.3 million in 2023–25 and \$266.3 million in 2025–27. Reducing the scheduled \$800 million TRS 1 payment to \$250 million, saves the state another \$550 million in the current 2021–23 biennium.

(For further information, the Washington Research Council released an [informative brief](#) on this issue yesterday.)

The savings SB 5294 provides is positive for the state and local governments, including school districts. This bill will not affect member contribution rates or their benefits; however, it positively impacts all employers of PERS, TRS, SERS, and PSERS members through a decrease in PERS 1 and TRS 1 UAAL contribution rates.

While this school district savings is appreciated, you need to understand some of the messaging behind the bill. Many of you received a letter from Representative Steve Bergquist (D-Renton) explaining that SB 5294 will provide school districts a substantial benefit (that is, an expenditure savings). Again, any savings is helpful as many districts roll through a financial storm; however, Rep. Bergquist is arguing this savings makes it unnecessary to protect districts who are expected to lose regionalization and/or experience factors due to “rebasings.” He has also argued that the savings is so substantial, it will lessen the need to provide a larger investment in special education (remember, the House would provide an increased investment of around \$170 million for special education, while the Senate has proposed about \$370 million). As we have argued for the Senate level of funding, Bergquist has argued districts are set to save a significant amount of money due to SB 5294 and do not need the additional investment in special education.

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WAMOA

By Mitch Denning

Update on WAMOA priority bills:

- **[E2SSB 5174](#), pupil transportation funding**—passed the House on April 10, 60-38. On April 13, the Senate refused to concur with the House amendments, and asked the House to recede from their amendments. On Wednesday, the House insisted on their amendments, and asked the Senate again to concur with them.

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 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 wards 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 April 12, 49-0, and went back to the House for concurrence. On Wednesday, the House refused to concur with the Senate amendments, and asked the Senate to recede from their amendments.

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.

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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 April 12.

- **E2SSB 5311, special education funding formula**—remains in the House Rules Committee. 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 student’s spec ed program and accounted for as excess costs when these basic ed services are providing 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 April 11, 44-5. On Tuesday, the House concurred with the Senate amendments, and the bill was delivered to the Governor yesterday.

In 2023–24, the bill 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.

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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 April 11, and asked the House to concur with their amendments. On April 14, the House refused to concur, and asked the Senate to recede from their amendments. Then on Wednesday, the Senate insisted on the amendments, and asked the House again to concur. Yesterday, the House insisted on its position, and asked the Senate for a Conference Committee to be formed.

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 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 Education Committee on 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.

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Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey—The Nexus Group

Health, Pension, and Other Benefit Issues

“The future is uncertain, but the end is always near.”

— Jim Morrison

Sine Die approaches and a sense of glee and panic pervades the air as multiple bills either pass or fail to advance. Concurrence, recession, and just plain obstruction are on display.

Multiple bills, close to 400, will be sent to the Governor who is even now in the process of signing them. To date, there have been no vetoes.

Below is a summary of what is known. A year-end, post-Session report will be more definitive.

Retirement Related Proposals

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.”

The House has asked the Senate to recede from its amendments and it did. The bill then passed 47/1/1. It will be sent to the Governor for his signature.

ESSB 5294: Concerning actuarial funding of state retirement systems.

Comment: Beginning July 1, 2027, a new minimum UAAL rate is established for both TRS 1 and PERS 1 of 0.5 percent. The scheduled payment of \$800 million into the TRS 1 fund is reduced to \$250 million.

This bill passed the House as amended and was sent back to the Senate for concurrence. The Senate did not concur. The house receded from its amendment and the bill passed. It has been sent to the Governor for his action.

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

Comment: A one-time, 3 percent benefit increase is provided to PERS Plan 1 and TRS Plan 1 retirees up to a maximum of \$110 per month. The benefit increase goes into effect on July 1, 2023. To be eligible for the increase the member must be retired on or before July 1, 2022. This increase only applies to members that are not

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receiving a minimum benefit. The Select Committee on Pension Policy is directed to study and recommend an ongoing COLA for plan 1 retirees. The recommendation must consider employer contribution rate stability and coordinate the effective date with the reduction or elimination of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The House receded from its amendments and the bill has been sent to the Governor.

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."

The House concurred and this bill has been sent to the Governor.

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.

The House concurred and the bill has been sent to the Governor.

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 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.

The House concurred with the Senate amendments and the bill has been sent to the Governor.

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.

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The bill was amended by the Senate which the House accepted. The bill has been sent to the Governor for action.

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.

The Governor signed the bill 4/13/2023. It is effective 6/30/2024.

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 the House has refused to concur.

HB 1656: Concerning unemployment insurance benefits appeal procedures.

Comment: This bill adds disputes of unemployment insurance (UI) determinations of allowance or denial of allowance of benefits or redeterminations, in addition to a dispute of initial determinations, as issues in appeals proceedings regardless of the grounds in the notice of appeal. • Removes provisions that in a UI appeal on a dispute of a claimant's claim for waiting period credit or UI benefits claim that all UI issues relating to the claimant's right to receive such credit or UI benefits for the period in question are deemed to be in issue regardless of the particular grounds in the notice of appeal; and the claimant's availability for work is determined apart from all other matters.

It was signed by the Governor on 4/13/2023. It is effective 7/23/2023.

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.

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 excludes from the bill persons seeking positions: • with a general authority law enforcement agency; Senate Bill Report - 3 - ESSB 5123 • 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

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enforcement by the Attorney General and other limitations provided under the Fair Chance Act.

The Senate concurred with the House amendments. The bill has been sent to the Governor.

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.....)

The Senate refused to concur, and the House insists on its position. Stalemate.

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.

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.

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Passed House 97/0. The Governor signed the bill on 3/30/2023. 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	Del to Gov	Bronoske
HB 1011	Long-term care/repeal	H HC/Wellness	Abbarno
2SHB 1013	Regional apprenticeship prgs	Del to Gov	Maycumber
SHB 1015 (SB 5264)	Paraeducator requirements	C 19 L 23	Santos
HB 1020	State dinosaur	S Pres Signed	Morgan
SHB 1044	Capital assistance/schools	H ins/conf	McEntire
ESHB 1048 (SSB 5047)	Voting rights act	C 56 L 23	Mena
SHB 1056 (SB 5349)	Postretirement employment	H ref/S recede	Stokesbary
ESHB 1057 (SB 5350)	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	S Rules X	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 Pres Signed	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	H Spkr Signed	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	Del to Gov	Hackney
SHB 1200 (SB 5273)	Employee information/unions	Del to Gov	Alvarado
HB 1201 (ESSB 5294)	Retirement system funding	H Rules C	Ormsby
SHB 1207	Harassment/schools	Del to Gov	Senn
EHB 1210	School board recordings	C 67 L 23	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.	Del to Gov	Callan
E2SHB 1238 (SSB 5339)	Free school meals	S Pres Signed	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 Rules X	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	H Passed FP	Stonier
2SHB 1316	Dual credit program access	Del to Gov	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 Rules X	Lekanoff
SHB 1346 (2SSB 5071)	Purple star award	Del to Gov	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	Del to Gov	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	H ref/S recede	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	Del to Gov	Wylie
HB 1536	H.S. diplomas/withholding	Del to Gov	Timmons
E2SHB 1541 (SB 5616)	Lived experience	S Ways & Means	Farivar
HB 1549	AP course options	H Education	Stonier
2SHB 1550	Transition to kindergarten	H ref/S recede	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	Del to Gov	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	Del to Gov	Ryu
HB 1622	Students/homelessness	Del to Gov	Fey
HB 1624	ESD election administration	C 83 L 23	Ybarra
HB 1649	Prejudgment interest	H Civil R & Judiciary	Hackney
SHB 1658	Work experience/H.S. credit	Del to Gov	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	Del to Gov	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 Pres Signed	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	H Spkr Signed	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	Del to Gov	Berg
SHB 1756	Energy/tax	S Passed 3rd	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	Del to Gov	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	S ref/H recede	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 Spkr Signed	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	Del to Gov	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	Del to Gov	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	Del to Gov	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	Liias
SB 5164 (HB 1126)	Transportation budget, supp.	S Transportation	Liias

E2SSB 5174	Student transportation	H ins/S concur	Wellman
ESB 5175	School principal contracts	S Pres Signed	Wellman
SB 5180	Teacher mobility compact	H Education	Hunt
ESSB 5187 (SHB 1140)	Operating budget	H Conf appt	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	Del to Gov	Wilson
SSB 5237	Education law noncompliance	S Ways & Means	Wilson
E2SSB 5243 (SHB 1273)	High school and beyond plans	H Spkr Signed	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 Spkr Signed	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	S ref/H recede	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	S Pres Signed	Conway
ESB 5355	Sex trafficking prev. ed.	H Spkr Signed	Wilson
SB 5363	Cannabis advertising	H Rules R	MacEwen
ESSB 5365	Vapor and tobacco/minors	H Spkr Signed	Saldana
SSB 5372 (HB 1423)	DNR land	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5403	School depreciation subfunds	S Pres Signed	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	S Pres Signed	King
SB 5590 (HB 1489)	Mt. St. Helens license plate	H Transportation	Wilson
2SSB 5593	Student data transfer	S Pres Signed	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	S Pres Signed	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