

TWIO

This Week In Olympia

WEEK 4—IN THIS ISSUE:

February 3, 2023



- Action on Priority Issues
- Issues of Concern
- Engagement Opportunities
- Educator Compensation Update
- 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>.



As we end the fourth week of this 2023 Legislative Session, we continue to encourage you to engage with your legislators. There are several key issues in which your voice and your stories, can have a real impact next week. Priority issues will be on tap, along with some bills of major concern, as discussed below. Remember, advocacy does not have to be hard or be time-consuming—you must be committed to it, however. Use this newsletter, WASA's [legislative podcast](#), and our [Bill Watch](#) to keep up-to-date on bills of interest.

Action on Priority Issues

We certainly do not want to get ahead of ourselves, but there is growing evidence that some of our K–12 education priorities are priorities of legislators. Special education continues to be a focus of discussion in both houses and bills in each house continue to move. Pupil transportation is receiving attention as well, and both houses continue to move their respective bills. There has also been a high level of activity around school construction, especially assistance for small, rural districts. Unfortunately, it is expected we will be disappointed with some important issues being neglected—and disappointed some negative legislation will reach the finish line—but there are reasons for some optimism about the outcomes of this session.

Special Education

[SB 5311](#), originally requested by Governor Inslee, but positively amended by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee last week had no movement this week; however, it has been scheduled for a **public hearing in the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Thursday, February 9, 4:00 p.m. This would be a great opportunity to sign in “PRO” (or testify if you are able).** The Committee has a lengthy agenda that day, so simply signing in and/or providing written comments might be the best course of action. Senator Christine Rolfes (D-Bainbridge Island), Chair of the Senate Ways & Means Committee, is generally supportive and the bill will very likely be adopted by the Committee. We don't want to “overstay our welcome” and gobble up time in her Committee when there are other issues she wants to address. Certainly, we will not tell you NOT to testify, especially if you have a powerful and/or unique story to tell.

A reminder of what is in this bill, as amended earlier:

- The special education enrollment funding cap is increased from the current 13.5 percent to 15.0 percent.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

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.*

**Join us at the 2023
 WASA•WSSDA•WASBO
 Legislative Conference,
 February 26. Register now
 at www.wasa-oly.org/LegCon23**

- The special education multipliers are increased for all enrollment tiers (Pre–K and grades K–12). Additional increases are provided for students in the general education setting for eighty percent or more of the school day. The multipliers are phased in over four school years, 2023–24 through 2026–27.
- When determining safety net award need, the Safety Net Oversight Committee is no longer required to exclude differences in program costs that are attributable to service delivery choices.
- Beginning in the 2023–24 school year, the average per-pupil expenditure used to determine safety net award eligibility for a high-need student is the lesser of:
 - o the statewide threshold; or
 - o the threshold calculated for each group of districts grouped by regionalization factor (to ensure equity in the provision of safety net funding).
- Safety net funding is excluded from the average per-pupil calculation.

When we reported on the movement of this bill last week, we did not have an update on the necessary funding. A new [Fiscal Note](#) indicates a cost of \$303.0 million in 2023–25. Expenditures increase in 2025–27 (partially due to the phase in of the increased multipliers) to \$673.8 million in 2025–27.

The House vehicle for special education funding, [HB 1436](#), is scheduled to be heard in the House Appropriations Committee on **Thursday, February 9, 4:00 p.m.** (Note this is the same time as the hearing on SB 5311 in the Senate). Because this bill has not yet been heard or otherwise acted upon—and because this is the “full meal deal” requested by Superintendent Reykdal—a good showing in this hearing will be important. **This would be another excellent opportunity to at least sign in “PRO” (or testify if you are able).**

Remember, Superintendent Reykdal’s request embodied in HB 1436 would:

- Eliminate, rather than simply increase, the current arbitrary special education funding cap;
- Phase in an increase of special education multipliers for Pre–K through grades K–12, with additional increases for students in the general education setting for eighty percent or more of the school day;
- Remove a requirement that the Safety Net Oversight Committee must consider extraordinary costs associated with communities that draw a larger number of families with children in need of special education services when awarding safety net funds; however, new language is added to allow districts to apply for excess special education costs when expenditures exceed that of the special education allocation; and
- Requires OSPI to provide technical assistance and annually review data from school districts, including the percentage of students receiving special education services, to help safeguard against over-identification and other issues related to disproportionality.

As reported before, the anticipated costs of this bill have fluctuated from \$972.0 million when Reykdal’s request was released in September, up over a billion dollars a few weeks ago using updated caseload data, and back down to approximately \$800.0 million, due to adjusted Maintenance Level numbers. The current [Fiscal Note](#) indicates a cost of \$803.0 million in 2023–25, and \$1.13 billion in 2025–27.

While HB 1436 has not yet been heard, there has been some behind-the-scenes conversations about the bill. First, we understand there will be an effort to attach a funding source on the bill. It is unclear if that will garner any support to be adopted; however, it is a bit frustrating that legislators believe a legal obligation like

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

special education needs a funding source. Special education should be a General Fund expenditure and if additional funds are needed for the state's discretionary programs, attach a funding source to them.

We have also heard conversations about the special education funding cap, which would be removed by HB 1436. We will see how this plays out, but the early talk in the House has been to slowly phase in an increase in the cap. It is unclear how high they are willing to go—or how long the phase in would be. Regardless, it is unfortunate that eliminating the arbitrary cap appears to be a non-starter. Keeping any cap in place not only prevents districts from receiving the necessary funding to fully cover the cost of special education services, it also is a bold acknowledgment that the Legislature does not intend to fully fund special education.

Even though the “real” conversations about the budget will not come into full view until after the March revenue forecast is released, it is clear budget-writers (at least in the House) have begun the initial work to craft a new budget.

In very simple terms, budget-writers usually follow a standard process to start the development of a budget. First, budget-writers in each house determine how much they are willing to spend, in total. In clever Olympia-speak, we talk about the “Size of the Box.” Once that is agreed upon, they decide how much they want to spend on the various sectors of government. They determine the “Size of the Box within the Box” for each funded component, including K–12 education. Once those two figures are calculated, legislators argue for their own projects to be put in the box(es).

When the two houses get together to negotiate a final, compromise budget, each brings their own budget proposal and a similar process occurs. The two budget-writers determine the “Size of the Box,” then determine the “Size of the Boxes within the Box.” When budget decisions get bogged down in the final days of session, it is often because budget-writers cannot agree on these first two steps. When those two pieces are agreed upon, however, budget-writers can usually finalize a budget fairly quickly.

So, why this conversation? First, it is a little inside baseball for those of you who are intrigued by the process. Second, and more importantly, it provides the background to explain that the House is going through this process right now. Nothing is done until it's done, but the information we have been receiving about K–12's “box” is disappointing. Special education is likely the biggest item within the K–12 box and word on the street is that House budget-writers are potentially looking at \$400.0 million for special education. Pretty good? Well, maybe I should mention that this is \$400.0 million...over four years. In other words, \$200.0 million for the biennium (\$100.0 million each year). This is just a notch above the governor's embarrassing special education increase of just over \$120.0 million. While this discussion might not be accurate—and even if it is, there is still time to change—this should provide you with another reason to engage. If legislators do not hear from you, they make decisions without you.

Pupil Transportation

SB 5174 took another step yesterday, with a public hearing in the Senate Ways & Means Committee. The education community continues to generally support SB 5174; however, we are continuing to seek changes, including the provision added in the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee requiring: any pupil transportation service contract to require the contractor to provide health and retirement benefits to its employees that are comparable to the School Employees' Benefits Board program and the School Employees' Retirement System; and include sufficient funds for the contractor to provide a comparable health benefit contribution and employer retirement contribution rate.

Similar language is in the House bill (**HB 1248**) and our initial effort was to try and strip those provisions from the bill—until the Senate added the language to its bill. Now, we have shifted our focus and are attempting—in both houses—to advance

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

language that ensures these additional costs are funded by the state. There is some funding in both bills intended to offset additional costs; however, the funding is one-time—and we fear, even if it was permanent, it might not be adequate. We are also concerned that the language is unclear if “pupil transportation service contracts” only refers to entities that provide full bus fleets (such as First Student or Durham). In addition to the contracted “yellow school buses,” some districts contract with smaller vendors to transport McKinney Vento homeless students or other special passengers. We are working with legislators and legislative staff to seek clarifying amendments.

Additional provisions in SB 5174:

- By June 2026, OSPI is required to provide to the Legislature an analysis from school districts regarding transportation costs and allocations from the 2024–25 school year. The analysis should include mileage, ridership, and costs and be disaggregated by the following student groups:
 - Special education passengers;
 - McKinney Vento homeless passengers;
 - Foster Care passengers;
 - Skill Centers to & from; and
 - All other to/from passengers.
- “Distinct passenger categories” are eligible students required to be transported “to and from school” and defined as students who:
 - require special education services where transportation is part of documented IEP plan;
 - McKinney Vento homeless passengers;
 - foster care passengers where transportation is out of the normal district boundary or students attending Skill Centers; and
 - Students participating in career connected and work-based learning activities when the activity occurs during the school day and the student receives academic credit are also considered eligible students for the purpose of transportation.
- To receive school transportation funding, a school district must submit additional expenditure reports monthly of the distinct passenger categories. Data submitted in the prior school year must be used to determine the current school year reimbursement adjusted for inflation (IPD). In drafting and adopting rules, OSPI is encouraged to streamline reporting requirements for small school districts to account for their unique needs.
- Beginning with the 2024–25 school year, OSPI must reimburse districts monthly for 100 percent of expenditures attributed to students in distinct passenger categories.
- Eliminates the current regression analysis and requires OSPI to adjust the allocation formula to include additional factors such as basic and special passenger counts and the total sum of miles driven.
- The calculated transportation allocation amounts are required to be adjusted by multipliers accounting for: High population density urban districts; and Rural, geographically large districts with low number of schools in proportion to geographic size of school district.
- Beginning with the 2024–25 school year, OSPI must reimburse school districts for 100 percent of the allowable transportation expenditures reported attributable to students in distinct passenger categories. OSPI must establish rules to include student transportation via district bus, third-party providers, district owned vehicles, and other vehicles operated by a third-party provider.
- Beginning with the 2024–25 school year, OSPI must annually calculate the transportation allocation and the allocation formula must: Be adjusted for additional factors as based special passenger counts as defined by OSPI and total sum of miles driven; and provide that the transportation allocation

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

for transporting students in district-owned passenger cars is the private vehicle reimbursement rate in effect on September 1st of each school year.

- Annually, the transportation allocations calculated by OSPI shall be adjusted for any budgeted increases provided in the state Operating Budget for salaries or fringe benefits.
- OSPI is required to identify and collect necessary data in order to update the transportation model in subsequent biennia and to identify outliers. Prior to June 1st of each year, OPSI shall submit a report outlining the methodology used to determine the allocation for the following year.
- Beginning with the 2023–24 school year through the 2026–27 school year, no district shall receive a transportation allocation that is less than the allocation provided during the 2021–22 school year. If a district's transportation expenditures exceeded their 2021–22 school year allocation, OSPI must provide additional transportation allocations that reduce the negative funding differential by 0.5 percent for each school year that the district qualifies for alternative funding.
- Beginning with the 2024–25 school year, the State Auditor must conduct a review of a district's transportation expenditures if they exceed 110 percent of the average per-student expenditure amount in similar school districts.

As we discussed in last week's *TWIO*, HB 1248 was heard in the House Appropriations Committee, but has not yet been scheduled for executive action.

It should be noted that the discussion about “zero emission” school buses has started as well. With the Legislature taking action on numerous climate change and/or clean energy bills in the last few sessions, and its ongoing priority for this Legislature, it was only a matter of time until the discussion turned to school buses. [SB 5431](#) was heard in the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee on Wednesday and its House companion, [HB 1368](#), will be heard on Tuesday, February 7, in the House Environment & Energy Committee. Both bills would require school districts to purchase zero-emission school buses, beginning September 1, 2035 (including buses used for pupil transportation services contracts). To assist districts in complying with the new requirements, OSPI would be required to establish a Zero Emission School Bus Grant Program for the replacement of school buses powered by fossil fuels with zero-emission school buses. Competitive grants could be used for: zero-emission school buses; the purchase and installation of school bus charging stations; and associated electric vehicle charging infrastructure and equipment.

In addition to the new grants, OSPI would also be required to annually publish and update information regarding federal grant opportunities regarding non-zero-emission school bus replacement.

School Construction

Discussions—and action—related to school construction funding continues. Although there has been no real discussion regarding an update to the antiquated school funding formulas for School Space Allocation or Construction Cost Allocation (nor was there expected to be), several bills to assist school district facility construction or repair have been introduced, with most of them being heard. A few are starting to move as well.

The following bills have been acted upon in the first four weeks of this session:

- [HB 1044](#), which would provide capital financial assistance to small school districts (under 1,000 FTE) with funding challenges by providing supplementary capital grants for school districts that require comprehensive instructional facility modernization or replacement. The House Capital Budget Committee heard this bill last week.
- [HB 1444](#), which would dedicate Common School Construction Fund revenue to the Small District Modernization Grant Program. This bill,

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

requested by Superintendent Reykdal, was heard last week in the House Capital Budget Committee. The Senate companion bill, [SB 5126](#), has been heard and adopted by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee and was heard by the Senate Ways & Means Committee yesterday.

- [HB 1064](#), which would create a School Safety Capital Grant Program to assist with school district safety projects that make physical improvements intended to advance the safety or security of a school facility. The bill was heard in the House Capital Budget Committee last week.
- [SB 5343](#), which is intended to reduce costs and increase efficiencies in school construction by establishing—and making available to school districts—a repository, of exemplary, modifiable basic, or standard plans for new school building construction. While using these model plans would not be required, school districts that utilized a plan selected from the repository would receive ten additional percentage points of state funding assistance as an incentive. The bill was heard last week in the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee. It was scheduled for executive action yesterday but was not acted upon.
- [SB 5403](#), which requires school districts to establish a depreciation subfund within their general fund, wherein districts would be allowed to set aside up to two percent of their general fund for emergency facility needs and preventative maintenance. This bill has been introduced multiple times but has not yet moved very far. It was heard yesterday in the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee.
- [SJR 8203](#), which would establish a Public-School Revolving Fund in the State Treasury for the purpose of issuing low-interest or interest-free loans to qualifying school districts for capital projects. This constitutional amendment, and its necessary implementing bill, [SB 5344](#), were heard on Monday in the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee and adopted yesterday.

A few additional bills have been introduced, but have not been heard or otherwise acted upon, including:

- [HB 1747/SB 5680](#), which would require OSPI to contract with a third party to perform seismic safety surveys. The bill would include planning grants that address the remediation of seismic safety risks as an allowable use of funds provided in the Small School District Modernization Grant program.
- [HJR 4203](#), which would authorize school district bonds to be approved by a simple majority vote. This constitutional amendment, and its necessary implementing bill, [HB 1353](#), face an uphill battle to passage; however, it was hoped a hearing would be scheduled to continue to keep the issue in the conversation.

Issues of Concern

While it is positive we have some of our priority issues being addressed—and gathering momentum—there continues to be movement on bills of concern.

Prejudgment Interest

We continue to be concerned about [SB 5059](#), to implement prejudgment interest. As we have discussed, this is technically a non-education bill; however, it could have potentially drastic negative fiscal consequences for school districts. In short, under current law, if public agencies (including school districts), individuals, or entities are sued for tortious conduct and lose, interest on judgments begin to run on the date the judgment is entered. SB 5059, however, would alter this current practice and require interest on judgments against public agencies (including school districts), individuals, or entities to begin running from the date on which the cause of action occurred. If the bill is adopted, interest would begin accruing at the time

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

the event is believed to have first occurred, which would mean that interest on a claim would begin to accrue before a public agency likely became aware of the claim and long before any investigation into the validity of the claim. Because claims could be brought forward many years after an injury occurs, school districts could be on the hook for huge and potentially crippling damages for injuries they were never made aware of.

This bill was heard—and adopted—by the Senate Law & Justice Committee last week. It has now been scheduled for a public hearing in the **Senate Ways & Means Committee on Tuesday, February 7, 4:00 p.m. We strongly encourage you, again, to take a few minutes to sign in “Con.”** The response by school administrators in the earlier hearing was extremely positive—and we hope you will act again.

Detailed talking points provided by the Washington Schools Risk Management Pool and Clear Risk Solutions are linked [HERE](#). Some of the key points:

- Proponents argue that Washington should join other states around the country which require prejudgment interest; however, NO other state requires prejudgment interest in the form as proposed in SB 5059.
- Prejudgment interest is already allowed in Washington if a judge orders back interest because a defendant refused to pay or similar situations. SB 5059, however, would REQUIRE school districts (and others) to pay back interest on future damages; a judge would have no discretion.
- Proponents argue SB 5059 is necessary to stop profit-motivated private insurance companies from delaying claim resolution; however, public school districts’ claims are not managed by insurance companies—and not-for-profit governmental risk pools handle school claims timely and efficiently

In addition to movement of SB 5059, the House has introduced a similar bill. [HB 1649](#), while not an identical companion bill, would have the same effect. It has been referred to the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee, but has not yet been scheduled for a hearing.

A new issue has also entered into the discussion. Although not related to prejudgment interest, which addresses tort claims, another potentially damaging bill is on the table. [HB 1618](#) would eliminate the statute of limitations for civil actions based on childhood sexual abuse. Courts have ruled that the childhood sexual abuse statute of limitations applies not just to claims against the perpetrator of sexual abuse, but also to claims of negligence against parties who failed to protect the child, including schools, state agencies, churches, parents, and others that have a special relationship with the child. If adopted, there would be no time limit to commence an action based on intentional conduct brought by a person for recovery of damages for injury suffered as a result of childhood sexual abuse; the bill would apply to all claims, causes of actions, and proceedings, regardless of when the claim or cause of action arose.

HB 1618 was heard on Tuesday (after just being introduced a few days prior) and is scheduled for executive action in the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee today. At the time this report was being prepared, action had not yet been taken.

Transitional Kindergarten

Last week’s [TWIO](#) included a lengthy discussion regarding [HB 1550](#), to eliminate the Transitional Kindergarten (TK) program and be replaced with a new Transition to Kindergarten (TTK) program. We will not rehash all of the information here (but you are encouraged to go back and review if you missed the discussion), but it is important to review the hearing. First, thank you to the many administrators that stepped up to testify and tell your compelling stories—and the many more administrators that signed in with your position on the bill and/or contacted your legislators directly. (And apologies to several of you who traveled some distances

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

to state your piece in-person, only to be sent home without time to provide your comments). We laid down the caution that this was a delicate situation and urged you to temper your comments and emotion—and those testifying were well-spoken and respectful.

Unfortunately, the fire and emotion came from the Committee Chair and the prime sponsor of the bill, Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos (D-Seattle). Her opening comments were laced with animosity. She started her fiery comments by saying she was pleased to introduce legislation to “legislatively establish a coordinated program for the delivery of high-quality educational opportunities to four-year-old students who would benefit from early preparation for kindergarten, but who are unable to access such programs.” There was a hard emphasis on “legislatively establish” as she later emphatically noted that OSPI (without specifically naming them) “misinterpreted the law” in allowing Transitional Kindergarten to be implemented. She acknowledged her appreciation for some districts who have stepped up to provide support for these students, but also stated flatly, “we also know that many other districts are not fully making the promise of early learning the best experience for these little learners.” She closed by emphatically stating that the implementation of TK “usurped the Legislature’s role and right to establish and fund educational programs through statute and through the budget.” (The hearing is available on [TVW](#). The staff briefing starts at the 43-minute mark; Rep. Santo’s comments start at 52.55 minutes.)

It is clear that Rep. Santos intends on moving this bill; however, it is anticipated multiple amendments will be introduced, with some of them potentially garnering enough support to pass. Regardless, assuming it passes all the way through the House, the attitude about TK—and HB 1550—is much different in the Senate. Even assuming the bill makes it all the way through the process (which is not guaranteed), it will likely look much different in the end.

We encourage you to continue providing your comments, your concerns, and your stories to legislators as this bill moves. HB 1550 is scheduled for executive action in the House Education Committee on Thursday, February 9, 8:00 a.m.

Engagement Opportunities

As always, we strongly encourage all school administrators to be active in the legislative arena—and thus far this session, we have seen a very positive turnout. Understand that your conversations and actions DO have an impact. In the coming week, as discussed above, we have specific requests for your assistance. If you are able, and have a story to tell, feel free to step up and provide testimony in Committee; however, all we are asking for is a few minutes of your time to sign in the Committee roster to state your position. Specifically:

- [SB 5311](#), special education funding: “Pro” in the Senate Ways & Means Committee on February 9
- [HB 1436](#), special education funding: “Pro” in the House Appropriations Committee on February 9
- [SB 5059](#), prejudgment interest: “Con” in the Senate Ways & Means Committee on February 7

To sign in to state your position (or testify), the process is easy and only takes a couple of minutes. Note that you can only sign up for one bill at a time. After you complete the process below, you can click on the “Sign Up for More” button and it will take you back to the start of the process.

- Dial up the Committee Sign-in page: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/CSI>
- Click on “House” or “Senate” (depending on which bill you want to sign up for)

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

- At the top of the page, there are two drop-down menus. Click on: “Committee” where the bill resides; and “Meeting” on the day/time it will be heard (as noted above)
- Under Select Agenda Item, hit the button next to the bill you want to register a position (only one bill at a time)
- Under Select type of testimony, hit the button next to “I would like my position noted for the legislative record”
- On the next page, under the Position drop-down menu, click on “Pro” or “Con”
- Then fill out the complete form, click the “I’m not a robot” box, then click “Submit Registration”

After you log your position, we would encourage you to drop a quick note to your legislators expressing your position—especially if your legislators sit on one of the fiscal Committees.

Educator Compensation Update

Although we do not expect to see any substantive action (at least publicly) on a 2023–25 Operating Budget until the [Economic & Revenue Forecast Council](#) (ERFC) releases its revenue update on March 20, there are some signs of budget discussions, as evidenced by legislation being introduced. One of the most common questions WASA staff are asked at Region meetings, via e-mail or phone is: “What is IPD (the inflationary factor) going to be this year?” We can provide an educated guess, based on recent reports from the Forecast Council and national/local news; however, the guestimate is usually provided with a caveat that we will not know until we see the official numbers from ERFC.

That may not be the case this year, as some interesting news landed this week. [SB 5650](#) and a nearly identical [HB 1732](#), both dealing with the inflationary factor, were dropped in the last couple of days. Budget-related bills get dropped throughout the session, but that does not mean they will be part of the budget when all is said and done. SB 5650 and HB 1732 are a bit unique, however. SB 5650 is prime sponsored by Senator Christine Rolfes (D-Bainbridge Island), Chair of the Senate Ways & Means Committee and the main budget-writer in the Senate. HB 1732 is prime sponsored by Representative Steve Bergquist (D-Renton), who is “only” the Vice Chair of the House Appropriations Committee; however, he is the K–12 budget lead for the House Democrats. While the sponsors elevate the speculation about eventual budget reality, the proposals being in play in a final budget have even more credence when you realize the bills were requested by WEA.

First, let’s back up and talk about the issue. Remember, there is a disconnect between the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD—the inflationary factor), the state’s budget process, and school district budgets. IPD is calculated based on a calendar year, from January to December, while state budgets are based on a fiscal year, from July to June, and school district budgets are based on a school year, from September to August. These mismatches in timelines have caused confusion about how to project and calculate IPD and, since the new salary allocation scheme was put in place following the adoption of the *McCleary* “solution” (EHB 2242) in 2017, state salary allocations lagged actual inflation, based on IPD. This is why the 2022 Supplemental Operating Budget increased the inflationary factor from the previously projected 2.8 percent to 5.5 percent, as a necessary “rebase” to align the salary allocation with actual inflation since the 2017–18 school year.

Because of this disconnect—and the turmoil that was caused when the Legislature “fixed” the problem by adopting an inflationary factor almost double what districts were expecting and preparing for—WASA/WASBO/WEA [jointly recommended](#) a statutory language change as part of the K–12 Basic Education Compensation Advisory Committee work last year. Specifically, we recommended the law be clarified that the inflationary factor is determined by the “previous calendar year’s

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

annual average” inflation index. The Advisory Committee agreed (although its [final recommendation language](#) was not as tight as we suggested.)

SB 5650 and HB 1732 include this clarification in language, stating IPD, beginning in the 2024–25 school year is calculated using “the calendar year prior to the beginning of the school year.” (NOTE: language in the two bills is not identical; however, the intent and meaning align.) Adopting this language will provide more transparency and, probably more importantly, additional stability for both state and school district budgeting.

A second piece of the bills is also important. They both explicitly state the inflationary factor for the 2023–24 school year is 3.8 percent. Why is this important? While we do not have official numbers, IPD in 2022 is projected at 5.7 percent. After a 5.5 percent increase last year, most districts were fearful of ANOTHER round of tough bargaining, again with 5+ percent increases on the table.

So, what does this look like? The governor’s budget would provide inflation at 4.5 percent in 2023–24 and 2.0 percent in 2024–25. (We still don’t know what mystical basket he pulled these numbers out of.) If the Legislature used the same methodology, they used last year (to calculate the 5.5 percent factor), there would be increases of 5.7 percent and 2.0 percent. The alternative, as suggested by WEA, would be a 3.8 percent increase in the first year and 3.6 percent in the second year. (Remember, in each of these scenarios, the second-year increase is a PROJECTION. As always, next year’s Supplemental Operating Budget would make adjustments (up or down) to match current data.)

One final note about WEA’s strategy is important to know. Their suggested alternative would save state funding compared to the current methodology. They also suggest that these savings be rolled back into compensation, specifically to provide additional salary increases, targeted at the lowest paid K–12 employees (paraeducators and other classified staff). They calculate an 8.0 percent (4.0 percent each year) increase for these employees. WEA states the goal can be accomplished in two possible ways. The first is to include the increase in K–12 classified staff salaries. The second is to approve another recommendation from the K–12 Basic Education Compensation Advisory Committee: instead of providing salary allocations to three classifications of employees, as is currently done (Certificated Instructional Employees; Classified Staff; and Certificated Administrative Staff), disaggregate administrative classified staff from classified staff to increase transparency. In other words, there would be four classifications of employees: Certificated Instructional Employees; Classified Staff; Classified Administrative Staff; and Certificated Administrative Staff). With the additional classification, additional salary allocations could be provided directly to classified (nonadministrative) staff only.

This additional piece may rub you the wrong way, but it gets a bit more dicey with their final suggestion. Regardless of which approach to provide additional salary allocations to classified staff is used, WEA suggests the Legislature: adopt language “encouraging districts to bargain increases that target the lowest wage and highest turnover job classifications;” AND require a report to ensure “transparency and accountability within that process.”

So, their plan is a mixed bag. Regardless of your feelings about this plan, understand it is NOT official. There are some key signals indicating this is likely the direction budget-writers will go; however, until it is released in a budget—and approved by 50 Representatives, 25 Senators, and the governor—it is all hypothetical. Also know that, support or oppose, the proposed 8.0 percent classified staff bump is NOT included in SB 5650 or HB 1732. IF the Legislature wanted to do this, it would likely be in a budget provision.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

WAMOA

By Mitch Denning

This week, WAMOA testified on two bills in the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Thursday.

SB 5126, providing common school trust revenue to small school districts, would enable OSPI to use Common School Trust revenue to fund the Small District Modernization Grant (SDMG) program. The language specifies that the Common School Construction Fund must finance the SCAP grants for the small districts' prioritized project list before funding can be appropriated on other capital projects. OSPI projects that, when passed, this funding for SDMG would be more than tripled, which would allow OSPI to fund the entire project list in FY 2023–25.

SSB 5174, providing adequate and predictable student transportation, would enable OSPI to fund pupil transportation through a less complex and more transparent formula. It would be based on the number of students transported and the number of miles driven. In addition, when funded, would provide health and retirement benefits for employees of private companies who contract transportation services with local school districts. WAMOA's position that the legislature must fully fund this bill, as we do not support any under-funded or unfunded mandates.

Other key bills WAMOA is supporting or watching, include:

- **HB 1238, providing free school meals for all**, is scheduled for executive session in the House Education Committee on Feb. 7.
- **SB 5339, providing free school meals for all**, is now in the Senate Ways & Means Committee awaiting a public hearing.
- **HB 1244, increasing the maximum per pupil limit for enrichment levy authority**, had executive taken in the House Appropriations Committee on Feb. 2.
- **HB 1436, funding special education**, is scheduled for a public hearing in the House Appropriations Committee on Feb. 9.
- **HB 1741, increasing prototypical school formulas to support student health, well-being and educational outcomes**, will be introduced today and has been sent to the House Appropriations Committee.
- **SB 5057, work group to evaluate State Energy Performance Standard for Covered Buildings**, remains in the Senate Environment, Energy & Technology Committee since its public hearing on Jan. 27.

Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey—The Nexus Group

Health, Pension, and Other Benefit Issues

“The truth is, time marches on and you have two choices: You move forward, come what may, and you experience all the sour and sweet things that fly at you from around corners, or you sit still. Don't sit still.”

Suzanne Palmieri

A reminder that the 17th of February is the first cut-off where policy bills have to make it out of their respective committees. Fiscal bills have until the 24th. So, the clock is running, and selected bills are moving.

Listed below are bills that show some life.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

Retirement Related Proposals

HB 1007/SB 5296: Concerning interruptive military service credit for members of the state retirement systems.

Comment: Retirement credit can be awarded if in any armed conflicts, if the participant was awarded the respective campaign or expeditionary badge or medal.... the ‘expeditionary badge qualifier was added.

HB 1007 passed the House 97/0 and has moved to the Senate. SB 5296 is scheduled for Executive Session on 2/7.

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

Comment: This bill would simply make retiree insurance provisions uniform and equitable for Plan 2 and 3 members.

HB 1008 has been moved to the Rules Committee.

HB 1056/SB 5349: Repealing some postretirement employment restrictions.

Comment: Beginning January 1, 2024, any current or future retiree under the provisions of early retirement may utilize the postretirement employment provisions of RCW 41.32.802(2) for up to 867 hours per year. This includes administrators. DRS wanted this in order to simplify the current system, particularly when it came to using retired contract services.

The substitute bill summary states: “The restrictions on receiving benefits during postretirement employment for PERS, TRS, and SERS Plans 2 and 3 retirees that retired under the 2008 ERF are lifted to allow receipt of pension payments during employment of up to 867 hours per year of employment with a retirement system employer. Benefits for retired members that choose the 3 percent ERF are adjusted to the reductions in the 2008 ERF for purposes of benefit payments made after the effective date of the act.”

SHB 1056 has been moved to the Rules Committee. SB 5349 has been moved to Executive Session 2/7.

HB 1057/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: This bill would provide a three percent increase not to exceed \$110/month for TRS1/PERS1 Plan retirees. The Governor included this one-time increase in his released supplemental budget. Same COLA as granted last session. However, there is an addition: During the 2023–25 fiscal biennium, the SCPP will study and recommend a permanent ongoing cost-of-living adjustment for beneficiaries of the Public Employees’ Retirement System Plan 1 and the Teachers’ Retirement System Plan 1.

Scheduled for public hearing 1/26 before the House Appropriations Committee and a public hearing 1/23 before the Senate Ways & Means Committee. Both bills are likely NTIB (Necessary to Implement the Budget so remain alive.)

HB 1201/SB 5294: Concerning actuarial funding of state retirement systems.

Comment: This bill deals with eliminating the unfunded liability (UAAL) of TRS/PERS Plans 1. The intent is that by so doing, the employer surcharge currently being paid to decrease the UAAL, will be reduced to a zero (0 percent) added charge: PERS on 6/30/25; SERS on 8/31/25 and TRS on 8/31/24. This will save the state in excess of \$4 billion and school districts whose staffing exceeds state reimbursement will also save dollars. Cities and counties will also save money. This bill also repeals the commitment made last session to pay \$800 million toward eliminating the TRS 1 unfunded liability, assuming investment returns will make up the difference.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

HB 1201 is scheduled for Executive Session on 2/2 before the House Appropriations Committee. A key legislator has indicated that HB 1201 and HB 1459 are a ‘package deal’. Both must pass. The reason being that if HB 1201 is done, then there is an opportunity to restore a permanent COLA for Plans 1 members. SB 5294 had a public hearing 1/23. Both bills are like NTIB so will remain alive but the ‘package’ appears to be in trouble. Democrat legislators are divided on supporting these bills so they are likely to not succeed.

HB 1459: Providing an annual adjustment in the Public Employees’ Retirement System and Teachers’ Retirement System Plan 1 benefits capped at \$110 per month by adjusting the long-term investment rate of return assumption.

Comment: This is basically a capped permanent COLA proposal.

This is scheduled for Executive Session on 2/2 before the House Appropriations Committee but like HB 1201 was not acted upon. See remarks above under HB 1201 regarding linkage of passage of this with HB 1201 and divided support among Democrats.

SSB 5121: Extending the expiration date of the joint select committee on health care oversight.

Comment: The expiration date of this committee is to be extended. Its goal must be to ensure that these multiple health and insurance regulatory agencies are not duplicating their efforts and are working toward a goal of increased quality of services leading to reduced costs to the health care consumer.

Passed the Senate 48/0 and has moved to the House.

HB 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: This bill came to Sen. Rolfes from an agitated constituent who missed the deadline to continue membership in PEBB post-retirement. This bill allows a ‘second bite at the apple’ if certain conditions and timelines are met.

Scheduled for public hearing 2/7 before the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

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

HB 1068: Concerning injured workers’ rights during compelled medical examinations.

Comment: This allows an injured worker to make an audio and video recording of a compelled medical examination, and to have one person of the worker’s choosing present during the examination.

This bill has been moved to the House Rules Committee.

SHB 1105: Requiring public agencies to provide notice for public comment that includes the last date by which such public comment must be submitted.

Comment: Mandates a public agency that is required to solicit public comment for a statutorily specified period of time, and to provide notice that it is soliciting public comment, to include in the notice the last day by which written public comment may be submitted. • Makes an agency that violates the requirement to include in a notice for public comment the last day by which written comment may be submitted subject to a civil penalty of \$500 for the first violation and \$1000 for any subsequent violation.

Passed State Government Committee 1/31

HB 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.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

This bill has been referred to the House Rules Committee.

HB 1136: Requiring employers to reimburse employees for necessary expenditures and losses.

Comment: An employer shall reimburse an employee for all necessary expenditures and losses incurred by the employee in direct consequence of the discharge of the employee's duties. Reimbursement must be paid within 30 days of the employer's actual or constructive notice of the expenditure or loss.

This bill is scheduled for Executive Session on 2/3.

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

Comment: To effectuate the public policy favoring effective collective bargaining, it is necessary to protect confidential union–employee communications in the course of union representation against disclosure.

Scheduled for Executive Session on 1/27 before the House Labor Committee.

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

Comment: Requires certain public employers to provide exclusive bargaining representatives 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. • Allows an exclusive bargaining representative to bring a court action if a public employer fails to comply with the requirement to provide information.

HB 1200 has been moved to the House Rules Committee.

EHB 1210: Concerning the recording of school board meetings.

Comment: Specifies that a public records request for recordings of school district board of directors' meetings must include the date of the meetings requested, or a range of dates. • Provides that searches for public records need not include recordings of school district board meetings unless a date is given. • Requires all school district board meetings to be audio recorded, subject to exceptions for executive sessions and emergencies, with recordings kept for at least one year. • 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 House 96/1 and has been moved to the Senate.

HB 1248: Concerning pupil transportation.

Comment: One important part of the proposal is that it requires that school district contracts for pupil transportation services must include sufficient funds to provide employees of the contracting employer with health benefits and pension contributions equivalent to those of school district classified employees.

This bill had a public hearing on 1/23 and has not been scheduled for further action to date but is likely NTIB.

SB 5059: Concerning prejudgment interest.

Comment: This was proposed last session. Briefly stated, judgments founded on the tortious conduct of a "public agency" shall bear interest from the date (of entry) the cause of action accrued. So, if a district is found liable for neglecting to act in a child's best interest, years after the fact, it will pay a penalty and interest from the day the neglect/damage first occurred. And from the date the action is commenced or the date the minor attains the age of eighteen years, whichever is earlier.

Scheduled for a public hearing 2/7 before the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023

Continued

SB 5084/HB 1558: 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 overpayment's reimbursement fund.

SB 5084 is scheduled for Executive Session 2/7 before the Senate Ways & Means Committee. HB 1558 is scheduled for a public hearing 2/7 before the House Labor Committee.

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

Comment: 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.

Passed to the Rules Committee.

SB 5174: Providing adequate and predictable student transportation.

Comment: Of concern is the provision that provides that pupil transportation services contracts entered into, renewed, or extended after September 1, 2023, must require the contractor to provide employee health and retirement benefits comparable to those received by school employees.

Scheduled for public hearing 2/2 before the Senate Ways & Means Committee

SB 5237: Establishing complaint procedures to address noncompliance with certain state education laws.

Comment: This is an act relating to establishing complaint procedures to address noncompliance with certain state education laws. Complaints are to be filed and investigated by OSPI. The PESB may hold the Superintendent responsible and act accordingly. School directors can also be removed from the office.

Referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee 1/27.

SB 5240/HB 1656: Concerning unemployment insurance benefits appeal procedures.

Comment: A dispute of an individual's initial determination, determination of allowance or denial of allowance of benefits, or redetermination of allowance or denial of benefits, all matters covered by such initial determination, determination, redetermination shall be deemed to be in issue subject to appeal.

SB 5240 has been sent to the Senate Rules Committee. HB 1656 has a public hearing 2/8 before the House Labor Committee.

SB 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.

Scheduled for Executive Session 2/7 before the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

SB 5286: Modifying the premium provisions of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Program.

Comment: Amends the premium rate calculation in the Paid Family and Medical Leave Program (PFML) to be based on a specified formula rather than the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Account balance ratio on September 30 of the previous year. Sets a maximum rate of 1.2 percent and removes the Employment Security Department's authority to assess a solvency surcharge if the account balance ratio falls below a certain threshold.

This Week in Olympia:
Week 4, Jan 30–Feb 3, 2023
Continued

Passed the Senate 48/0 and moved to the House..

SB 5505: Addressing learning loss by expanding the school year.

Comment: This bill would increase the number of instructional hours for grades K–12.

Scheduled for a Public Hearing on 2/2 before the Senate Education Committee.

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

HB 1148 (SB 5201)	State gen. obligation bonds	H Cap Budget	Tharinger
HB 1187	Employee-union privilege	H Civil R & Judiciary	Hackney
SHB 1200 (SB 5273)	Employee information/unions	H Rules R	Alvarado
HB 1201 (SB 5294)	Retirement system funding	H Appropriations	Ormsby
SHB 1207	Harassment/schools	H Rules R	Senn
EHB 1210	School board recordings	S State Govt & El	Rude
HB 1211 (SSB 5311)	Special education funding	H Appropriations	Bergquist
HB 1228	Dual & tribal language edu.	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1230	School websites/drug info.	H EDDP	Callan
HB 1238 (SSB 5339)	Free school meals	H Education	Riccelli
HB 1239	Educator ethics & complaints	H Education	Santos
SHB 1241	Harassment	H Rules R	Leavitt
HB 1244 (SB 5692)	Enrichment levy authority	H Exec Action	Ramel
HB 1246	Health benefits/SEBB	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
HB 1248	Pupil transportation	H Appropriations	Stonier
SHB 1272	Voters' pamphlets	H Appropriations	Bergquist
HB 1273 (SSB 5243)	High school and beyond plans	H Education	Berg
SHB 1277	Paraeducator course of study	H Rules R	Donaghy
HB 1294	Plan 1 retiree COLAs	H Appropriations	Steele
HB 1305	Students with disabilities	H Education	Pollet
HB 1306 (SSB 5268)	Public works procurement	H Appropriations	Tharinger
HB 1308	Graduation pathway options	H Education	Stonier
HB 1316	Dual credit program access	H Education	Paul
HB 1320 (SB 5061)	Personnel records	H Labor & Workplace	Reed
HB 1328	Schools & families/funding	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
HB 1332	Tribes/ K–12 instruction	H Education	Lekanoff
SHB 1346 (SSB 5071)	Purple star award	H EDDPS	Shavers
HB 1353	School district elections	H Education	Stonier
HB 1354	School volunteers/conviction	H Education	Stonier
HB 1368 (SB 5431)	Zero emission school buses	H Env & Energy	Senn
HB 1373	Illegal encampment removal	H Housing	Stokesbary
HB 1374 (SSB 5305)	Office of career connect WA	H Postsec Ed & Work	Slatter
HB 1376	School practice standards	H Education	Santos

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

HB 1615	Education savings accounts	H Education	Eslick
HB 1618	Childhood sexual abuse/SOL	H Civil R & Judiciary	Farivar
HB 1621	Local government procurement	H Local Govt	Ryu
HB 1622	Students/homelessness	H Education	Fey
HB 1624	ESD election administration	H Education	Ybarra
HB 1649	Prejudgment interest	H Civil R & Judiciary	Hackney
HB 1658	Work experience/H.S. credit	H Education	Shavers
HB 1667 (SB 5563)	Prevailing wage	H Labor & Workplace	Schmidt
HB 1670	Property tax limit factor	H Finance	Ormsby
HB 1675	School safety dashboard	H Education	McEntire
HB 1676	Special ed. early support	H Human Svc, You	Senn
HB 1679	Student homelessness group	H Human Svc, You	Rule
HB 1692	Student advisory groups	H Education	Bergquist
HB 1693	Student homelessness pilot	H Appropriations	Lekanoff
HB 1697	Early achievers, voluntary	H Human Svc, You	Walsh
HB 1701	Institutional ed. programs	H Education	Callan
HB 1703	Local property tax levies	H Local Govt	Orcutt
HB 1704	Sales and use tax rate	H Finance	Orcutt
HB 1710 (SB 5248)	Tutoring & extended learning	H Appropriations	Rude
HB 1714	Financial literacy grants	H Appropriations	Stonier
HB 1721	Skill center class size	H Appropriations	Paul
HB 1732	K–12 inflation adjustments	H Appropriations	Bergquist
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 State Govt & Tr	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	S 2nd Reading	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 Rules 2	Wellman
SB 5038	K–12 empl. notice deadlines	S EL/ K–12	Mullet
SSB 5047 (SHB 1048)	Voting rights act	S Rules 2	Saldana
SSB 5048	College in high school fees	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SSB 5054	Prof. learning communities	S Rules 2	Wellman
SB 5059	Prejudgment interest	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SB 5061 (HB 1320)	Personnel records	S Labor & Comm	Kuderer
SB 5064	Special ed. excess costs	S EL/ K–12	Wellman
SB 5065	Bone marrow donation/schools	H Education	Short
SB 5068	Motor vehicle sales tax	S Ways & Means	MacEwen
SSB 5071 (SHB 1346)	Purple star designation	S Ways & Means	Nobles
SSB 5072	Highly capable students	S 2nd Reading	Nobles
SSB 5085	School principals/employment	S 2nd Reading	Wellman
SB 5102	School library info and tech	S EL/ K–12	Wellman
SB 5126 (HB 1444)	Common school trust revenue	S Ways & Means	Pedersen
SSB 5127	Student information/PRA	S 2nd Reading	Wilson
SB 5136	Sales and use tax exemptions	S Ways & Means	Fortunato
SB 5139	Vaccination refusal	S Health & Long	Fortunato
SB 5158	State & local taxation	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SB 5162 (HB 1125)	Transportation budget	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5164 (HB 1126)	Transportation budget, supp.	S Transportation	Liias
SSB 5174	Student transportation	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SB 5175	School principal contracts	S Rules 2	Wellman
SB 5180	Teacher mobility compact	S Ways & Means	Hunt
SB 5187 (HB 1140)	Operating budget	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5188 (HB 1141)	Operating budget, supp.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5200 (HB 1147)	Capital budget	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SB 5201 (HB 1148)	State gen. obligation bonds	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SSB 5225	Working conn. child care	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SSB 5237	Education law noncompliance	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SSB 5243 (HB 1273)	High school and beyond plans	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SB 5246	Supreme court fiscal notes	S Law & Justice	Holy
SB 5248 (HB 1710)	Tutoring & extended learning	S EL/ K–12	Braun

SSB 5268 (HB 1306)	Public works procurement	S Ways & Means	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
SSB 5311 (HB 1211)	Special education funding	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SSB 5315	Special education/nonpublic	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SB 5327	Intern wages	S Labor & Comm	Keiser
SB 5332	Homeless camps/schools, etc.	S Loc Gov, Land	King
SSB 5339 (HB 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 RecComm	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 Ways & Means	Conway
SB 5350 (HB 1057)	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	S Ways & Means	Conway
SB 5355	Sex trafficking prev. ed.	S RecComm	Wilson
SB 5363	Cannabis advertising	S Labor & Comm	MacEwen
SB 5365	Vapor and tobacco/minors	S Labor & Comm	Saldana
SB 5372 (HB 1423)	Trust land transfer program	S Ag/Water/Nature	Rolfes
SB 5403	School depreciation subfunds	S EL/ K–12	Schoesler
SB 5404	Cannabis revenue/local gov.	S Labor & Comm	Wagoner
SB 5408	Ninth grade success grants	S EL/ K–12	Liias
SB 5420 (HB 1008)	Plan 2 members/insurance	S Ways & Means	Conway
SB 5431 (HB 1368)	Zero emission school buses	S EL/ K–12	Shewmake
SB 5438	Supportive relationships	S Human Services	Warnick
SB 5441	School district curricula	S EL/ K–12	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
SB 5462	Inclusive learning standards	S EL/ K–12	Liias
SB 5464 (HB 1392)	Electronics repair	S Environment, E	Stanford
SB 5479	Long-term care/referendum	S Labor & Comm	Schoesler
SB 5485	Public employees/child care	S State Govt & E	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 EL/ K–12	Mullet
SB 5554	College grant award amounts	S Higher Ed & Work	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 (HB 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
SB 5586	Paid leave data	S Labor & Comm	King
SB 5590 (HB 1489)	Mt. St. Helens license plate	S Transportation	Wilson
SB 5593	Student data transfer	S EL/ K–12	Liias
SB 5595	State nickname	S State Govt & E	Wilson
SB 5616 (HB 1541)	Lived experience	S State Govt & E	Valdez
SB 5617	Skill centers course equiv.	S EL/ K–12	Wellman
SB 5618	Local property tax limit	S Loc Gov, Land	Kuderer
SB 5625	Public employee retirees	S Ways & Means	Liias
SB 5626	K–12 media literacy	S EL/ K–12	Liias
SB 5641	African heritage week	S State Govt & E	Fortunato
SB 5647	School safety/temp employees	S EL/ K–12	Torres
SB 5648	Board of education waivers	S EL/ K–12	Wellman
SB 5650	K–12 inflationary increases	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5653	Minors & parents/rights	S EL/ K–12	Fortunato
SB 5655	WA achievers grant program	S Higher Ed & Work	Torres
SB 5656	School security grants	S EL/ K–12	Torres
SB 5661	Skill center class sizes	S EL/ K–12	Boehnke
SB 5668 (HB 1605)	Small districts/skill center	S EL/ K–12	Shewmake
SB 5670	Running start/10th grade	S Higher Ed & Work	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
SJR 8200	Revenue for highway purposes	S Transportation	Fortunato

[SJR 8203](#)

Public school revolving fund

S RecComm

Schoesler

[SJR 8206](#) (HJR 4205)

Property tax rebates

S Ways & Means

Kuderer