



TWIO

This Week In Olympia

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About TWIO

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

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



2023 WASA/WSSDA/WASBO Legislative Conference

Final preparations are being made for the annual [WASA/WSSDA/WASBO Legislative Conference](#) to be held this weekend, February 26–27, at the Olympia Campus of the South Puget Sound Community College and at the State Capital. For the first time since 2020, we are looking forward to holding this important Conference “in-person.” **Registration opens Sunday morning with theater seating beginning at noon; the program will start at 1:00 p.m.**

For the last few years, the conversation of “student belonging” and the importance of “student voice” has been increasing. While our Conference attendees are superintendents and other administrators, elected school directors, and school business officials, we are gathering together to seek support for our students—and they will play a central role in the Conference program; one of the first segments of the program will be student reflections on school district needs. Interspersed throughout the program will be additional students expressing their thoughts. In addition to the presenters, many students will also be attending on Sunday and meeting with legislators on Monday.

An important part of the program is hearing from legislators. With virtual events the last two years, we opted to have pre-recorded interviews with key legislators. Even though we are back face-to-face, we again decided to pre-record presentations to ensure we could secure members from both houses and both parties. While there will not be an opportunity to have a back-and-forth with attendees, we captured their thoughts on priorities for the session, and each provided some insights into how you can more effectively engage in the legislative process. We will be hearing from the education leads in the Legislature: Senator Lisa Wellman (D-Mercer Island), Chair of the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee; Senator Brad Hawkins (R-East Wenatchee), Ranking Minority Member of the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education; Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos (D-Seattle), Chair of the House Education Committee; and Representative Skyler Rude (R-Walla Walla), Ranking Minority Member of the House Education Committee. We will also have a short, pre-recorded address from Governor Jay Inslee.

You should also be aware there will be a handful of legislators in the audience on Sunday. Members who are planning to attend are: Senators Phil Fortunato and Javier Valdez; and Representatives Kelly Chambers, Sharlett Mena, Kristine Reeves, Skyler Rude, and Alex Ybarra. Greet them if you see them—especially if they represent you.

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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.

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 Legislative Conference,
 February 26. Register now
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Another elected official, our State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Chris Reykdal, will present his annual State of Education address and outline his priorities. He will also discuss his vision for this session and provide his perspective on progress to date and potential outcomes. Reykdal’s highest priorities align with our collective priorities, in particular the Conference Hot Topics, so it will be interesting for attendees to hear his view and outlook on those issues.

We are pleased to welcome back to our Conference Shankar Vedantam, the host of NPR’s *Hidden Brain* podcast. Last year, he provided a treasure-trove of advice on effective advocacy and connecting with legislators from a unique perspective, using his research on the unconscious patterns that drive human behavior. Understand that this will not be a repeat presentation. The intention is to explore some deeper learning and again apply his research and stories as it applies to advocating with legislators.

Prior to Sunday’s event, we encourage you to do some pre-learning to get a better understanding of the Conference conversation. Vedantam has suggested that listening to the following *Hidden Brain* podcasts would be an appropriate and helpful launch pad into his messages:

- [Persuasion, Part 1](#)
- [Persuasion, Part 2](#)
- [What Makes Relationships Thrive](#)
- [The Power of Tiny Interactions](#)
- [How to Keep Conflicts from Spiraling](#)

If you do not have the time to listen to each of these, Vedantam noted the first two, regarding “Persuasion,” would be the most applicable to the conversation. Additional podcasts he suggests would be helpful are listed on the [Conference webpage](#).

Your government relations staff will close the afternoon program with a presentation of the annual Hot Topics—the set of priorities of our collective associations. This year’s Hot Topics align with the highest priorities of Supt. Reykdal, as well as most of the education community. We will be focusing on Special Education funding and funding for Pupil Transportation. The Hot Topics briefing will provide attendees with concise and common messages to take to legislators when attendees rush the Capitol for Monday’s “Day on the Hill.” If you want a preview of the Hot Topics, the documents are available [online](#). The document provides background information and context to the issues, along with specific talking points.

If you are coming to the Conference, please attend the Regional Caucus Meetings, which will immediately follow the close of the afternoon program (5:00 p.m.). Participating in these meetings is vital to assuring district teams are organized for Monday’s legislator meetings. It is important that you know when and where legislator appointments will be held and to coordinate your messages with your colleagues. Members of WSSDA’s Legislative Committee have scheduled Monday meetings with legislators; the list of currently scheduled meetings is available on the [WSSDA website](#).

We also encourage you to stay for the evening reception (starting at 6:00 p.m.)—good food and good drink with some good friends and maybe one of your legislators. If you have invited your legislators, you should make it a priority to attend. When an invited legislator breaks away from his or her family—on a Sunday—to be with you, it is simply bad form to not be there to greet them.

On Monday’s Day on the Hill, please be aware that there will be a short “Welcome to the Capitol” gathering at 8:30 a.m. on the North Steps of the Capitol. If you do not have legislator meetings scheduled at this time, we encourage you to stop by; we hope to have invited legislators participating.

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Finally, just a note about Monday. The first of the Legislature’s set of lengthy Floor sessions runs from Monday, February 27 to Wednesday, March 8. During this time, there will be little-to-no committee activity and legislators will be in their respective Chambers debating and voting on bills on the Floor, or behind closed doors in their political party caucus rooms discussing strategy and positions on bills. Floor sessions are usually scheduled to begin in the morning and run through the late afternoon (and sometimes the late evening).

With our Conference Day on the Hill occurring on the first day of Floor sessions, most legislators will be in-Chamber most of the day. As noted above, appointments with legislators have been made by WSSDA’s Legislative Committee; however, it is possible your meeting may be moved or cancelled. If a meeting has not been scheduled with our legislators—or if it is cancelled—there are options. We encourage you to connect with your legislators’ Legislative Assistants (LA) and ask if there is an opportunity to meet with your legislators outside the Chamber doors, if only for a few minutes of face-time. Some legislators will not take notes or leave the Chamber during Floor sessions—which is why it is important to check with the members’ LA. If you strike out with that option, ask the Legislative Assistants if they will meet with you. In the old days, most Legislative Assistants were essentially secretaries—answering phones, taking messages, handling constituent mail, etc. In recent times, however, many LAs act as in-house policy advisors to their legislators and provide advice. Regardless, if you can get the ear of the Legislative Assistants, meeting with them can sometimes be more worthwhile and productive than meeting with the actual legislator.

As a last-ditch option, we encourage you to, at the very least, drop by your legislators’ offices and leave a “sorry we missed you” message, with a copy of the Hot Topics. Two important things to know about this last option: (1) many legislators are “going green” and will not accept paper materials; and (2) the House and Senate office buildings are more restricted than in previous years and you may not be able to access your legislators’ offices without an appointment. In this case, call the Legislative Assistant and see if option one (pulling the member off the Floor) or option two (meeting with the LA) are viable.

Additionally, whether you are able to meet with your legislators or not, take the opportunity to contact them when you return home. If you had a meeting, offer up a “Thank you,” and provide any additional information that may have been requested. If you were not able to meet, send them a “Sorry we missed you” note to make sure you have a connection. And, either way, meeting or no meeting, provide a copy of the Conference Hot Topics—or better yet, use your own words to convey the Hot Topics talking points.

The Conference Day on the Hill is an opportunity to collectively advocate for a common set of issues agreed upon by our associations; however, please do not make this your last engagement. Build upon your relationships and continue your advocacy.

This Week in Review

Today, the second of the Legislature’s self-imposed cutoff deadlines arrives. This afternoon is the house of origin fiscal committee cutoff. All bills must be passed out of their original house fiscal committee (House Appropriations, Capital Budget, Finance, and Transportation Committees and Senate Transportation and Ways & Means Committees) by this evening in order to remain alive. As always, budget bills and budget-related bills considered “Necessary to Implement the Budget” (NTIB) are exempt from most of these early cut-off dates.

To date, legislators have introduced around 1,600 bills this session. Prior to last week’s house of origin policy committee cutoff, Committees had adopted just over 1,100 bills, moving them directly to the House or Senate Rules Committee to await action by the full body, or onto their original house fiscal committee. Following last Friday’s policy committee cutoff, fiscal committees held almost half (about 550) of

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those live bills. Between last Saturday and this morning, the Legislature’s six fiscal committees had adopted just over 200 bills. Combined, the House Appropriations and Senate Ways & Means Committees are scheduled to act on 96 bills today. If all are adopted, fiscal committees will have adopted just over 300 bills since last Saturday. That means, out of 1,600 bills introduced, a little over half of those bills continue to live. As the House and Senate move to marathon Floor sessions, starting on Monday and continuing through 5:00 p.m., March 8, the list of viable bills will continue to drop.

As we have discussed before, these deadlines serve as an automatic weeding out process and allows (or forces, depending on your perspective) legislators to focus on priorities. It also provides clarity for advocates and constituents in determining legislator priorities. Additional cutoffs continue to arrive throughout the session, continuing to narrow legislators’ focus, until the penultimate cutoff on April 12. When that cutoff date arrives, there are two weeks remaining in the session and the only issues that can be addressed are budgets and budget-related bills, along with resolving differences in bills between the houses. Remember, in order to pass the Legislature, all bills must pass out of both houses in the exact same form—this concurrence process eats up a lot of time during that last stage of the session. We will talk more about this process when we get there. Also, remember that while legislative rules limit what can be addressed during those final two weeks, those rules can be waived and often we see dead bills rise from the ashes or new bills (which technically cannot be introduced at this point) quickly move through the process. For a student of government, this is a fascinating process; for an advocate, this is like a real-life house of mirrors and it can be difficult and frustrating to follow all the action.

With so many bills moving this week, we will focus on action of our priority bills and a few additional bills of interest. This week, three of the four Special Education ([SB 5311](#) and [HB 1436](#)) and Pupil Transportation ([SB 5174](#)) bills were adopted (the fourth, [HB 1248](#), was adopted last week).

Special Education

[HB 1436](#), the House’s version of special education funding, was adopted by the House Appropriations Committee on Monday. Originally requested by Superintendent Reykdal, this bill would have implemented his 2023–25 budget request for special education. We have been referring to this bill as the “full meal deal” because, as introduced, it would have implemented policy and funding enhancements to fully cover the cost of special education services. It would have increased the special education tiered multiplier, Pre–K through K–12, to move the state closer to a funding model that more closely reflects the actual costs of service delivery; eliminated the enrollment funding cap; and sustained the state-funded professional development and job-embedded coaching provided through the Inclusionary Practices Project.

Just prior to the bill being heard in the House Appropriations Committee on February 9, a disturbing striking amendment (eliminating the full bill’s text and replacing it with new language) was introduced. Superintendents, school directors, teachers, and others in the education community were prepared to joyfully support HB 1436, but had to quickly pivot and express disappointment and grave concerns about the potential new bill.

The [Proposed Substitute](#) (striking amendment), as introduced would have made major changes to the underlying bill:

- The current 13.5 percent funding cap would be eliminated—in the 2027–28 school year. An increase in the funding cap would be phased in and then eliminated in 2027–28.
- Under the original bill, increases in the special education multiplier would have been phased in over four years. The striking amendment also would phase in increases in the multiplier over four years; however, the

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multipliers are dramatically different. For students spending 80 percent or more of the school day in a general education setting, the underlying bill would have increased the multiplier from the current 1.0075 to 1.3611 over four years; while the new amendment would increase the multiplier to 1.059. For students spending less than 80 percent of the school day in a general education setting, the underlying bill would have increased the multiplier from the current 0.9950 to 1.3486 over four years; while the striking amendment would increase the multiplier to 1.043. The underlying bill would have also increased the multiplier for Pre–K students from the current 1.1500 to 1.200 over four years; while the striking amendment would provide no increase for Pre–K students. The Proposed Substitute HB 1436 would fund multipliers above the governor’s proposal (because he requested NO multiplier increase for K–12 students); below SB 5311; and significantly below Superintendent Reykdal’s budget request.

- The threshold for high-need individuals to access the special education safety net would be reduced from 2.3 to 2.2 times the average per pupil expenditure. This is a positive change—assuming the state funds the gap between the federal threshold and this new threshold.
- New intent language would be added stating the Legislature finds that “school districts pay for special education services with local funding, creating an inequitable situation for school districts and students. The Legislature supports a system of funding that does not require school districts to generate local funding to meet their obligation to provide special education services.” Further, the language clearly states, “The Legislature finds that special education is fully part of the state’s statutory program of basic education that is deemed by the Legislature to implement Article IX, Section 1 of the state Constitution.” Following that positive intent language, the actual bill changes course. The new bill would amend current law to codify the use of basic education allocations for special education purposes, but specifically requires OSPI to redirect up to 50 percent of a school district’s special education students’ basic education allocations for special education if special education expenditures exceeded revenues in the previous year. Essentially this clarifies that the Legislature will fully provide for special education costs, but if district expenditures exceed the funding provided, a portion of the district’s general apportionment (basic education) will be redirected to fill in the excess cost. So, local levy dollars would not need to fund special education; however, by reducing (redirecting) general apportionment, local levies would be needed to backfill some other basic education cost. Simply put, this is a (probably unconstitutional) shell game.
- The underlying bill would have required OSPI to provide technical assistance to school districts experiencing issues related to disproportionality and make available professional development opportunities statewide to support local education agencies, schools, and community partners in promoting inclusionary teaching practices within a multitiered system of supports framework to help safeguard against over-identification and other issues related to disproportionality. This accountability mechanism was included partially to address legislators’ fears that eliminating the funding cap would cause districts to willy-nilly over-identify students as needing special education. The language also served as a clever way to add the Inclusionary Practices Project in statute. Regardless, the Proposed Substitute removed this language. Instead, the new bill would require the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) to prepare a report and conduct a performance audit of the state’s special education system on several special education issues, including recommendations for funding formula changes.

A fiscal note on the new bill is not yet available; however, the total estimated cost of Proposed Substitute HB 1436 is \$120 million in 2023–25 and \$360 million over

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four years. The total projected cost was provided by Committee staff in the initial public hearing. OSPI’s projected costs (which are different) are linked [HERE](#).

When the bill was moved to executive action on Monday, new amendments were waiting. The underlying striking amendment (as discussed above) was adopted with some changes. The [first amendment](#) made the following changes:

- The underlying striking amendment would phase in, over four years, increases in the K–12 tiered multipliers. As adopted, the multipliers in the 2023–24, and 2024–25 school years are increased slightly; however, the third-year, 2025–26 is reduced slightly, and the fourth-year, 2026–27, increase is the same as originally proposed in the underlying striking amendment. Simply said, the multipliers increase a bit faster, but the final increase remains the same as in the underlying striking amendment.
- The new language that requires OSPI to redirect up to 50 percent of a school district’s special education students’ basic education allocations for special education if special education expenditures exceeded revenues in the previous year is maintained; however, it includes an effective date of July 1, 2025.
- Language that was removed which required OSPI to review data for disproportionate identification of students and assist school districts to support inclusionary teaching practices is reinserted.
- The required JLARC review is retained; however, language is clarified regarding work of the Committee and requirements for the State Auditor. Additionally, new language about the JLARC is added, specifically requiring the Legislature to review findings and recommendations “and adjust formulas...as appropriate.”

The [second amendment](#) adds a “null and void” clause onto the bill. This is a mechanism, most often used in the House, which allows more bills to move through the Appropriations Committee, with a protection that if the bill happens to make it all the way through the process, it will be voided if required funding is not provided in the final Operating Budget.

[SB 5311](#), the Senate’s version of special education funding, was an underwhelming proposal as introduced. Requested by Governor Inslee, this bill would have implemented his 2023–25 budget request for special education—which was miserly at best. As adopted by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee, the bill was substantially improved. Certainly, it was not as generous as the original HB 1436; however, it would have provided an investment of around \$300 million.

In short, the bill would have done the following:

- Increased the current 13.5 percent funding cap to 15.0 percent.
- Increased the tiered multipliers in Pre-kindergarten and grades K–12. The multipliers for Pre–K were the same as originally requested by Supt. Reykdal. The multipliers for K–12 was not as generous as requested by Supt. Reykdal, but were substantially greater than Governor Inslee’s proposal—given that he had ZERO multiplier increases for grades K–12.
- Revised safety net eligibility by linking it to regionalization. As we have discussed before, the change would allow school districts with low or no regionalization to more quickly—and equitably—access safety net funds. Currently, districts with high regionalization can reach the necessary safety net threshold more easily than other districts.

When SB 5311 moved to executive action on Monday in the Senate Ways & Means Committee major amendments were waiting.

The [first adopted amendment \(1\)](#) eliminated the four-year phase in of multiplier increases, with a singular increase ending up significantly lower than previously

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proposed. The new one-time increase in the multipliers did not dip as far as the new HB 1436; however, the reduced increases are similar.

The [second adopted amendment \(3\)](#) added “accountability” language. The language is not the same as the House’s requirement that OSPI divert general apportionment to special education; however, it has a somewhat similar impact. The new language clarifies the policy of the state is that students receiving special education generate full basic education allocations and must receive the benefits of such allocations regardless of educational setting. It also requires OSPI and the State Auditor to develop an allocation and cost accounting methodology that ensures state general apportionment funding is allocated to a student’s special education program and accounted for as excess costs when basic education services are provided in an alternative setting. Additionally, OSPI is required to provide the Legislature an accounting of excess costs, beginning in 2024 and annually thereafter.

As explained by the sponsor, the new language is intended to capture excess costs to determine how districts are spending general apportionment funds and special education funds. The language is not as distasteful as the House’s language; however, the message is just as offensive: “We don’t trust how school districts are using the funds we provide them.”

The [third adopted amendment \(5\)](#) provides for special education advocates. As adopted, ESDs would be required to contract for independent special education advocates, if funding in the Operating Budget is provided. The advocates would: serve as a resource for children with disabilities and their families; advocate on behalf of the child for a free and appropriate public education; and assist parents and children with individualized education program (IEP) meetings.

Additional amendments were withdrawn:

- [Amendment 2](#) would have removed the special education enrollment cap for districts with fewer than 500 students.
- [Amendment 6](#) would have required school districts to convene an ongoing Special Education Advisory Committee to increase parental/family involvement and act as a partner with the school district to provide effective special education programming for students with disabilities.
- [Amendment 7](#) would have required a representative from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to attend individualized education program (IEP) meetings after a student turns 16 to assist with transition planning. Additionally, student and parents would have been required to receive information about the Washington Achieving a Better Life Experience Program.
- [Amendment 4](#) is a comprehensive amendment which combined Amendment 5, Amendment 6, and Amendment 7 in one package.

We have not seen an updated fiscal note on the new SB 5311; however, it is clear it is significantly less than the \$303 million estimate as adopted by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee. Our concern is that the House was rumored to be looking at investing around \$400 million in special education—however, it should be clarified, that potential \$400 million is over four years (i.e., \$100 million per year; \$200 million in 2023–25). Given how SB 5311 has been reduced, it appears there may already be a meeting of the minds between House and Senate budget-writers—and we are still almost a month away from seeing an updated revenue forecast. A flat or decreasing revenue forecast could further drive K–12 investments down.

Our special education NEED over TWO years is over \$800 million and we have bills in both the House and Senate that would provide SIGNIFICANTLY less than what we need—and even less than we expected. Truly, we wanted to clearly lay out the special education NEED in order to fully cover the cost of services provided; however, no one realistically believed the Legislature would have the appetite to

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cut us a check for over three-quarters of a billion dollars for special education. We did expect, however, the Legislature was prepared to provide us with a substantial “downpayment.” We will not stop fighting, but right now it is looking like the Legislature wants to provide a token investment.

Pupil Transportation

Speaking of token investments, how about an update on Pupil Transportation? We talked last week about the action on [HB 1248](#) in the House Appropriations Committee. Remember, we had a bill that was far from perfect, but we were working with legislators to refine it—until the Appropriations Committee brought the bill up for executive action. Just like special education, there was a [Proposed Substitute](#) (striking amendment) on the table waiting. The adopted Proposed Substitute gutted the original bill, removing all language regarding a new transportation funding formula, reimbursements for special passenger costs, and a required analysis to set up future funding formula changes.

What was left were three sections:

- Section 1 requires OSPI to administer transportation safety net awards to school districts with a “convincingly demonstrated need” for additional transportation funding for special passengers. Similar to previous language, special passengers are still defined as special education, homeless, and foster students. New language also specifies that safety net award funding must be defined in the Operating Budget.
- Section 2 and Section 3 maintain the original language from what was Section 7 and Section 8 in the underlying bill. These sections continue to: require pupil transportation services contracts to require the contractor to provide health care and pension benefits to its employees that are comparable to what is provided to school employees; provide one-time funding to assist districts in complying with this requirement.

Not much to write how about, especially given that legislators committed to us last year that major revisions of the transportation funding formula would be a priority this year.

Oh, well, we still had a Senate bill we could be happy about—until [SB 5174](#) hit a buzzsaw in the Senate Ways & Means Committee. Just a few minutes after they tore apart SB 5311, the special education bill, they brought forward SB 5174 with...you guessed it, another [Proposed Substitute](#). It was like déjà vu as a “work in progress” SB 5174 was gutted like the House’s “work in progress” HB 1248.

The Proposed Substitute removed all language regarding an updated transportation funding formula and left the bill with a special passenger safety net program. It is a bit of a struggle to find the sunshine here, but there are two positives:

First, the sections regarding pupil transportation contractors and the requirement that their employees receive similar health and pension benefits as school employees was ELIMINATED.

Second, this may be grasping at straws, but the Proposed Substitute revised the intent section. Remember, an intent section has no force of law (and they say the road to hell is paved with good intentions); however, the new language acknowledges the current transportation system “lacks transparency and predictability and fails to effectively address the diverse characteristics of all Washington school districts.” Further, it states, “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.”

Fortunately, this intention is backed up with actual, actionable language in the bill. OSPI is required to conduct an analysis of school district transportation costs and allocations following the 2024–25 school year and provide it to the Legislature. In addition to a review of special passenger costs, OSPI is required to include

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recommendations regarding “geographic differences faced by rural and high population density urban school districts” into a transportation funding formula.” Further language state the Legislature intends (there’s that word again) to “use these data and recommendations to inform their future discussions on revising the overall student transportation allocation model to a more transparent and predictable funding model.”

So, that is positive, if even a bit loosey-goosey, but there is a caveat. Even if the Legislature can be trusted to follow through with its “intent,” the OSPI analysis is not required until June 1, 2026. If the Legislature waits for the results of the analysis before acting, that means the earliest they would act is in the 2027 Session. Never mind that we had commitments 2023 would be the year to overhaul the system.

Transitional Kindergarten

HB 1550, the bill to eliminate Transitional Kindergarten and replace it with a Transition to Kindergarten (TTK) program, continues to be a major “work in progress.” The House Appropriations Committee held a public hearing on the bill, as adopted by the House Education Committee, on Tuesday. Executive action was scheduled yesterday; however, prior to the meeting, the bill was pulled from the list. It was understood that behind-the-scenes negotiations on amendments were continuing—and sure enough, it was added to the House Appropriations Committee executive list for today, along with a **Second Proposed Substitute**.

Although this is a “new” bill, most of the major components of the previous Substitute (as adopted by the House Education Committee) remained. Several of the troubling issues continue in the new bill; however, there is a clear attempt to try and address some of them. For example;

Teacher certification. Teachers must still hold an elementary education endorsement and complete additional education related to the state early childhood education core competencies within five years of assignment to the program; however, the previous “30 college credit” requirement is changed to “24 college credits or 60 clock hours.”

Student eligibility. Age limitations remain; however, one specific eligibility requirement is changed. New language states a child is eligible for TTK if they do not have access to a federal or state program providing high quality early learning services, who does not have access to, or has been referred by, a licensed early learning provider. Language remains that the child must either be on a waitlist for ECEAP or has been determined to have a developmental delay or otherwise needs additional preparation to be successful in kindergarten in the following school year.

Funding. The new bill continues to prohibit the use of basic education funds for TTK. The bill includes a new funding formula which would base the per student on the amount per child enrolled in a school day class of an Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program, adjusted for the school district’s regionalization factor rather than based on the estimated statewide allocation per kindergarten student.

There remains a concern about whether a school district can count on ongoing funding. OSPI is required to provide an annual report to the Legislature: providing the number of students that are in TTK programs; and an estimated number of students that will be enrolled in the following year. However, it does not appear there is any guarantee the state funding will be provided for those students. TTK is clearly defined as outside of basic education and it does not appear that TTK is considered an entitlement program. Will necessary funding be provided each year? It is unclear. And adding further ambiguity is a “null and void” clause, voiding the bill if it is not funded in the budget.

HB 1550 had not yet been acted upon at the time this report was being prepared; however, it is anticipated it will be adopted. Presumably further amendments will be attempted on the House Floor. Stay tuned.

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Prejudgment interest

[SB 5059](#), prejudgment interest, which would require interest on tort claims to begin when the damage occurred, rather than beginning when a verdict is determined as is current practice, laid dormant in the Senate Ways & Means Committee since it was heard on February 7. As executive session lists continued to come out from the Committee, the bill was absent...until it was finally added mid-week for executive action yesterday. The bill was adopted without amendment.

The bill continues to be a distraction; however, it could have major negative (financial) consequences for school districts if the bill passes. We will be working with senators, asking them to oppose the bill if it comes to the Senate Floor. Assuming a miracle is not available, we will have to shift to the House and work the issue over there.

We continue to ask proponents to tell us about an incident that makes this bill necessary for school districts. Nobody can answer that question.

Principal Bills

AWSP's two principal bills, [SB 5085](#) and [SB 5175](#), remain afloat. Remember, SB 5085 would make several changes regarding principal and assistant principal employment; and SB 5175 would allow principals to have three-year contracts. We continue to sympathize with principals and the ongoing pressure they are under (similar pressures many superintendents are under); however, we continue to believe these bills are not the solution. Both bills passed out of the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee a few weeks ago. And both bills have advanced in the Senate Rules Committee and are on the Senate's Floor Calendar—ready for action at any time.

One of the major concerns about SB 5085 is a provision expanding principal collective bargaining to allow the bargaining of “working conditions.” WASA and other education interests expressed our major concerns about those provisions to AWSP and they agreed to ask for the collective bargaining section to be stricken from the bill. While an [amendment](#) to do that currently sits on the Senate bar, awaiting action, the amendment also adds additional provisions—beyond our agreement. The new language is an attempt to ensure that principals and assistant principals maintain a gap in salary above a district's highest paid teacher. In recent years, with significant increases in teacher salaries, the gap between building administrators and teachers has narrowed greatly. The concern is real; however, hanging this amendment on a bill that continues to concern our members (and when we had an agreement to move on) is troublesome. Even more troublesome is the fact that the language in the amendment likely won't solve the problem if it ends up being adopted. And, by the way, if it was adopted (workable or not), those necessary raises for many principals would not be funded by the state.

SB 5175, while less troubling than SB 5085, is still troublesome nevertheless. The main argument in favor is that superintendents typically have three-year contracts, so building leaders should also have three-year contracts. For someone outside of education, this may make sense, but the comparison between superintendent and principal contracts is an apples-to-oranges comparison. Superintendents have no specific employment protections and no job security. If three board members change their minds about the superintendent (for whatever reason), they can dismiss the superintendent, with no recourse for the superintendent. Principals, however, already have tenure and due process rights (similar to teachers), which protects principals and prevents a superintendent from arbitrarily terminating them.

There is also an argument that this bill is not such a big deal because the bill is permissive—districts would not be required to offer two- or three-year contracts. They are simply allowed to offer longer contracts. But what kind of pressure can a principal bring to bear if there is an allowance for a three-year contract and you are not willing to offer it? Or what about the neighboring district that offers a three-year contract to principals—in which case there is tremendous pressure to

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follow/align with the neighbor. While this is a local decision, sometimes, because of pressure, it is in reality, not.

You have read our explanation of these bills, but we think it would be enlightening to hear AWSP's view of their bills and the current situation. See: [AWSP's Update on SB 5085 & SB 5175](#).

We know that most superintendents are understandably wary of publicly taking action on either of these bills; however, if you have a relationship with your legislators—especially those in the Senate—we would encourage you to think about connecting with them—behind-the-scenes—about these bills.

WAMOA

By Mitch Denning

This week we'll discuss our WAMOA priority bills as today all bills must be out of their original fiscal committee.

- [HB 1741](#), **increasing school prototypical school funding formulas to support student well-being and educational outcomes**—did not receive a public hearing in the House Appropriations Committee, but WAMOA is glad that it was introduced for at least an informal conversation with legislators on our Day on the Hill on Feb. 14. WAMOA will reach out to Rep. Rule about the possibility of re-introducing the bill in the 2024 session.
- [SHB 1436](#), **fully funding special education**—has moved to the House Rules Committee and was amended on Monday. The bill now increases the special ed multiplier to a lesser extent than the underlying bill. The enrollment limit for K–12 students is gradually increased until it is removed in SY 2027–28. OSPI is 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. Finally, a null and void clause is added.
- [SHB 1238](#), **providing free school meals for all students**—was heard in the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday, and is scheduled for executive session this morning. WAMOA testified PRO sharing the funding appropriated for the bill would significantly help students, as hungry kids can't learn. The second substitute bill would pare down the scope of the bill to K–5 and remove the language that would make it a part of the State's program of basic education. Three amendments await discussion during the executive session. [SSB 5339](#), did not receive a public hearing in the Senate Ways & Means Committee.
- [SSB 5126](#), **common school trust revenue to small school districts**—is now in the Senate Rules Committee. An amendment in the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Feb. 16 makes the small district priority list the first priority of the Common School Construction Fund (CSCF) appropriations after payment of principal and interest in skill center bonds. Starting in 2025–27, no less than \$60 million in new appropriations in the capital budget must be used to fund small districts on the prioritized list. This amount increases to \$70 million in 2027–29, and to \$80 million in 2029–31. [HB 1444](#) did not move out of the House Capital Budget.
- [SSB 5174](#), **pupil transportation funding**—was amended in the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Wednesday and is now in the Senate Rules Committee. The amended 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 are also eligible, and such funding is not part

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of basic education. By July 1, 2026, OSPI shall 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 must also include recommendations on how to incorporate geographic differences faced by rural and high population density urban districts in the transportation funding model.

- **[SB 5057](#), work group to evaluate the costs of the State Energy Performance Standard for Covered Commercial Buildings**—was heard in the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Wednesday, and WAMOA testified PRO. The bill is scheduled for executive session today in the Senate Ways & Means Committee.
- **[2SSB 5311](#), special education funding formula**—moved out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Wednesday, and is now in the Senate Rules Committee. The amended bill now increases the special ed multiplier in SY 2023–24. ESDs are required to contract with individual special ed advocates, subject to appropriations. State policy would enable spec ed students to generate full basic ed allocations regardless of educational settings. 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.

Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey—The Nexus Group

Health, Pension, and Other Benefit Issues

“Democracy dies in darkness.”

Washington POST

Committee hearings are either temporarily suspended or have small agendas as attention changes focus to floor action. Bills that have made it out of committees now must make it to the floor calendar for possible debate and vote. A reminder that March 8 is the deadline for bills to have cleared their house of origin.

As always, and to repeat: Bills that are necessary to implement the budget (NTIB) remain alive beyond any of these deadlines. (Although, what makes a bill NTIB is fairly loosely defined.)

For an outsider looking in, it is extremely frustrating that much of the action that fine tunes/amends bills occurs behind closed doors, out of sight of the general public. This is particularly true of the development of the budget, but as one can observe, amendments often crop up on bills the day of their final hearing or on the floor once brought forward for debate. The net effect is that the public often has little time to read and understand any proposed change(s). This is particularly galling when the budget proposal itself is often released in the morning with a same day public hearing. But this is the system. So be it.

Listed below are bills that appear to be moving or that have made it to the opposite house awaiting committee hearings.

Retirement Related Proposals

To repeat: previous reports have covered the bills related to addressing the lack of a cost-of-living increase (COLA) for members in TRS/PERS Plans 1. They are **[HB 1057/SB 5350](#)**, **[HB 1201/SB 5294](#)**, and **[HB 1459](#)**.

There are four bills currently moving that deal with pensions: two sets/companions per chamber and all four slightly differing.

[SB 5350](#), would grant a one-time, capped 3 percent COLA for TRS1/PERS1 Plan members. It also directs the Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) to recommend a path to regaining a permanent COLA for these retirees.

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SB 5294 was amended. The principal change was that as originally proposed, it took the \$800 million last session budgeted to lower the unfunded liability in TRS Plan 1. The amended bill leaves \$250 million toward the liability and transfers the rest to the General Fund. In short, it: Removes the underlying provisions of the bill. Sets the existing minimum UAAL rates to end after FY 2023. Sets UAAL rates for FY 2024 through 2027. Establishes a new minimum UAAL rate of 0.5 percent that goes into effect in FY 2028.

HB 1057, would grant a one-time, capped 3 percent COLA for TRS1/PERS1 Plan members. It also directed the SCPP to recommend a path to regaining a permanent COLA for these retirees. Unlike its companion, an adopted amendment froze current rates until 2028.

HB 1201, eliminates the minimum contribution rates for amortizing the unfunded liabilities in the Teachers' Retirement System Plan 1 (TRS 1), beginning August 31, 2024, and for the Public Employees' Retirement System Plan 1 (PERS 1), beginning June 30, 2025. Fixes the employer contribution rate for the unfunded liabilities in PERS 1 and TRS 1 at zero until 2029, excluding amounts to amortize benefit improvements made after June 30, 2009. Repeals the scheduled payment of \$800 million into the TRS 1 fund scheduled for June 30, 2023.

The Senate Ways & Means Committee and the Senate Rules Committee moved SB 5350 and SB 5294. Both are on the floor calendar awaiting action by the full Senate. HB 1057 and HB 1201 have been moved to the Rules Committee.

HB 1007: 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 Ways & Means Committee.

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 passed the House 93/0 and has been moved to the Senate Ways & Means 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 32 postretirement employment provisions of RCW 41.32.802(2) for up to 867 hours per year.

SHB 1056 passed the House 93/0 and have moved to the Senate Ways & Means Committee. SB 5349 is in the Senate Rules Committee. It is likely that HB 1056 will be the bill that is moved; SB 5349 will die

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 Health Care & Wellness Committee.

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

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

This bill is in the Rules Committee awaiting further action.

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 passed the House 65/33 and will be moved to the Senate Health & Long-term Care Committee.

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 bill has been placed on the House floor calendar for possible action.

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

Comment: Requires employers to reimburse employees for all necessary expenditures and losses incurred in direct consequence of their duties.

This bill has been moved to the House Rules Committee awaiting action.

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.

This bill is in the House Rules Committee waiting movement.

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

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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 the House 96/1, had a public hearing before the Senate State Government Committee on February 17.

HB 1248: Concerning pupil transportation.

Comment: Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to provide 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. 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. Provides one-time supplemental allocations to districts that experience higher costs because of the new contract requirements.

This bill has been moved to the House Rules Committee for possible action.

SHB 1320: Concerning access to personnel records.

Comment: Specifies that an employer must provide the employee's complete, unredacted personnel file within 14 calendar days of the request from the employee, former employee, or their attorney, agent, or fiduciary. Requires an employer to provide to a former employee, upon request, a statement of the employee's discharge date and reasons, if any, for the discharge. Creates a private cause of action to enforce the requirements. Requires the Department of Labor and Industries and the Employment Security Department to provide employers with information regarding the employer's obligations and the employee's rights.

Scheduled for Executive Action on February 24 in the House Appropriations Committee.

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.

Executive Session on February 23 before the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

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 overpayment's reimbursement fund.

Is now in the Senate Rules 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.

The bill does not: prohibit an employer from basing initial hiring decisions on scientifically valid drug screening conducted through methods that do not screen for non-psychoactive cannabis metabolites; apply to testing for controlled substances other than pre-employment, such as post-accident testing or testing because of suspicion of impairment or being under the influence of alcohol, controlled

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substances, medications, or other substances; affect the rights or obligation of an employer to maintain a drug and alcohol free workplace, or any other right or obligation of an employer required under federal law or regulation; apply to applicants in the airline or aerospace industries, or applicants applying for a position that requires a federal government background investigation or security clearance; or apply to safety-sensitive positions for which impairment while working presents a substantial risk of death.

Passed the Senate 28/21. Sent to the House Labor committee for scheduling.

SHB 5174: Providing adequate and predictable student transportation.

Comment: Removes provisions that modify the student transportation funding formula. Removes additional monthly reporting requirements. Removes provision requiring transportation contractors to provide employee health and retirement benefits comparable to those received by school employees. Creates a special passenger safety net program. Updates intent section.

Has been moved to the Senate Rules Committee.

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 is in the House Rules 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.

Placed on floor calendar awaiting further action.

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.

Passed the Senate 48/0 and moved to the House awaiting a date for public hearing before the House Labor Committee.

SB 5485: Concerning public employee reimbursement for child and adult dependent care expenses.

Comment: Allows for public employees to seek reimbursement of childcare and adult dependent care expenses incurred while traveling on official business.

Before the Senate Ways & Means Committee awaiting scheduling.

Legislative Resources

Committee Meeting Schedule

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

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

Mondays

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

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

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Virtual

Tuesdays

8–10 a.m.
House Education
Virtual

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

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

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Virtual

Wednesdays

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

Thursdays

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

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

4–6 p.m.
Senate Ways & Means
Virtual

Fridays

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

10–11 a.m.
House Education
Virtual

Useful Links

Washington State Government

<http://www.access.wa.gov>

State Legislature

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

Senate

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

House of Representatives

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

Legislative Committees

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

Legislative Schedules

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

Office of the Governor

<http://www.governor.wa.gov>

OSPI

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

TVW

<http://www.tvw.org>

Session Cut-off Calendar

January 9, 2023

First Day of Session.

February 17, 2023

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

February 24, 2023

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

March 8, 2023

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

March 29, 2023

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

April 4, 2023

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

April 12, 2023*

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

April 23, 2023

Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

* After 5:00 p.m. on the 94th day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, matters that affect state revenue, messages pertaining to amendments, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session may be considered.

Bill Watch

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

Bill #	Title	Status	Sponsor
SHB 1003	Dual credit program access	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
HB 1008 (SB 5420)	Plan 2 members/insurance	S Ways & Means	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	S EL/ K-12	Santos
HB 1020	State dinosaur	S State Govt & El	Morgan
SHB 1044	Capital assistance/schools	H Rules R	McEntire
SHB 1048 (SSB 5047)	Voting rights act	H Rules R	Mena
SHB 1056 (SB 5349)	Postretirement employment	S Ways & Means	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
EHB 1086	Community org. contracts	S Loc Gov, Land U	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	H Rules R	Kloba
SHB 1109	Special education funding	H Rules R	Senn
SHB 1113	Prof. educator reprimands	S EL/ K-12	Harris
SHB 1118	School bus safety	H Appropriations	Mosbrucker
HB 1125 (SB 5162)	Transportation budget	H Transportation	Fey
HB 1126 (SB 5164)	Transportation budget, supp.	H Transportation	Fey
SHB 1134	988 system	H Appropriations	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	S EL/ K-12	Paul
HB 1147 (SB 5200)	Capital budget	H Cap Budget	Tharinger
HB 1148 (SB 5201)	State gen. obligation bonds	H Cap Budget	Tharinger

HB 1156 (SB 5711)	College grant eligibility	H Appropriations	Slatter
SHB 1187 (SB 5706)	Employee-union privilege	H Rules R	Hackney
SHB 1200 (SB 5273)	Employee information/unions	H Rules R	Alvarado
HB 1201 (SSB 5294)	Retirement system funding	H Appropriations	Ormsby
SHB 1207	Harassment/schools	H 2nd Reading	Senn
EHB 1210	School board recordings	S State Govt & El	Rude
HB 1211 (SSB 5311)	Special education funding	H Appropriations	Bergquist
SHB 1228	Dual & tribal language edu.	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
HB 1230	School websites/drug info.	H 2nd Reading	Callan
SHB 1238 (SSB 5339)	Free school meals	H Appropriations	Riccelli
SHB 1239	Educator ethics & complaints	H Appropriations	Santos
SHB 1241	Harassment	H Rules R	Leavitt
HB 1244 (SB 5692)	Enrichment levy authority	H Rules R	Ramel
HB 1246	Health benefits/SEBB	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
SHB 1248	Pupil transportation	H Rules R	Stonier
SHB 1272	Voters' pamphlets	H Exec Action	Bergquist
SHB 1273 (2SSB 5243)	High school and beyond plans	H Appropriations	Berg
SHB 1277	Paraeducator course of study	H 2nd Reading	Donaghy
HB 1294	Plan 1 retiree COLAs	H Appropriations	Steele
SHB 1305	Students with disabilities	H Appropriations	Pollet
SHB 1306 (2SSB 5268)	Public works procurement	H APPDPS	Tharinger
HB 1308	Graduation pathway options	H 2nd Reading	Stonier
SHB 1316	Dual credit program access	H Appropriations	Paul
SHB 1320 (SSB 5061)	Personnel records	H Appropriations	Reed
HB 1328	Schools & families/funding	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
SHB 1332	Tribes/ K-12 instruction	H Appropriations	Lekanoff
SHB 1346 (2SSB 5071)	Purple star award	S EL/ K-12	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

SHB 1377	Continuing education/ K–12	H 2nd Reading	Santos
SHB 1386	Youth development grants	H Appropriations	Rule
SHB 1392 (SB 5464)	Electronics repair	H Appropriations	Gregerson
SHB 1406	Youth seeking housing assist	H Rules R	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
HB 1436	Special education funding	H Exec Action	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 R	Goehner
HB 1472	Motor vehicle sales tax	H Appropriations	Barkis
HB 1478	Student rights	H Rules R	Timmons
SHB 1479 (SB 5559)	Student restraint, isolation	H Appropriations	Callan
HB 1483	State school levies	H Finance	Orcutt
HB 1489 (SB 5590)	Mt. St. Helens license plate	H 2nd Reading	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	H 2nd Reading	Low
HB 1527 (SB 5539)	Tax increment financing	H Rules R	Wylie
HB 1536	H.S. diplomas/withholding	H 2nd Reading	Timmons
SHB 1541 (SB 5616)	Lived experience	H Appropriations	Farivar
HB 1549	AP course options	H Education	Stonier
SHB 1550	Transition to kindergarten	H Appropriations	Santos
HB 1556 (SB 5495)	Property tax rebates	H Finance	Berg
HB 1560	Property tax exemptions	H Finance	Shavers
SHB 1565	Prof. education workforce	H Appropriations	Ortiz-Self
HB 1566	Vacation leave accrual	H Rules R	Bateman
SHB 1590	Oversight board for DCYF	H Rules R	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
SHB 1618	Childhood sexual abuse/SOL	H Exec Action	Farivar
SHB 1621	Local government procurement	H Rules R	Ryu
HB 1622	Students/homelessness	H Rules R	Fey
HB 1624	ESD election administration	H 2nd Reading	Ybarra
HB 1649	Prejudgment interest	H Civil R & Judiciary	Hackney
SHB 1658	Work experience/H.S. credit	H 2nd Reading	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	H Rules R	Rule
SHB 1692	Student advisory groups	H Rules R	Bergquist
HB 1693 (SSB 5702)	Student homelessness pilot	H Exec Action	Lekanoff
HB 1697	Early achievers, voluntary	H Human Svc, You	Walsh
SHB 1701	Institutional ed. programs	H 2nd Reading	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
HB 1714	Financial literacy grants	H Rules R	Stonier
HB 1721	Skill center class size	H Appropriations	Paul
SHB 1732	K–12 inflation adjustments	H Rules R	Bergquist
HB 1741	Prototypical school formulas	H Appropriations	Rule
SHB 1744	Charter school oversight	H Rules R	Rude
2SHB 1746 (SB 5718)	State broadband map	H CBDP2S	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	H Rules R	Berg
HB 1756	Energy/tax	H Finance	Ramel
HB 1759	Chinese American month	H State Govt & T	Santos
HB 1793	Wireless devices tax	H Finance	Gregerson
HB 1819	K–12 music instruction	H Education	Reed
HB 1825	Teacher comp./state schools	H Appropriations	Harris

HB 1827	Vaccination status	H Civil R & Judiciary	Walsh
HJR 4203	School district bonds	H Education	Stonier
HJR 4205 (SJR 8206)	Property tax rebates	H Finance	Berg
SB 5000	Americans of Chinese descent	H 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 Passed 3rd	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 2nd Reading	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 2nd Reading	Wellman
SB 5059	Prejudgment interest	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SSB 5061 (SHB 1320)	Personnel records	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SB 5064	Special ed. excess costs	S EL/ K–12	Wellman
SB 5065	Bone marrow donation/schools	H Education	Short
SB 5068	Motor vehicle sales tax	S Ways & Means	MacEwen
2SSB 5071 (SHB 1346)	Purple star designation	S Rules 2	Nobles
SSB 5072	Highly capable students	H Education	Nobles
SSB 5085	School principals/employment	S 2nd Reading	Wellman
SSB 5102	School library info and tech	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SSB 5126 (HB 1444)	Common school trust revenue	S 2nd Reading	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
SSB 5158	State & local taxation	S Rules 2	Wilson
SB 5162 (HB 1125)	Transportation budget	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5164 (HB 1126)	Transportation budget, supp.	S Transportation	Liias

2SSB 5174	Student transportation	S WMDP2S	Wellman
SB 5175	School principal contracts	S 2nd Reading	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
2SSB 5225	Working conn. child care	S WMDP2S	Wilson
SSB 5237	Education law noncompliance	S Ways & Means	Wilson
2SSB 5243 (SHB 1273)	High school and beyond plans	S Rules 2	Wellman
SB 5246	Supreme court fiscal notes	S Law & Justice	Holy
SSB 5248 (HB 1710)	Tutoring & extended learning	S Ways & Means	Braun
SSB 5254	Leasing of state lands	S Ways & Means	Van De Wege
2SSB 5268 (SHB 1306)	Public works procurement	S Rules 2	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
2SSB 5315	Special education/nonpublic	S WMDP2S	Wilson
SB 5327	Intern wages	S Labor & Comm	Keiser
SB 5332	Homeless camps/schools, etc.	S Loc Gov, Land	King
SSB 5339 (SHB 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 Ways & Means	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 2	Conway
SB 5350 (HB 1057)	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	S 2nd Reading	Conway
SB 5355	Sex trafficking prev. ed.	S 2nd Reading	Wilson
SB 5363	Cannabis advertising	S Rules 2	MacEwen
SSB 5365	Vapor and tobacco/minors	S 2nd Reading	Saldana
SSB 5372 (HB 1423)	DNR land	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5403	School depreciation subfunds	S Rules 2	Schoesler
SB 5404	Cannabis revenue/local gov.	S Labor & Comm	Wagoner

SB 5408	Ninth grade success grants	S Ways & Means	Lias
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
SSB 5438	Supportive relationships	S Ways & Means	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
SB 5462	Inclusive learning standards	S 2nd Reading	Lias
SB 5464 (SHB 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 2	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 (SHB 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 Rules 2	King
SB 5590 (HB 1489)	Mt. St. Helens license plate	S Transportation	Wilson
SSB 5593	Student data transfer	S Ways & Means	Lias
SB 5595	State nickname	H State Govt & Tr	Wilson
SB 5616 (SHB 1541)	Lived experience	S State Govt & E	Valdez
SSB 5617	Career & tech. ed. courses	S 2nd Reading	Wellman
SB 5618	Local property tax limit	S Loc Gov, Land	Kuderer
SB 5625	Public employee retirees	S Ways & Means	Lias
SSB 5626	K-12 media literacy	S Ways & Means	Lias
SB 5641	African heritage week	S State Govt & E	Fortunato

SB 5647	School safety/temp employees	S Rules 2	Torres
SSB 5648	Board of education waivers	S 2nd Reading	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 Ways & Means	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
SSB 5670	Running start/10th grade	S Ways & Means	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
SB 5684	Small works rosters	S Ways & Means	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 (SHB 1187)	Employee-union privilege	S Law & Justice	Frame
SB 5710	Behavioral health/youth	S Ways & Means	Torres
SB 5711 (HB 1156)	College grant eligibility	S Ways & Means	Nobles
SB 5712	College grant/promise prg.	S Higher Ed & Wo	Lias
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 2	Valdez
SB 5731 (HB 1096)	Amateur sports officials	S Law & Justice	Lovick
SB 5743	Transportation resources	S Transportation	Lias
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 Ways & Means	Schoesler
SJR 8206 (HJR 4205)	Property tax rebates	S Ways & Means	Kuderer