



TWIO

This Week In Olympia

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January 12, 2024



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About TWIO

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

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



2024 Session Guide Released

WASA's Legislative [Session Guide](#), updated for the 2024 Session, has been completed and is available for your use. The Guide includes all the tools you need to be engaged this session: WASA's 2024 Legislative Platform; rosters of all House and Senate members, with office, phone, and e-mail contact information; advocacy tips; key dates in the Session; and a list of other handy resources. We encourage you to download or bookmark the Guide and use this resource to stay active in the legislative process!

This Week in Review

The first week of a long session is often full of ceremony and most legislative committees spend their time getting grounded on the issues before them. Work sessions fill most committee agendas and very little “real” action takes place in the early days of session. With 105 days, there is little need to rush as the session takes on the feel of a marathon. However, as noted in [Monday's “Opening Day” TWIO](#), the 60-day supplemental session is more like a sprint, even though a significant amount of work must be done. In fact, in recent days, several legislators have described the short session as “105 days of work in 60 days.” Legislators—with the exception of one newly appointed member, Representative Greg Nance (D-Bainbridge Island)—know the issues and know the process, and time is too short to spend time spinning their wheels.

The first week of the 2024 session included a frenzy of activity. Almost all legislative committees had full agendas with a few work sessions, but mostly public hearings—either on new bills or priority bills from last session. Legislators pre-filed almost 600 new bills that are added to the over 1,200 bills that were not adopted last session and automatically revived in this second-year session. (See the updated—and ever-expanding—WASA Bill Watch at the end of this and every TWIO and on the [WASA website](#).)

One of the ceremonial events that occurs at the start of each session is an annual State of the State Address ([transcript](#)) from the governor. On Tuesday afternoon, Governor Inslee provided his comments ([video link](#)) to the Legislature and the citizens of the state of Washington. Every year, the governor's major opportunity to drive the Legislature's agenda comes with the release of [budget proposals](#) and the presentation of a State of the State speech. He has no vote in the Legislature (although he has the power to veto bills), but he can use his “bully pulpit” to push legislators to action. Several of Inslee's annual addresses have fallen flat and seemed

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to be a wasted opportunity to make his mark on the session; however, this year he boldly stated his case and rejected the notion that he would simply be a bystander in his final year as governor and rejected the notion that significant actions could not be taken in a short session. He stated clearly: “This is not a farewell speech. These are not famous last words. I’m not riding into the sunset.” Then he transitioned to lay out his agenda.

His speech focused on his budget highlights, with major attention to climate change, housing/homelessness, and public safety (specifically gun control). He also touched on behavioral health issues and the fentanyl crisis. What about K–12 education? In previous State of the State addresses (and press conferences, and media availabilities, and most every opportunity wherein he sat behind a microphone), it has been frustrating how often Governor Inslee consistently avoided discussions about the paramount duty of the state. In Tuesday’s address, he did make a point to note his [budget proposals for education](#) support; however, his budget does not include much, so he did not have much to discuss.

In terms of the lack of discussion, understand that Inslee’s address was eight pages long with almost 3,000 words (2,797). His discussion on K–12 education encompassed five lines, with a grand total of 65 words. Sometimes you can pack a punch in just a few words; however, Inslee’s two paragraphs of thoughts on K–12 were not very impactful. In fact, prior to discussing his K–12 budget requests, he began the education discussion by providing a reminder of the past. Rather than trying to paraphrase, here is his exact comment:

*“Don’t forget moments like 2018, the end of the McCleary saga, when we moved heaven and earth to **fulfill our paramount duty of funding education** in the state of Washington.” [emphasis added]*

The continued lack of recognition that the Legislature is still failing to comply with the state constitution’s mandate to fully fund basic education (underfunding of special education and pupil transportation, for example) is maddening. Even the governor’s Democratic colleagues in the Legislature acknowledge they are not complying with the constitutional mandate—although they have made little effort to correct the issue. Remember last session’s House Floor debate on [HB 1436](#), the special education funding bill? Representative Timm Ormsby (D-Spokane), Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, spoke out against an amendment that would have provided significantly more funding than the underlying bill they were discussing. Ormsby boldly admitted that “the underlying bill, nor the striking amendment, will resolve the intent to meet the paramount duty—none of them fully fund this need.” So, if he believed that, maybe he could have supported the proposal that at least attempted to reach the necessary bar? No, he opted to support the proposal that spent the least and left no doubt special education would remain underfunded. The logic is baffling.

Back to Inslee. In laying out his spending package for K–12, he simply said:

“Now I hope you’ll join me by increasing pay for 32,000 paraeducators by \$3 an hour, again raising the cap on special education funding, and creating incentives for more teachers to serve special needs students.”

Thirty-five words to describe his K–12 budget proposal? I guess that is about right, given his proposed \$1.1 billion in Policy Level requests includes only \$141.7 million for education.

Committee Action

As noted above, most legislative committee jumped right into action with full hearings on both old and new bills. Several key K–12 issues were acted upon this week, as discussed below.

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Operating & Capital Budgets

Long session or short session, one of the first set of hearings is on the governor's budget proposals. On Monday, the House Appropriations Committee held a public hearing on the governor's 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget, numbered as [HB 2104](#). (NOTE: the House's hearing was continued on Wednesday.) On Tuesday, the Senate Ways & Means Committee heard the Senate-introduced version of the same proposal, numbered as [SB 5950](#).

In both budget hearings, David Schumacher, Director of the governor's budget office—the Office of Financial Management—provided a [broad overview](#) of Governor Inslee's proposals. For information on the governor's 2024 Operating Budget proposal, complete details are available on the [OFM website](#). A summary of the K–12 proposals is also available in the [December 15 Special Edition of TWIO](#).

On Thursday, the House Capital Budget Committee was [briefed](#) on the governor's 2024 Capital Budget proposal, numbered as [HB 2089](#), followed by a public hearing. Also on Thursday, the Senate Ways & Means Committee (which addresses both operating and capital issues), received a briefing and held a public hearing on the Senate-introduced version of the same proposal, numbered as [SB 5949](#).

It should be noted that the governor's proposal for school construction is somewhat similar to the request from Superintendent Reykdal. Positively, it would provide investments in the School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP), the Small District Modernization Grant Program, and clean classroom air. It also includes \$91 million to support a substantial increase in the Construction Cost Allowance (CCA—the formula that drives the state-funding cost per square foot). His proposal would increase the current \$272 per square foot to \$350 per square foot for Fiscal Year 2025. The actual cost per square foot is almost \$600 per square foot, so there is a long way to go; however, this substantial increase would be the first increase (other than minor inflationary bumps) in over two decades. That's the good news.

Unfortunately, the governor proposes to fund SCAP almost exclusively with funds from the Common School Trust Account (CSCA). We have written about this before. The CSCA has been funded from dwindling timber revenues; however, significant "excess" Capital Gains revenues are being funneled to the CSCA this year. (Remember, Capital Gains revenue is capped at \$500 million per year and is dedicated to the Education Legacy Trust Account. Any collections above \$500 million are deposited in the CSCA to assist funding school facilities.)

Historically, SCAP has relied on bond funding, which provides school districts with financial stability as they attempt to pass capital bonds. If bond funds are repurposed to other programs, it will be difficult to get them back for school construction. And because Capital Gains taxes are a volatile revenue source, it is hard to predict how much—if any—funds will be added to the Common School Construction Account in the future. This uncertainty poses a high risk to school districts because with a volatile, cash funded SCAP, there is no guarantee the state will have the funding necessary to complete projects in conjunction with a district's capital plan and project timeline approved by voters. Without predictable and stable funding, districts could run out of resources to complete their capital projects—or could be forced to abandon projects entirely. A coalition of education associations have banded together to strongly oppose the governor's plan. Today, we sent a message to Governor Inslee and legislators that serve on the House Capital Budget and the Senate Ways & Means Committees, informing them of our concerns. See the letter [HERE](#).

The governor's budget proposals are introduced in both houses to jumpstart the conversation on the budget. When legislative budget-writers introduce their budget proposals later in the session, they will introduce Proposed Substitutes to the governor's bills (if long-time tradition holds), so the numbers referenced above will likely continue to move throughout the session. It should also be noted, each biennium, the House and Senate alternate as the first body to initiate

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the legislative budget process. During the 68th Biennial Session, it is the House’s “turn” to release budgets first. In the last few years, however, both houses have released their budgets almost concurrently—and in a couple of cases the second house jumped in front of the first house to introduce budgets. It is too early to predict what may happen this year, but be on the lookout for legislative budget proposals in mid-February, following the Economic & Revenue Forecast Council’s release of its first quarter Revenue Forecast (scheduled for February 14).

Paraeducators

Superintendent Reykdal’s proposal to increase paraeducator compensation by \$7/per hour (adjusted by regionalization and inflation) has been introduced as [SB 6082](#). The bill has been referred to the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee; it has not yet been scheduled for a hearing.

Governor Inslee’s competing proposal (\$3/per hour) is embedded in his 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget proposal and there is currently some debate about whether there will be a policy bill introduced to support the budget language or not.

A third paraeducator proposal, [SB 5882](#), was heard in the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee on Wednesday. (The bill’s companion in the House, [HB 1960](#), has not yet been scheduled to be heard.) Unlike the controversial proposals from Superintendent Reykdal and Governor Inslee, this bill does not address paraeducator compensation. Instead, it would phase in additional staff allocations for teaching assistants, office support staff, and noninstructional aides in the Prototypical School Funding Model. (NOTE: This bill addresses enhanced staff ratios for classified staff, not solely paraeducators.) We support this bill for (at least) two reasons. One is philosophical: a major WASA priority (and a priority of our partners in the [School Funding Coalition](#)) is to enhance the staffing ratios in the Prototypical School Funding Model until all of the allocations are more realistic. Our specific Platform position for 2024 is to continue to follow the [Staffing Enrichment Workgroup](#) (2019) recommendations, urging the Legislature to complete the Phase I recommendations (school principal allocations; additional professional development; and adding instructional coaches). While SB 5882 would enhance staffing allocations in a different area, it would continue to make progress towards our ultimate, long-term goal: enhancing all the ratios in the Model.

The second reason for supporting this bill is more strategic. School administrators are very concerned about the two paraeducator compensation proposals and this bill could serve to divert attention from those troubling proposals. It is interesting to note (although it has not been confirmed) that the compensation proposals were introduced to support WEA, yet SB 5882 is WEA’s request. If the idea was to court WEA, it seems logical that those who are doing the courting would follow WEA’s request.

Similar to the phased-in enhancement of Physical, Social, Emotional Support Staff (PSES staff—that is, school nurses, guidance counselors, social workers, and psychologists) in 2022, classified staff allocation enhancements would be phased in over three years, beginning in the 2024–25 school year, and ending in the 2026–27 school year. Unlike the 2022 bill, however, SB 5882’s enhancements would not fully match the adopted enhancements in [Initiative 1351](#) (2014), which the Staffing Enrichment Workgroup based its recommendations.

After the full three-year phase in, ratios for teaching assistants would increase from 0.936, 0.700, 0.652 (elementary, middle, and high school) to 2.00, 1.00, 1.00 (elementary, middle, and high school). Office support staff and noninstructional aides would increase from 2.012, 2.325, 3.269 (elementary, middle, and high school) to 3.00, 3.50, 3.50 (elementary, middle, and high school).

It is also important to know that, while Reykdal’s compensation proposal includes a troubling compliance mechanism that robs flexibility from local school districts, SB 5882 would provide salary allocations as described above, but (other than the

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PSES staff positions) the adjusted distribution formula would remain “for allocation purposes only.”

Staffing Allocations

Continuing the discussion about updates to the Prototypical School Funding Model, there are multiple bills that address staffing ratio enhancements:

- [SB 5882/HB 1960](#), as discussed above.
- [HB 1741](#) would complete Phase I of the Staffing Enrichment Workgroup—and aligns with our Platform. This bill, however, is a holdover from last year and there is no expectation it will move.
- [HB 2212](#), introduced by Representative Alicia Rule (D-Blaine), is a slimmed down version of her HB 1741 from last year. Like HB 1741, it would tackle staffing allocations in Phase I of the Staffing Enrichment Workgroup; however, the focus is specifically on “principals, assistant principals, and other certificated building-level administrators.” The bill would phase in enhancements over two years, the 2024–25 school year and the 2025–26 school year. After the second year, allocations would be slightly higher than the ratios adopted in I-1351. The ratios would increase from the current 1.253, 1.353, 1.880 (elementary, middle, and high school) to 1.334, 1.440, 2.00 (elementary, middle, and high school).
- [SB 5966](#), addresses student restraint and isolation (discussed below); however, part of the solution proposed is to add more staff. Specifically, the bill would change the term “teaching assistance” in the Prototypical School Funding Model to “paraeducators.” The state-funded staffing allocations for these positions would increase from the current 0.936, 0.700, 0.652 (elementary, middle, and high school) to 1.292, 0.800, 0.768 (elementary, middle, and high school). As discussed below, this bill has not yet been scheduled for a hearing and it is unclear if the Senate will wait for the arrival of the House bill ([HB 1479](#)) before taking action on this bill or not.
- [HB 2223](#), would provide for enhanced staffing allocations for teacher-librarians.

Simple Majority—Bonds

An ongoing priority of WASA—and most of the education community—is to finally persuade the Legislature to allow Washington’s citizens to decide whether or not they would support the simple majority approval of school districts bonds. In recent years, we have seen some momentum on the issue—and with a likely heavy conversation about school facilities this session, simple majority might gather some additional steam. Well, early in the session, there is some good news...and some not so good news.

First, there is a new constitutional amendment on the table, [SJR 8207](#) (and its necessary implementing bill, [SB 5823](#)). The pair were heard in the first hearing of the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee on Wednesday—and lightning quick they were adopted by the Committee yesterday and referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee for further action.

Next, [HJR 4207](#) (and its necessary implementing bill, [HB 1843](#)), holdover bills from last session, are scheduled for a **public hearing in the House Education Committee, January 15, at 1:30 p.m.** Last year, other than the filing of the legislation, there was absolutely no movement in the House—and little discussion. This early movement is positive.

Moving bills in both houses is evidence of at least a bit of momentum—and further evidence that school construction is one of the hot issues in 2024. Democratic Leadership held their weekly [media availability](#) (at 04:30) on Tuesday and the

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simple majority was discussed. One of the first questions was about the possibility of simple majority passage. Senator Andy Billig (D-Spokane), Senate Majority Leader, stated the issue is strongly supported by his caucus and it is “about the majority in communities deciding that they want their schools to be first rate and world class.” He also said, “it’s really important; it’s been a priority—but it takes a super majority [vote of the Legislature], which means we need some Republican support,” but indicated “we haven’t been able to get Republican support in the past.” Representative Joe Fitzgibbon (D-West Seattle), House Majority Leader, agreed, saying his caucus also has “very, very strong support,” but he reiterated that constitutional amendment needs Republican votes in the House, “and we haven’t seen those, yet.”

Bolstering those pessimistic thoughts were the Republicans themselves. Republican Leadership also held their weekly [media availability](#) (at 06:20) on Tuesday. Again, the simple majority was discussed right out of the gate. The same reporter asked the Republicans what their position was on simple majority for bonds. Representative Mike Steele (R-Chelan), House Deputy Minority Leader, approached the issue from a bit of a different angle than you normally hear. He said, “It is a much more nuanced question than just policy” and noted that we are “normally strapped for cash when it comes to the Capital Budget,” but added that the House Capital Budget Committee is working to “address school construction in meaningful ways”—and clarified that is both party caucuses. Then he addressed why he did not support simple majority—and it was different than the standard, “we need to protect taxpayers” argument. He said, “[the state] just doesn’t have capacity; if every school district across Washington decided to run a simple majority bond, we would do nothing but pay for K–12 construction in the Capital Budget and we have other obligations. (It should be noted here—if you listen to the tape—he specifically said, if all districts ran a “simple majority—or 55 percent majority—bond...”). There has been a lot of speculation about whether Republicans would support a 55 percent compromise—and it looks pretty clear the House Deputy Minority Leader would not support, and it’s a good bet most of his colleagues would also balk.) He summed up his comments by saying “both caucuses understand school construction is a problem, and we need to address it, and we’re working diligently to do it.” (Again, more positive evidence that, even without simple majority this year, we may see some positive results for school facilities.)

Senator John Braun (R-Centralia) then answered—and he went back to the regular talking points, noting that “we’re asking the voters to pay for a school bond for 20–30 years—a long-term commitment—and it is not unreasonable to ask for a super majority to make sure that everyone’s on-board.” Then he hit the other major talking point—that “voters are facing the challenge of rising property taxes.” He closed by saying that changing the rules was not the answer to passing bonds, the answer is “to build a better case for the voters; make them believe if you approve that bond, you’re going to do something that really makes a difference.”

There was some additional conversation in the Republican Media Availability, but you get the gist. It might be worth your time, however, to take a few minutes and listen to the full discussion ([media availability](#) 6:20 to 12:50).

Pupil Transportation

Our efforts to overhaul the current pupil transportation funding system to ensure it was more transparent, predictable, and adequately funded has been an uphill battle. The last two sessions, we had a champion in the House and a champion in the Senate. Unfortunately, they did not see eye-to-eye on a solution and their competing bills in each house failed because of an internal dispute.

In 2024, our Senate champion, Senator Lisa Wellman (D-Mercer Island) is back with another attempt. Sen. Wellman introduced a new bill, [SB 5873](#), and it was heard on Wednesday, in the first Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee

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meeting. Similar to previous bills, SB 5783 would modify the student transportation allocation formula to include two factors—basic and special education counts, and total sum of miles driven. There would also be formula multipliers for: unique transportation challenges faced by high population density urban school districts; and unique transportation challenges faced by rural, geographically large districts that have a relatively low number of schools in proportion to the geographic size of the school district.

Under provisions of the bill, 100 percent reimbursement would be provided to school districts for transportation expenditures attributable to serving students in distinct passenger categories (students who require special transportation services to access special education services; homeless students under the McKinney-Vento Act; foster care students; and students attending Skills Centers). As in previous bills, OSPI would be required to provide an analysis of school district transportation costs and allocations to the Legislature—with a deadline of June 1, 2027.

Finally, after September 1, 2024, school districts that enter into, renew, or extend pupil transportation services contracts, must require the contractor to provide employee health and retirement benefits comparable to those received by school employees. This provision was a stand-alone bill for three years, then was brought into the conversation about a new transportation system. The provision was amended in and out multiple times in the previous bills, but now appears to be one of the requirements to move.

SB 5873 was adopted by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee yesterday and moves to the Senate Ways & Means Committee for potential action.

There is not a pupil transportation fix bill in the House this year—and it does not appear there will be one. Instead, Representatives have turned their attention to a different transportation issue: [zero-emission school buses](#). [HB 1368](#) was introduced last session, had some life, but was not able to get over the top. This session, the bill is a top tier priority for the environmental community—and appears to be a priority for the House Democratic Caucus.

The bill was heard yesterday in the House Appropriations Committee. After multiple revisions on its journey last session, a new [Proposed Second Substitute](#) was introduced yesterday. The new version would implement a deadline of September 1, 2027, by which all new school bus purchases must be zero-emission. It was clarified that all buses do not have to be zero-emission by this date; however, all purchases of new buses after this date must be zero-emission. The previous bill would have established a grant program; this version requires the Department of Ecology, with OSPI's help, to change the electric school bus grant program to a formula-based grant available to all school districts by July 1, 2027. This would be subject to funding in the budget. Under current law, school districts that contract for pupil transportation services must have an open bid process every 5 years; this bill extends the requirement to every 15 years.

While a Fiscal Note was not available for this bill, it is anticipated that \$60-80 million will be provided from the Climate Commitment Act to support the bill.

Members of the education community expressed concerns about this bill. Everyone was careful to state the purpose of the bill was supported and appropriate—but the current bill at the current time is problematic. The first major concern is implementing a new, complex, costly program while school districts are struggling to work with the current, underfunded pupil transportation system. The request is to fix and fully fund the current STARS system before adding more mandates that would further complicate the situation and cause potentially huge negative fiscal impacts.

Infrastructure is another major concern. School districts are not prepared to transition to electric school buses (even assuming you could purchase one—limited supply is also a problem). And even if school districts could afford and practically

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establish the necessary charging stations, there is a large question regarding the potential need to charge away from the district. For example, some of our rural districts must drive long distances for athletic events. Assuming you are able to charge at your district before you leave, where do you recharge when you are on the road? Even the places that have established charging stations likely cannot accommodate a large school bus.

The third of many potential concerns is the safety and reliability of electric vehicles, especially in areas with inclement weather, steep roads, or other challenges. A representative of one of the bus contractors stated in testimony that they have electric buses in the cold in Alaska and in the heat in Arizona and they operate without a problem; however, for every anecdote about reliability, there are at least a few stories about how electric buses were not operable in less-than-optimal circumstances. While this issue is certainly a concern, especially for rural school districts, the other two points are of greater concern.

We will continue to argue that the first priority should be to fully fund and fix the current pupil transportation system; and we will argue that the necessary infrastructure must be in place before widespread implementation of a zero-emission bus mandate. Forcing bus purchases before districts (and the state) are prepared, is a classic case of putting the cart before the horse.

Even with our concerns, it appears this bill has some momentum, and some form of this bill is likely to be adopted this session. Given that, advocates are working to, at the very least, make this bill more workable.

And speaking of the bill's momentum, The House Appropriations Committee has already scheduled it for executive action, next Thursday, January 28, 4:00 p.m.

Student Restraint and Isolation

During the last session, the issue of restraint and isolation was a major—and controversial—issue. [HB 1479](#) had a bumpy journey through the legislative process, being amended multiple times, but eventually made it out of the House. Negotiations between legislators in both houses wrestled with coming up with a workable compromise; however, both sides eventually pulled the plug and said they would wait until 2024 to deal with the issue.

We felt the discussion (and the bill) were simply moving too fast and legislators were not listening to many of the concerns educators expressed. When the 2023–25 Operating Budget was adopted, it appeared legislators finally decided to take a pause and do some learning.

Funding was provided in the budget for statewide professional development and technical assistance to school districts and to provide a limited number of grants for demonstration projects. The demonstration projects were required to build school- and district-level systems that eliminate student isolation, track, and reduce restraint use, and build school-wide systems to support students in distress and prevent crisis escalation cycles that may result in restraint or isolation. Additionally, the schoolwide systems must include trauma-informed positive behavior and intervention supports, de-escalation, and problem-solving skills. OSPI was also charged with creating a technical assistance manual to support the elimination of isolation and reduction of restraint and room clears based on the results of the demonstration projects.

Given that an OSPI preliminary report was due September 1, 2024, we felt comfortable that a restraint and isolation mandate would not be ready for primetime in 2024. In fact, we heard from the sponsor of HB 1479 that she wanted to wait until 2025 to address the issue. Shortly after, however, we heard loud and clear that the issue was a priority for Representative Sharon Santos (D-Seattle). As Chair of the House Education Committee, if she has a priority, she has a lot of latitude to address

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it. Then the sponsor, Representative Lisa Callan (D-Issaquah), understanding her bill would be the vehicle for another restraint and isolation proposal, jumped back into the conversation. At the same time Senator Claire Wilson (D-Federal Way) was drafting her own competing bill. Pre-filed, Sen. Wilson's bill is [SB 5966](#).

Signaling that restraint and isolation was indeed a priority of Rep. Santos, she took three days to address the issue in the House Education Committee. On Monday, the Committee held a work session to review the [law and background of student restraint and isolation](#). As part of the discussion the ACLU and Disability Rights of Washington [reviewed](#) a report they had published: "[Coming Into the Light: An Examination of Restraint and Isolation Practices in Washington Schools](#)."

On Tuesday, a second work session was held. Participants included teachers, administrators, parents, and others.

To close the week, the House Education Committee held a public hearing on HB 1479. (NOTE: the bill passed the House last year and returned to the House Rules Committee at the end of the session. On Monday, the bill was referred to the House Education Committee for action.) It has not yet been scheduled for executive action; however, it is expected to move.

On the Senate side, SB 5966, Sen. Wilson's bill has not yet been scheduled for a hearing.

You can read the bills—as well as the Bill Report for HB 1479—to get further insights on the bills; however, you can review the highlights [HERE](#):

The Week Ahead

Legislators will keep on chugging along, as they wade through the flood of bills on the table. Below are some of the key hearings in the coming week. This is not a comprehensive list; be sure to check the Legislature's [schedule page](#) and/or WASA's [Watch List](#) to stay up-to-date.

- [SB 5956](#)—This bill would adjust the maximum per-pupil limit for enrichment levies. Currently, school districts with less than 40,000 students have their levies capped at \$2.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value or \$2,500 per pupil—whichever is less. Districts with over 40,000 students are capped at \$3,000 per pupil. For districts with less than 40,000 students, SB 5956 (requested by Superintendent Reykdal) would cap enrichment levies at \$2,500 per pupil, multiplied by the district's regionalization factor.

SB 5956 is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee on Monday, January 15, at 1:30 p.m.

- [SB 6014](#)—Requested by Governor Inslee, this bill would increase the current 15 percent special education enrollment cap to 17.25 percent.

SB 6014 is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee on Monday, January 15, at 1:30 p.m.

- [HB 2180](#), a companion of SB 6014, is scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee on Wednesday, January 17, at 4:00 p.m.
- [HJR 4207/HB 1843](#)—This constitutional amendment, and its necessary implementing bill, would authorize the simple majority approval of school district bonds.

HJR 4207/HB 1843 is scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee on Monday, January 15, at 1:30 p.m.

- [HB 1915](#)—This bill would make financial education instruction a graduation prerequisite and a required component of public education.

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Beginning with the Class of 2029, a student must earn at least one-half credit of financial education instruction to graduate from high school. School districts would be provided with flexibility to implement the instruction “in a manner that recognizes their local circumstances.” This new requirement would not increase the number of credits the state requires for graduating students.

HB 1915 is scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee on Monday, January 15, at 1:30 p.m.

- **[SB 5819](#), a companion of HB 1915, is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee on Wednesday, January 17, at 10:30 a.m.**

Also heard during this meeting will be: **[SB 5813](#)**, mandating instruction on agricultural literacy; and **[SB 5849](#)**, implementing a computer science competency graduation requirement.

- **[HB 2017](#)**—This bill would create the Aging Schools Assistance Program to assist school districts with aged facilities and a history of capital bond failure to modernize or replace their school buildings.

HB 2017 is scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee on Thursday, January 18, at 1:30 p.m.

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AEA

By Mitch Denning

The supplemental 60-day session of the Legislature began on Monday, as AEA submitted written testimony to House Appropriations Committee as they heard **HB 2104, the Governor’s 2024–25 supplemental operating budget**. We testified OTHER for three reasons. One, we support the \$30M for the full funding of the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), which enables all eligible students in eligible schools to eat for free. Two, pupil transportation, particularly to and from school, must be fully funded and this budget does address this funding. Three, special education also needs to be fully funded, and should not be funded by levy dollars as it is in a number of districts.

On Tuesday, we also testified OTHER in Senate Ways and Means on **SB 5950, also the Governor’s 2024–25 supplemental operating budget**. We focused on funding the CEP program, and the lack of funding for pupil transportation.

On Thursday, WSNA submitted written testimony on **HB 2058, increasing access to free meals served at public schools**. Joining me were Ellen Ramos, nutrition services supervisor for Spokane PS, and Megan de Vries, director, food and nutrition services, Edmonds SD. Unfortunately, time given to this public hearing expired before we were called to testify. We testified PRO for the following reasons. One, schools across the state work hard to provide their students with equal learning opportunities, but when it comes to mealtimes, children are left facing the economic impact of their home, some only missing these financial benefits by a few dollars. Two, every student in our state regardless of income should be able to choose a healthy breakfast and lunch as part of their school experience.

Also on Thursday, AEA testified PRO on **HB 2089 in House Capital Budget, and SB 5949 in Senate Ways and Means, the Governor’s 2024–25 supplemental capital budget**. We thanked the Governor for an increase of \$177 million in the Small District and Tribal Schools Modernization Grant, which would fund all eligible projects. We also supported the \$40 million using part climate funds for Classroom Air Quality Grants. We also highly supported the \$91 million to increase the SCAP Construction Cost Allowance, which has not been increased for several decades. However, we asked both committees to use bond funds to fund this increase, rather than the current source, capital gains revenue. The CCA needs a sustainable funding source, and only bonds provide that sustainability.

Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey—The Nexus Group

Health, Pension, and Other Benefit Issues

“The time has come,” the walrus said, “to talk of many things: of shoes, and ships-and sealing wax-of cabbages and kings.”

— Lewis Carroll

The second year of the 68th Washington State Biennial Legislature has begun.

Given that this will be a ‘short’ session, the pace will be brisk (an understatement). Numerous bills have been and will continue to be introduced. Some are good ideas; others are not; and some are just plain silly. Hearings have started.

A caveat: There are always more bills proposed than will survive the entire process. (Thank goodness!) With that in mind, below is a report and comments on selected bills that may or may not remain as the session unfolds. The point

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is that until hearings on selected bills are scheduled, most are just titles and text with no explanations or fiscal notes. As these become available, more detail will be presented in this report.

Also, some bills have companion bills from the opposite house. If the companion is not also scheduled for a hearing, it is assumed that the bill scheduled will be the vehicle. See some noted below.

Retirement Related Proposals

General Comment: The unfunded pension liability (UAAL) in the TRS/PERS Plans 1 are due to lessen in 2025–27 Biennium. That will result in \$300+ million-dollar savings to the state. School districts are currently paying pension surcharges in addition to the regular pension contributions. These surcharges will be substantially reduced under a timeline proposed by OFM and proposed legislation, saving the districts dollars they must allocate particularly for excess staff not funded by the state. Cities and counties will also save money. Eventually the surcharge will be zero, and all that will be left may be a result of benefit improvements. The reduced, projected contribution rates can vary as well. Exactly when this happens is subject to both investment returns and actual experience.

As an example: The current estimated contribution rate for PERS 1 for 2025 is 6.36 percent and the surcharge is an additional 2.4, 7 percent. For 2025–27, the rates change to 5.83 percent and 1.47 percent, and for 2027–2029; 4.8, 5 percent and 0.92 percent.

HB 1985: Providing a benefit increase to certain retirees of the public employees' retirement system plan 1 and the teachers' retirement system plan 1.

Sponsors: Timmons, Leavitt, Fitzgibbon, Ryu, Ramos, Ramel, Bateman, Ormsby, Jacobsen, Callan, Rule, Kloba, Street, Doglio, Fosse, Paul, Bergquist, Goodman, Ortiz-Self, Lekanoff, Reeves, Nance, Riccelli, Hackney, Pollet, Shavers

By Request: Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP)

Comment: This bill would provide an ad-hoc 3 percent increase in 2024 not to exceed \$125/month for TRS1/PERS1 Plan retirees. This is an increase in the ad-hoc COLA approved last session for paid in 2023. The SCPP was unanimous in recommending this second year COLA. A reminder that during the 2024 interim, 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 2 system plan 1.

It is scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Appropriations at 4:00 p.m., Monday, January 15.

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

Some bills are listed and not yet, if ever, scheduled for hearings. The bill titles and a brief read of each indicate some potential impact to districts. As hearings and bill summaries are released more information will be provided.

HB 1905: Including protected classes in the Washington equal pay and opportunities act.

Sponsors: Mena, Senn, Berry, Cortes, Morgan, Ortiz-Self, Ramel, Ramos, Bateman, Reed, Ormsby, Callan, Kloba, Macri, Street, Gregerson, Doglio, Orwall, Bergquist, Goodman, Reeves, Lekanoff, Hackney, Fosse, Pollet, Davis, Simmons

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Comment: Amends the Equal Pay and Opportunities Act to prohibit an employer from discriminating in compensation and career advancement opportunities against similarly employed employees based on the employee's age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship or immigration status, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability.

This bill was scheduled for a public hearing in the House Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards at 8:00 a.m. and now scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards at 10:30 a.m., Friday, January 19.

HB 2127: 2023–24 Concerning workers' compensation incentives to return to work.

Sponsors: Schmidt, Berry, Leavitt, Reed, Ormsby, Graham, Pollet

Comment: This bill is scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 16.

SB 5894: Including protected classes in the Washington equal pay and opportunities act.

Sponsors: Nobles, Keiser, Frame, Hasegawa, Kuderer, Lias, Lovelett, Nguyen, Randall, Saldaña, Stanford, Trudeau, Valdez, Wilson, C

Comment: Companion to 1905 above. It is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Labor & Commerce at 10:30 a.m., Monday, January 15.

HB 2136: 2023–24 Concerning prevailing wage sanctions, penalties, and debarment.

Sponsors: Ormsby, Schmidt, Doglio, Farivar, Berry, Simmons, Reed, Ramel, Mena, Goodman, Berg, Fosse, Reeves, Pollet, Kloba

Comment: It is scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards

SB 6111: 2023–24 Concerning prevailing wage sanctions, penalties, and debarment.

Sponsors: Conway, Saldaña, Trudeau, Randall, Lovick, Keiser

Comment: Companion to 2136 above. Referred to Committee Labor & Commerce

HB 2246: Concerning vacation leave accrual for state employees.

Sponsors: Bateman, Low, Gregerson, Bronoske, Robertson, Reeves, Paul, Reed, Doglio

Comment: No hearing scheduled to date.

SB 5059: Concerning prejudgment interest.

Sponsors: Kuderer, Trudeau, Conway, Nobles, Pedersen, Stanford, Valdez, Wellman

Comment: Dan Steele has already addressed this bill and its potential for adversely affecting school district finances. It is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 4:00 p.m., Jan. 15th.

HB 1649: Concerning prejudgment interest.

Sponsors: Hackney, Berry, Taylor, Stonier, Pollet, Macri, Fosse

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Comment: No hearing scheduled to date. It appears the Senate bill (above) will be the vehicle to move.

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

Sponsors: Farivar, Simmons, Wylie, Berry, Walen, Fosse, Morgan, Macri, Pollet, Doglio, Reed, Caldier, Orwall

Comment: Again, this has been addressed in previous reports and the potential to create economic havoc within districts remains. No hearings are scheduled to date.

SB 5777: Concerning unemployment insurance benefits for striking or lockout workers.

Sponsors: Keiser, Conway, Lovick, Valdez, Trudeau, Shewmake, Randall, Van De Wege, Dhingra, Stanford, Hasegawa, Nguyen, Hunt, Kauffman, Lias, Frame, Kuderer, Nobles, Pedersen, Salomon, Wilson, C

Comment: Deletes a provision that disqualifies employees in a multi-employer bargaining unit from unemployment insurance benefits when the employees have been locked out following a strike against the employers in the bargaining unit.

- Modifies the period of disqualification from unemployment insurance benefits for striking workers to end at the earlier of the Sunday following the first day of the strike or at the end of the strike.

A public hearing was held on Tuesday, January 9 before the Senate Committee on Labor & Commerce.

HB 1893: Concerning unemployment insurance benefits for striking or lockout workers.

Sponsors: Doglio, Berry, Fosse, Reeves, Farivar, Hackney, Ryu, Ortiz-Self, Orwall, Callan, Macri, Goodman, Senn, Slatter, Riccelli, Tharinger, Bronoske, Ramel, Wylie, Pollet, Cortes, Chopp, Bergquist, Berg, Fey, Donaghy, Reed, Street, Stonier, Kloba, Leavitt, Mena, Simmons, Morgan, Alvarado, Walen, Taylor, Peterson, Ormsby, Stearns, Thai, Bateman, Duerr, Ramos, Rule, Gregerson, Lekanoff, Nance, Santos, Shavers, Davis

Comment; Companion to SB 5777 above. Hearing held on Jan 9 before the House Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards at 10:30 a.m. It is scheduled for executive session in the House Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards at 10:30 a.m., Friday, January 19.

SB 5789: Concerning the sales and use tax for school construction assistance program capital projects.

Sponsors: Mullet, Schoesler, Dozier, Nobles, Pedersen, Torres

Comment: This bill has been referred to Committee Ways & Means.

SB 5793: Concerning paid sick leave.

Sponsors: Saldaña, Keiser, Kuderer, Lovelett, Nobles, Stanford, Valdez, Wilson, C

Comment: This bill appears to broaden acceptable uses for sick leave. It has been scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Labor & Commerce at 10:30 a.m., Monday, January 15.

HB 1991: Concerning paid sick leave.

Sponsors: Fosse, Berry, Ramel, Reed, Ormsby, Ryu, Callan, Kloba, Doglio, Chopp, Paul, Berg, Lekanoff, Nance, Riccelli, Cortes, Pollet

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Comment: Companion to 5793 above. It has been scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards at 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 17.

SB 5873: 2023–24 Providing adequate and predictable student transportation.

Sponsors: Wellman, Wilson, C., Hasegawa, Hunt, Kuderer, Nguyen, Nobles, Trudeau, Valdez

Comment: This bill, subject to budget appropriations, increases funding for student transportation. Of added import is that it provides that pupil transportation services contracts entered into, renewed, or extended after September 1, 2024, must require the contractor to provide employee health and retirement benefits comparable to those received by school employees. It also states: “Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this purpose, OSPI must provide a one-time supplemental transportation allocation to school districts that experience an increase in costs to pupil transportation services contracts due to the new benefit requirements. To be eligible for the supplemental allocations, a school district must report to OSPI regarding the number of contracted employees that worked at least 630 hours performing contract services in the school year prior to entering a contract with the new benefits. Supplemental allocations may only be used as payments under pupil transportation services contracts for employee compensation and may not exceed \$200 per contracted employee per month.”

This bill was heard on Thursday, January 11 and passed out of committee on Tuesday, January 16.

SB 5924: 2023–24 Concerning access to personnel records.

Sponsors: Kuderer, Wellman, Conway, Frame, Hasegawa, Hunt, Keiser, Lovelett, Nobles, Stanford, Valdez, Wilson, C

Comment: Requires an employer to furnish an employee, former employee, or their designee with the employee’s personnel file at no cost within 21 calendar days of a request. • Mandates an employer to furnish a former employee with a signed written statement with the effective date of discharge, whether the employer had a reason for the discharge and, if so, the reasons, within 21 calendar days of the written request. • Allows an employee or former employee to bring a private action, after five days notice, for violations of certain rights regarding personnel files, and discharge information, for equitable relief, graduated statutory damages up to \$1,000, and reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs of each violation.

Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Labor & Commerce at 8:00 a.m., Thursday, January 11.

SB 6045: Concerning school district efficiencies and consolidation.

Sponsors: Hunt, Valdez

Comment: Self-explanatory. This is not the first time this idea of forcing efficiencies has been introduced. Is awaiting a hearing.

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.
House Education
HHRA & Virtual

Senate Early Learning & K–12
SHR1 & Virtual

4–6 p.m.
House Appropriations
HHRA & Virtual

Senate Ways & Means
SHR4 & Virtual

Tuesdays

4–6 p.m.
House Education
HHRA & Virtual

Senate Ways & Means
SHR4 & Virtual

Wednesdays

1:30 9.m.–3:30 p.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12
SHR1 & Virtual

4–6 p.m.
House Appropriations
HHRA & Virtual

Thursdays

8–10 a.m.
House Education
HHRA & Virtual

1:30–3:30 p.m.
Senate Early Learning & K–12
SHR1 & Virtual

4–6 p.m.
House Appropriations
HHRA & Virtual

Senate Ways & Means
SHR4 & 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
<https://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 8, 2024
First Day of Session.

January 31, 2024
Last day to read in committee reports in house of origin, except House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation Committees.

February 5, 2024
Last day to read in committee reports from House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation Committees in house of origin.

February 13, 2024
Last day to consider bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).

February 21, 2024
Last day to read in committee reports from opposite house, except House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation Committees.

February 26, 2024
Last day to read in opposite house committee reports from House fiscal, Senate Ways & Means, and Transportation Committees.

March 1, 2024*
Last day to consider opposite house bills (5 p.m.) (except initiatives and alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session).

March 7, 2024
Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

* After 5:00 p.m. on the 54th day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, matters that affect state revenue, messages pertaining to amendments, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session may be considered.

Bill Watch

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

Bill #	Title	Status	Sponsor
SHB 1003	Dual credit program access	H Approps	Stokesbary
HB 1011	Long-term care/repeal	H HC/Wellness	Abbarno
SHB 1044	Capital assistance/schools	H Rules 3C	McEntire
ESHB 1057 (SB 5350)	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	H Rules 3C	Stokesbary
HB 1064	School safety capital grants	H Cap Budget	Jacobsen
HB 1071	School resource officers	H Education	Walsh
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 3C	Kloba
SHB 1109	Special education funding	H Rules 3C	Senn
SHB 1113	Prof. educator reprimands	H Rules 3C	Harris
SHB 1118	School bus safety	H Approps	Mosbrucker
HB 1126 (SB 5164)	Transportation budget, supp.	H Transportation	Fey
HB 1135 (SB 5452)	Impact fee use	H Rules R	Slatter
SHB 1140 (ESSB 5187)	Operating budget	H Rules R	Ormsby
HB 1141 (SB 5188)	Operating budget, supp.	H Approps	Ormsby
HB 1146	Dual credit program notice	H Rules 3C	Paul
SHB 1147 (ESSB 5200)	Capital budget	H Rules R	Tharinger
HB 1156 (SB 5711)	College grant eligibility	H Approps	Slatter
HB 1201 (ESSB 5294)	Retirement system funding	H Rules C	Ormsby
HB 1211 (E2SSB 5311)	Special education funding	H Approps	Bergquist
SHB 1228	Dual & tribal language edu.	H Approps	Ortiz-Self
2SHB 1239	Educator ethics & complaints	H Rules R	Santos
SHB 1241	Harassment	H Rules 3C	Leavitt
HB 1244 (SB 5692)	Enrichment levy authority	H Rules C	Ramel
HB 1246	Health benefits/SEBB	H Approps	Ortiz-Self
SHB 1248	Pupil transportation	H Rules R	Stonier

HB 1270 (SB 5830)	Commission on boys and men	H State Govt & T	Dye
2SHB 1272	Voters' pamphlets	H Rules R	Bergquist
SHB 1273 (E2SSB 5243)	High school and beyond plans	H Approps	Berg
ESHB 1277	Paraeducator course of study	H Rules 3C	Donaghy
HB 1294	Plan 1 retiree COLAs	H Approps	Steele
2SHB 1305	Students with disabilities	H Rules C	Pollet
SHB 1306 (2SSB 5268)	Public works procurement	H Rules C	Tharinger
E2SHB 1320 (SSB 5061)	Personnel records	H Rules 3C	Reed
HB 1328	Schools & families/funding	H Approps	Stokesbary
2SHB 1332	Tribes/K-12 instruction	H Rules 3C	Lekanoff
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 Approps	Senn
HB 1373	Illegal encampment removal	H Housing	Stokesbary
HB 1374 (SSB 5305)	Office of career connect WA	H Postsec Ed & W	Slatter
HB 1376	School practice standards	H Education	Santos
ESHB 1377	Continuing education/K-12	H Rules 3C	Santos
SHB 1386	Youth development grants	H Approps	Rule
E2SHB 1392 (SB 5464)	Electronics repair	H Rules 3C	Gregerson
HB 1411	Cross-sector prof. dev.	H Approps	Ortiz-Self
HB 1418 (SB 5442)	Charter schools/enrichment	H Approps	Springer
HB 1423 (SSB 5372)	Trust land transfer program	H Cap Budget	Hackney
HB 1429	Educational employee strikes	H Labor & Workpla	Stokesbary
HB 1444 (SSB 5126)	Common school trust revenue	H Cap Budget	McEntire
HB 1459	PERS & TRS plan 1 adjustment	H Approps	Stokesbary
HB 1468	Impact fee deferrals	H Rules C	Goehner
HB 1472	Motor vehicle sales tax	H Approps	Barkis
EHB 1478	Student rights	H Rules 3C	Timmons
E2SHB 1479 (SB 5559)	Student restraint, isolation	H Rules 3C	Callan
HB 1483	State school levies	H Finance	Orcutt
HB 1489 (SB 5590)	Mt. St. Helens license plate	H Rules C	Orcutt
HB 1496 (SB 5556)	Naselle Youth Camp property	H State Govt & T	Walsh
HB 1497	Vapor and tobacco/minors	H Reg Subst & Gam	Harris

SHB 1504 (ESSB 5257)	Elementary school recess	H Rules 3C	Low
E2SHB 1541 (SB 5616)	Lived experience	H Rules 3C	Farivar
HB 1549	AP course options	H Education	Stonier
HB 1556 (SB 5495)	Property tax rebates	H Finance	Berg
HB 1560	Property tax exemptions	H Finance	Shavers
E2SHB 1565	Prof. education workforce	H Rules 3C	Ortiz-Self
HB 1566	Vacation leave accrual	H Rules R	Bateman
SHB 1590	Oversight board for DCYF	Gov vetoed	Dent
HB 1605 (SSB 5668)	Small districts/skill center	H Approps	Rule
HB 1608	Anaphylaxis meds./schools	H Education	Bronoske
SHB 1609	School library info and tech	H Approps	Eslick
HB 1615	Education savings accounts	H Education	Eslick
2SHB 1618	Childhood sexual abuse/SOL	H Rules 3C	Farivar
HB 1649	Prejudgment interest	H Civil R & Judi	Hackney
HB 1667 (SB 5563)	Prevailing wage	H Labor & Workpl	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 Approps	Senn
SHB 1692	Student advisory groups	H Rules R	Bergquist
SHB 1693 (ESSB 5702)	Student homelessness pilot	H Rules R	Lekanoff
HB 1697	Early achievers, voluntary	H Human Svc, You	Walsh
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 Approps	Rude
EHB 1714	Financial literacy grants	H Rules 3C	Stonier
HB 1721	Skill center class size	H Approps	Paul
ESHB 1732	K-12 inflation adjustments	H Rules 3C	Bergquist
HB 1741	Prototypical school formulas	H Approps	Rule
2SHB 1746 (SB 5718)	State broadband map	H Rules 3C	Ryu
HB 1747 (SB 5680)	Seismic safety/schools	H Cap Budget	Chapman
HB 1749	Filipino Americans/schools	H Education	Chandler
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 Approps	Harris
HB 1827	Vaccination status	H Civil R & Judi	Walsh
HB 1866	Seasonal farmworker children	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1868	Power equipment emissions	H Env & Energy	Walen
HB 1879	Tribal curriculum/John McCoy	H Education	Lekanoff
HB 1882 (SSB 5723)	Even-numbered year elections	H State Govt & Tr	Farivar
HB 1889	Professionals/immigration	H ConsPro&Bus	Walen
HB 1893 (SB 5777)	Unemp ins/strikes & lockouts	H Labor & Workpla	Doglio
HB 1897 (SB 5809)	Charter schools/enrichment	H Approps	Springer
HB 1903	Lost or stolen firearms	H Civil R & Judi	Berry
HB 1905 (SB 5894)	Equal pay/protected classes	H Labor & Workpla	Mena
HB 1914	Special education services	H Education	Couture
HB 1915 (SB 5819)	Financial education	H Education	Rude
HB 1916 (SB 5933)	Infants and toddlers program	H Approps	Senn
HB 1922	Vape detectors/schools	H Education	Couture
HB 1923	Special education funding	H Education	Couture
HB 1927 (SB 5932)	Temporary total disability	H Labor & Workpla	Bronoske
HB 1929	Postinpatient housing	H HC/Wellness	Cortes
HB 1931	Incarcerated students	H Postsec Ed & Wk	Leavitt
HB 1932	Even-numbered year elections	H State Govt & Tr	Gregerson
HB 1933	Digital electronics/repair	H ConsPro&Bus	Gregerson
HB 1934 (SB 5838)	AI task force	H ConsPro&Bus	Couture
HB 1935	Schools/resource conserv.	H Education	Bergquist
HB 1937	Trafficking/health providers	H HC/Wellness	Shavers
HB 1938	Academic reengagement	H Education	Shavers
HB 1939	Social work compact	H Postsec Ed & Wk	Orwall
HB 1940 (SB 5778)	Employer political speech	H Labor & Workpla	Fosse
HB 1941	Health home serv./children	H HC/Wellness	Couture
HB 1943	National guard ed. grants	H Postsec Ed & Wk	Leavitt
HB 1944	Running start for the trades	H Education	Orwall
HB 1946	Behav. health scholarship	H Postsec Ed & Wk	Eslick
HB 1947	Technology governance	H State Govt & Tr	Street

HB 1950 (SB 6035)	Student loans/PSLF	H Postsec Ed & Wk	Slatter
HB 1951	Algorithmic discrimination	H Civil R & Judi	Shavers
HB 1956 (SB 5923)	Substance use prevention ed.	H Education	Leavitt
HB 1959	PFML/small employers	H Labor & Workpla	Walen
HB 1960 (SB 5882)	Prototypical school staffing	H Approps	Stonier
HB 1973 (SB 5852)	Special education safety net	H Education	Abbarno
HB 1976	Incentives/energy upgrades	H Env & Energy	Fosse
HB 1977	State rock	H State Govt & Tr	Abbarno
HB 1978	Intrastate mutual aid system	H Innov, Comm & E	Ryu
HB 1982	Broadband loans & grants	H Innov, Comm & E	Waters
HB 1984	State clam	H State Govt & Tr	McEntire
HB 1985	PERS/TRS 1 benefit increase	H Approps	Timmons
HB 1990 (SB 5954)	Aerial imagery program	H State Govt & Tr	Ryu
HB 1991 (SB 5793)	Paid sick leave	H Labor & Workpla	Fosse
HB 1999 (SB 5962)	Fabricated intimate images	H Community Safet	Orwall
HB 2002	Public use of fentanyl, meth	H Community Safet	Low
HB 2003 (SB 5967)	Housing/public lands leases	H Finance	Connors
HB 2005	Weighted grade point average	H Education	McClintock
HB 2010	Family violence	H Civil R & Judi	Rule
HB 2013	Retirement benefits/death	H Approps	Volz
HB 2017	Schools/aged facilities	H Cap Budget	McClintock
HB 2018	Schools/mobile device use	H Education	McClintock
HB 2019	Native American apprentices	H Postsec Ed & Wk	Stearns
HB 2029 (SB 5804)	Opioid overdose/high schools	H Education	Rule
HB 2035	Work restrictions/age 16, 17	H Labor & Workpla	McClintock
HB 2037 (SB 5851)	Holocaust and genocide edu.	H Education	Couture
HB 2038	Public school transfer data	H Education	McClintock
HB 2044	Voter-approved property tax	H Finance	Duerr
HB 2047	Cannabis use/SUD employees	H Labor & Workpla	Dent
HB 2053	Ninth grade success grants	H Approps	Stonier
HB 2058 (SB 5964)	Free school meals	H Education	Riccelli
HB 2063	Homebuyers/REET exemption	H Finance	Wylie
HB 2064	Homebuyers/REET exemption	H Finance	Wylie

HB 2070 (SB 5990)	Env. justice/SEPA projects	H Env & Energy	Mena
HB 2077	GET program participation	H Education	Reed
HB 2078	Higher education/threats	H Community Safet	Schmidt
HB 2079	Schools/threats	H Community Safet	Schmidt
HB 2089 (SB 5949)	Capital budget, supplemental	H Cap Budget	Tharinger
HB 2092	School construction funding	H Cap Budget	Callan
HB 2094	Gift certificates	H ConsPro&Bus	Alvarado
HB 2095 (SB 5988)	Gift certificates/unclaimed	H Finance	Alvarado
HB 2102	PFML benefits/health info.	H HC/Wellness	Berry
HB 2104 (SB 5950)	Operating budget, supp.	H Approps	Ormsby
HB 2110	High school graduation	H Education	Nance
HB 2112	Higher ed. opioid prevention	H Postsec Ed & Wk	Nance
HB 2121 (SB 5883)	Special education hearings	H Education	Taylor
HB 2123	Running start for the trades	H Education	Orwall
HB 2124	Child care prg. eligibility	H Human Svc, Yout	Eslick
HB 2130	Special education services	H Education	Pollet
HB 2133 (SB 5891)	Public school bus trespass	H Community Safet	Klicker
HB 2134 (SB 5947)	Transportation budget, supp.	H Transportation	Fey
HB 2138	Outdoor learning/state parks	H Innov, Comm & E	Rule
HB 2142	Reading coaches grants	H Education	Corry
HB 2146 (SB 5850)	Chronically absent students	H Education	Rule
HB 2148	Public school staff wages	H Labor & Workpla	Reeves
HB 2155	Credential registry	H Postsec Ed & Wk	Reeves
HB 2157 (SB 5982)	Vaccine definition	H HC/Wellness	Harris
HB 2158	Urban growth area boundaries	H Housing	Connors
HB 2170	Budget stabilization account	H Approps	Gregerson
HB 2174	Funded special education	H Education	Pollet
HB 2175	Special education limits	H Approps	Caldier
HB 2180 (SB 6014)	Special education cap	H Approps	Callan
HB 2188	Health subsidy/retirees	H Approps	Bronoske
HB 2190	Public records act study	H State Govt & Tr	Walen
HB 2192	National voter reg. day	H Education	Farivar
HJR 4203	School district bonds	H Education	Stonier

HJR 4205 (SJR 8206)	Property tax rebates	H Finance	Berg
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 Rules 3	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 3	Wellman
SB 5038	K-12 empl. notice deadlines	S EL/K-12	Mullet
SSB 5047 (ESHB 1048)	Voting rights act	S Rules X	Saldaña
SSB 5054	Prof. learning communities	S Rules 3	Wellman
SB 5059	Prejudgment interest	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SSB 5061 (E2SHB 1320)	Personnel records	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SB 5064	Special ed. excess costs	S EL/K-12	Wellman
SB 5068	Motor vehicle sales tax	S Ways & Means	MacEwen
2SSB 5071 (SHB 1346)	Purple star designation	S Rules X	Nobles
SSB 5085	School principals/employment	S Rules X	Wellman
ESSB 5102	School library info and tech	S Rules 3	Wellman
SSB 5126 (HB 1444)	Common school trust revenue	S Rules 3	Pedersen
SB 5136	Sales and use tax exemptions	S Ways & Means	Fortunato
SB 5139	Vaccination refusal	S Health & Long	Fortunato
SSB 5158	State & local taxation	S Rules X	Wilson
SSB 5162 (EHB 1125)	Transportation budget	S Rules 2	Liias
SB 5164 (HB 1126)	Transportation budget, supp.	S Transportation	Liias
E2SSB 5174	Student transportation	S Rules 3	Wellman
SB 5180	Teacher mobility compact	S Rules 3	Hunt
SB 5188 (HB 1141)	Operating budget, supp.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SSB 5201 (ESHB 1148)	State gen. obligation bonds	S Rules	Mullet
SSB 5237	Education law noncompliance	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SB 5246	Supreme court fiscal notes	S Law & Justice	Holy
SSB 5248 (HB 1710)	Tutoring & extended learning	S Ways & Means	Braun

2SSB 5254	Leasing of state lands	S Rules X	Van De Wege
SB 5273 (SHB 1200)	Employee information/unions	S Labor & Comm	Valdez
SSB 5305 (HB 1374)	Office of career connect WA	S Ways & Means	Wellman
E2SSB 5311 (HB 1211)	Special education funding	S Rules 3	Wellman
SB 5327	Intern wages	S Labor & Comm	Keiser
SB 5332	Homeless camps/schools, etc.	S Loc Gov, Land	King
SSB 5339 (E2SHB 1238)	Free school meals	S Ways & Means	Nobles
SB 5343	School construction costs	S EL/K-12	Schoesler
SB 5344	Public school revolving fund	S Rules X	Schoesler
SB 5345	School buildings/energy	S Environment, E	Schoesler
SB 5346	Student art/school const.	S EL/K-12	Schoesler
SB 5349 (SHB 1056)	Postretirement employment	S Rules X	Conway
SB 5363	Cannabis advertising	S Rules 3	MacEwen
SSB 5372 (HB 1423)	DNR land	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5404	Cannabis revenue/local gov.	S Labor & Comm	Wagoner
SB 5408	Ninth grade success grants	S Ways & Means	Liias
SB 5420 (HB 1008)	Plan 2 members/insurance	S Ways & Means	Conway
SB 5431 (SHB 1368)	Zero emission school buses	S EL/K-12	Shewmake
2SSB 5438	Supportive relationships	S Rules 3	Warnick
SSB 5441	School district curricula	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SB 5442 (HB 1418)	Charter schools/enrichment	S EL/K-12	Mullet
SB 5444	Firearm sensitive places	S Law & Justice	Valdez
SB 5449	School buses/other use	S Transportation	Warnick
ESB 5462	Inclusive learning standards	S Rules 3	Liias
SB 5464 (E2SHB 1392)	Electronics repair	S Environment, E	Stanford
SB 5479	Long-term care/referendum	S Labor & Comm	Schoesler
SB 5485	Public employees/child care	S Ways & Means	Shewmake
SB 5495 (HB 1556)	Property tax rebates	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SB 5505	School year expansion	S EL/K-12	Hawkins
SB 5511	K-12 education funding	S EL/K-12	Braun
SB 5514 (HB 1582)	Right turns	S Transportation	Lovick
SB 5527	Graduation pathway options	S Rules X	Mullet

SB 5554	College grant award amounts	S Ways & Means	Nguyen
SB 5556 (HB 1496)	Naselle Youth Camp property	S State Govt & El	Wilson
SB 5558	Rights of parents	S EL/K-12	McCune
SB 5559 (E2SHB 1479)	Student restraint, isolation	S EL/K-12	Wilson
SB 5563 (HB 1667)	Prevailing wage	S Labor & Comm	King
SB 5577	Capital broadband program	S Environment, E	Torres
SB 5590 (HB 1489)	Mt. St. Helens license plate	S Rules 3	Wilson
SB 5595	State nickname	S Rules 3	Wilson
SB 5616 (E2SHB 1541)	Lived experience	S State Govt & E	Valdez
SB 5618	Local property tax limit	S Loc Gov, Land	Kuderer
SB 5625	Public employee retirees	S Ways & Means	Liias
SSB 5626	K-12 media literacy	S Rules 3	Liias
SB 5641	African heritage week	S State Govt & E	Fortunato
SB 5647	School safety/temp employees	S Rules X	Torres
SSB 5648	Board of education waivers	S Rules 3	Wellman
SB 5653	Minors & parents/rights	S EL/K-12	Fortunato
SSB 5655	WA achievers grant program	S Rules X	Torres
SB 5656	School security grants	S EL/K-12	Torres
SB 5661	Skill center class sizes	S EL/K-12	Boehnke
SSB 5668 (HB 1605)	Small districts/skill center	S Ways & Means	Shewmake
2SSB 5670	Running start/10th grade	S Rules X	Hawkins
SB 5671	K-12 experience factors	S EL/K-12	MacEwen
SB 5678	Firearms safety/K-12	S EL/K-12	Wagoner
SB 5680 (HB 1747)	Seismic safety/schools	S EL/K-12	Schoesler
SSB 5684	Small works rosters	S Rules X	Hasegawa
SB 5688	Public lands/carbon seq.	S Ways & Means	Lovelett
SB 5692 (HB 1244)	Enrichment levy authority	S EL/K-12	Lovelett
SB 5706 (ESHB 1187)	Employee-union privilege	S Law & Justice	Frame
SB 5710	Behavioral health/youth	S Ways & Means	Torres
SB 5711 (HB 1156)	College grant eligibility	S Rules 3	Nobles
SB 5712	College grant/promise prg.	S Higher Ed & Wo	Liias
SB 5713	Certain schools/reg. factors	S EL/K-12	Wagoner
SB 5718 (2SHB 1746)	State broadband map	S Environment, E	Wellman

SB 5719 (HB 1679)	Student homelessness group	S Ways & Means	Hunt
SSB 5723 (HB 1882)	Even-numbered year elections	S Rules X	Valdez
SB 5731 (HB 1096)	Amateur sports officials	S Law & Justice	Lovick
SSB 5743	Transportation resources	S Rules 3	Liias
SB 5777 (HB 1893)	Unemp ins/strikes & lockouts	S Labor & Comm	Keiser
SB 5778 (HB 1940)	Employer political speech	S Labor & Comm	Keiser
SB 5779	Sunshine committee	S State Govt & El	Wilson
SB 5789	School projects/sales tax	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SB 5790	Bleeding control/schools	S EL/K-12	Dhingra
SB 5793 (HB 1991)	Paid sick leave	S Labor & Comm	Saldaña
SB 5798	Insurance notices	S Business, Fin S	Kuderer
SB 5804 (HB 2029)	Opioid overdose/high schools	S EL/K-12	Kuderer
SB 5806	Insurance company data	S Business, Fin S	Kuderer
SB 5809 (HB 1897)	Charter schools/enrichment	S EL/K-12	Mullet
SB 5813	Agricultural instruction	S EL/K-12	Dozier
SB 5819 (HB 1915)	Financial education	S EL/K-12	Valdez
SB 5823	School district elections	S EL/K-12	Hunt
SB 5830 (HB 1270)	Commission on boys and men	S State Govt & El	Lovick
SB 5834	Urban growth areas	S Loc Gov, Land	Short
SB 5835	Rule making websites	S State Govt & El	Wilson
SB 5837	State election database	S State Govt & El	Valdez
SB 5838 (HB 1934)	AI task force	S Environment, En	Nguyen
SB 5849	Computer science/graduation	S EL/K-12	Wellman
SB 5850 (HB 2146)	Chronically absent students	S EL/K-12	Braun
SB 5851 (HB 2037)	Holocaust and genocide edu.	S EL/K-12	Braun
SB 5852 (HB 1973)	Special education safety net	S EL/K-12	Braun
SB 5853	Behav crisis services/minors	S Health & Long T	Dhingra
SB 5870	Early learning programs	S EL/K-12	Wilson
SB 5873	Student transportation	S EL/K-12	Wellman
SB 5882 (HB 1960)	Prototypical school staffing	S EL/K-12	Stanford
SB 5883 (HB 2121)	Special education hearings	S EL/K-12	Trudeau
SB 5891 (HB 2133)	Public school bus trespass	S Law & Justice	Boehnke
SB 5894 (HB 1905)	Equal pay/protected classes	S Labor & Comm	Nobles

SB 5903	Educators/PESB membership	S EL/K-12	Wilson
SB 5906	Drug overdose prevention	S Health & Long T	Wilson
SB 5913	Student athlete NIL/ethics	S State Govt & El	Valdez
SB 5917	Bias-motivated defacement	S Law & Justice	Billig
SB 5923 (HB 1956)	Substance use prevention ed.	S EL/K-12	Wellman
SB 5924	Access to personnel records	S Labor & Comm	Kuderer
SB 5929	Fentanyl/endangerment	S Law & Justice	Padden
SB 5932 (HB 1927)	Temporary total disability	S Labor & Comm	Stanford
SB 5933 (HB 1916)	Infants and toddlers program	S EL/K-12	Frame
SB 5947 (HB 2134)	Transportation budget, supp.	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5949 (HB 2089)	Capital budget, supplemental	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SB 5950 (HB 2104)	Operating budget, supp.	S Ways & Means	Robinson
SB 5954 (HB 1990)	Aerial imagery program	S State Govt & El	Lovick
SB 5956	Enrichment levies limit	S EL/K-12	Wellman
SB 5958	Career skills grant program	S Higher Ed & Wor	Boehnke
SB 5959	Traffic safety cameras	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5962 (HB 1999)	Fabricated intimate images	S Law & Justice	Mullet
SB 5964 (HB 2058)	Free school meals	S EL/K-12	Nobles
SB 5966	Student restraint, isolation	S EL/K-12	Wilson
SB 5969	School construction debt	S EL/K-12	Dhingra
SB 5978	School district-county loans	S EL/K-12	Robinson
SB 5982 (HB 2157)	Vaccine definition	S Health & Long T	Cleveland
SB 5987	Gift certificates	S Business, Fin S	Trudeau
SB 5988 (HB 2095)	Gift certificates/unclaimed	S Ways & Means	Trudeau
SB 5990 (HB 2070)	Env. justice/SEPA projects	S Environment, En	Lovelett
SB 5993	Voter education	S State Govt & El	Hasegawa
SB 5995	Interpreters and translators	S Labor & Comm	Saldaña
SB 5999	Financial aid eligibility	S Higher Ed & Wor	Hansen
SB 6002	PESB transfer to OSPI	S EL/K-12	Hunt
SB 6003	Board of education/OSPI	S EL/K-12	Hunt
SB 6012	Teacher preparation programs	S EL/K-12	Wellman
SB 6014 (HB 2180)	Special education cap	S EL/K-12	Wellman
SB 6016	Green energy community fund	S Environment, En	Shewmake

SB 6018	Early learning coordinators	S EL/K-12	Wilson
SB 6026	Student given names	S EL/K-12	Padden
SB 6031	Student transp. allocation	S EL/K-12	Braun
SB 6032	Religious schools/law enf.	S Law & Justice	Braun
SB 6035 (HB 1950)	Student loans/PSLF	S Higher Ed & Wor	Liias
SJM 8007	IDEA funding	S EL/K-12	Kauffman
SJR 8200	Revenue for highway purposes	S Transportation	Fortunato
SJR 8203	Public school revolving fund	S Rules X	Schoesler
SJR 8206 (HJR 4205)	Property tax rebates	S Ways & Means	Kuderer
SJR 8207	School district bonds	S EL/K-12	Hunt