

WSCA Legislative Report

With just four weeks to go in the 2019 regular legislative session, House and Senate budget writers unveiled their proposed operating budgets for the 2019-21 biennium last week. The budget plan proposed by the House relies on three tax proposals to fund it; a capital gains tax, B&O tax increases, and Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) changes.

The Senate is also proposing changes to the REET, but would fund the rest of its budget proposal by closing targeted tax loopholes. The Senate has also proposed a capital gains tax, but not to support the operating budget. Instead, the Senate is proposing to use revenue from a capital gains tax to cut taxes for small businesses, provide property tax relief for senior citizens, and fund a Working Families Tax Credit.

Overall, the House tax and budget plan would raise \$1.4 billion in new revenue, while the Senate's would bring in \$518 million. The House passed its budget proposal Friday evening. The Senate Ways & Means Committee will hear its proposal Monday afternoon and vote on it Tuesday.

Both budgets invest significantly in school employee benefits and special education, although the Senate's proposal is more robust for special education and the House plan would put more into SEBB. Both chambers also propose to put more money into early childhood education and behavioral health.

Unfortunately, neither budget proposal included a meaningful investment for school counselors.

However, the House budget proposal does include a provision that would provide targeted school counselor support at the state's twenty lowest scoring elementary and middle schools as part of the Washington School Improvement Framework. The counselor/student ratio at these schools will be 1:250 for middle schools and 1:500 for elementary, and **schools will only be eligible to receive this additional funding if they achieve and maintain these ratios.**

The House budget also includes funding to implement E2SHB 1599, which will remove testing requirements for high school graduation. As amended by the Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee, the bill also:

- Removes requirement that students receive a certificate of academic achievement to graduate, beginning with the class of 2020.
- Modifies provisions relating to high school and beyond plans.
- Replaces certain graduation requirements with pathway framework.
- Extends, through the class of 2020, an expedited appeal process for waiving assessment requirements.
- Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to contract with a vendor to implement a statewide online platform for high school and beyond plans.

This bill is currently in the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

The Senate budget proposal includes funding to implement SSB 5082, legislation to expand and continue the work of the Social Emotional Learning task force at OSPI, and 2SSB 5903, the Children's Mental Health bill.

Upcoming Events

Education (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 4/1 @ 1:30pm

- ESSB 5389 - Exec Session - Establishing a telehealth training and treatment program to assist youth.
- SSB 5689 - Exec Session - Concerning harassment, intimidation, bullying, and discrimination in public schools.

Appropriations (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 4/1 @ 3:30pm

- HB 2140 - Public Hearing - Relating to K-12 education funding.

Ways & Means (Senate) - SHR 4, - 4/1 @ 3:30pm

- SB 5153 - Public Hearing - Making 2019-2021 biennium operating appropriations. (Hearing is on the Proposed Substitute.)

Ways & Means (Senate) - SHR 4, - 4/2 @ 3:30pm

- SB 5153 - Exec Session - Making 2019-2021 biennium operating appropriations.

Capital Budget (House) - HHR B, JLOB - 4/4 @ 9:00am

- 2SSB 5572 - Public Hearing - Authorizing modernization grants for small school districts.

Bill Details

Status

Sponsor

<u>HB 1089</u>	Certificates of achievement Concerning certificates of academic and individual achievement. Discontinues certificates of academic achievement and certificates of individual achievement as graduation requirements.	S EL/K-12	MacEwen
<u>ESHB 1109</u> <u>(SB 5153)</u>	Operating budget Making 2019-2021 biennium operating appropriations and 2017-2019 biennium second supplemental operating appropriations.	H Passed 3rd	Ormsby
<u>HB 1121</u>	High school graduation reqs	H Education	Dolan

(Dead)
(SSB 5146)

Concerning flexibility in high school graduation requirements.

Modifies certain common school provisions regarding flexibility in high school graduation requirements; individual student circumstances; and other circumstances that directly compromise a student's ability to learn. Requires a student to: (1) Decide before the end of the first term of his or her last year of high school whether to receive credit for completed high school courses; and (2) If he or she chooses to receive high school credit, decide before the end of the first term of his or her last year of high school whether to have the credit as a grade or as pass or no pass. Requires the state board of education to convene and lead a competency-based education work group by June 1, 2019, for the purpose of facilitating student access to relevant and robust pathways aligned to their personal goals for their career and further education as reflected in their high school and beyond plans. Provides a March 1, 2021, expiration date for the work group.

[SHB 1182](#)
(Dead)

Learning assistance program

H Approps

Santos

Modifying the learning assistance program.

[SHB 1191](#)
(SB 5554)

School notifications

H Rules R

Goodman

Concerning school notifications.

[2SHB 1216](#)
(2SSB 5317)

School safety & well-being

S Ways & Means

Dolan

Concerning nonfirearm measures to increase school safety and student well-being.

Youth suicide/crisis plans

H Education

Orwall

Improving crisis planning in schools to prevent youth suicide.

[HB 1221](#)
(Dead)

Finds that: (1) Youth suicide is an urgent public health problem in the country; (2) Mental health issues are one of the strongest predictors among adolescents for engaging in self-harm and suicidal behavior; and (3) Reliance on traditional models of mental health service delivery will not ameliorate the problem of youth suicide, pointing to the need for school-based approaches. Imposes requirements on the following to improve crisis planning to prevent youth suicide: School district staff including school nurses, counselors, social workers, psychologists, parents, and guardians; educational service districts; public schools; regional and local systems of behavioral health care services and supports; forefront suicide prevention at the University of Washington; the office of the superintendent of public instruction; the mental health promotion and suicide prevention program; mental health referral networks; the state institute for public policy; and the professional educator standards board's training program on youth suicide screening and referral.

[SHB 1240](#)
(Dead)

Suicide review teams

H Approps

Mosbrucker

Concerning suicide review teams.

[SHB 1265](#)
(Dead)

School counselor access

H Approps

Ortiz-Self

Increasing student access to school counselors.

[ESHB 1355](#)

CTC counselor staffing

S Rules 2

Ortiz-Self

Concerning staffing standards and ratios for counselors in community and technical colleges.

<u>HB 1467</u> (Dead)	High school grad. supports Revising academic supports associated with high school graduation requirements.	H Education	Sells
Requires a school district to: (1) Prepare a student learning plan; and (2) Notify the parent or guardian about the information in the plan that includes, if applicable, the student's individualized education program team. Requires the student learning plan to include achieving educational and career goals established in the student's high school and beyond plan. Requires the superintendent of public instruction to implement, for the graduating classes of 2014 onward, an expedited process for authorizing eligible students who have not met the state standard on one or more assessments to satisfy the unmet requirements by demonstrating that they possess the skills and knowledge necessary for postsecondary success.			
<u>SHB 1479</u> (Dead) (SB 5777)	Student mental health Building capacity within the educator workforce to improve student mental health and well-being.	H Approps	Senn
<u>E2SHB 1599</u>	High school graduation reqs. Promoting career and college readiness through modified high school graduation requirements.	S Ways & Means	Stonier
<u>E2SHB 1874</u> (SSB 5904)	Adolescent behavioral health Implementing policies related to expanding adolescent behavioral health care access as reviewed and recommended by the children's mental health work group.	S Behavioral Heal	Frame
Children's mental health Concerning children's mental health.			
<u>SHB 1876</u> (Dead) (2SSB 5903)	Establishes a partnership access line for schools pilot program. Expands child and adolescent psychiatry residencies at the University of Washington and the Washington State University. Requires the health care authority to develop a state plan for implementing coordinated specialty care programs and ensure coordinated specialty care teams are operating in regional service areas by specified dates. Requires the department of children, youth, and families to deliver infant and early childhood mental health consultation. Requires the health care authority to provide online training for behavioral health providers related to parent-initiated treatment and other treatment options.	H Approps	Frame
<u>HB 1925</u> (Dead)	Adverse childhood exps. Informing new parents about adverse childhood experiences.	H Approps	Dolan
<u>HB 2140</u>	K-12 education funding Relating to K-12 education funding.	H Approps	Sullivan
<u>SB 5069</u> (Dead) (2SHB 1424)	CTE course equivalencies Concerning access to state career and technical course equivalencies. Increases access to state career and technical course equivalencies.	S EL/K-12	Zeiger

<u>2SSB 5082</u>	Social emotional learning Promoting and expanding social emotional learning.	H EDDPA	McCoy
<u>2SSB 5141</u>	School resource officers Concerning school resource officer mandatory training and policies.	H EDDPA	Wellman
<u>SSB 5146</u> (Dead) (HB 1121)	High school graduation reqs Concerning flexibility in high school graduation requirements.	S Ways & Means	Wellman
<u>SB 5153</u> (ESHB 1109)	Operating budget 2019-2021 Making 2019-2021 biennium operating appropriations. Makes 2019-2021 biennium operating appropriations.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
<u>2SSB 5315</u>	Student support staff Increasing student support staff in the prototypical school funding model.	S Rules X	Wellman
<u>2SSB 5317</u> (2SHB 1216)	School safety & well-being Concerning nonfirearm measures to increase school safety and student well-being.	S Rules X	Wellman
<u>SSB 5343</u> (Dead)	High school success Facilitating high school success.	S Ways & Means	Mullet
<u>ESSB 5389</u>	Telehealth program/youth Establishing a telehealth training and treatment program to assist youth.	H Education	Becker
<u>SSB 5465</u> (Dead)	Public education funding Concerning public education funding.	S Ways & Means	Wellman
<u>SB 5512</u> (SHB 1621)	Teacher prep. skills assess. Concerning basic skills assessments for approved teacher preparation programs. Requires an applicant for admission to an approved teacher preparation program to: (1) Take the basic skills assessment, or an alternative or equivalent basic skills assessment, as determined by the professional educator standards board; and (2) Report the results to the state and the approved teacher preparation program.	S Rules X	McCoy
<u>SSB 5548</u>	High school diploma pathways Providing multiple pathways to a meaningful high school diploma.	S Rules X	Wellman

<u>2SSB 5572</u>	School modernization grants Authorizing modernization grants for small school districts.	H Cap Budget	Honeyford
<u>SB 5635</u> (HB 1850)	Behav. health professions Expanding opportunities for students to pursue mental and behavioral health professions. Extends the opportunity grant program to ninety credits for students in an opportunity grant-eligible program of study, including required related courses, that result in a certificate or degree required for employment in a behavioral health profession, which is defined as a psychiatrist, psychologist, psychiatric nurse, chemical dependency professional, social worker, or other mental health professional. Limits extended opportunity grant funding to no more than a total of ninety credits or for more than four years from initial receipt of grant funds.	H CWDDPA	Brown
<u>SSB 5689</u>	Harassment, etc./schools Concerning harassment, intimidation, bullying, and discrimination in public schools.	H Education	Liias
<u>SSB 5801</u>	Teacher postretirement empl. Concerning teachers' postretirement employment options.	S Rules X	Wellman
<u>2SSB 5903</u> (SHB 1876)	Children's mental health Concerning children's mental health.	H HSELPA	Darneille
<u>SSB 5904</u> (E2SHB 1874)	Adolescent behavioral health Implementing policies related to expanding adolescent behavioral health care access as reviewed and recommended by the children's mental health work group. Expands parent-initiated treatment provisions relating to outpatient treatment. Allows a mental health professional to disclose mental health treatment information of an adolescent to a parent without consent in certain circumstances. Allows a parent or adolescent to consent to disclosure of information to a treatment provider. Provides liability protection for mental health professionals related to the disclosure of an adolescent's mental health information.	S Rules X	Warnick
<u>SB 6004</u>	Fiscal matters T.O. Relating to fiscal matters.		Rolfes
<u>SB 6005</u>	Revenue T.O. Relating to revenue.		Rolfes
<u>SB 6006</u>	Education T.O. Relating to education.		Rolfes

Increasing the tax on cigarettes.
