

WSCA Legislative Report

Friday, February 22nd was the first major deadline for bills in the 2019 Legislative Session. Any bill that wasn't passed by its policy committee of origin is considered "dead" for this year. Over next week, fiscal committees (Appropriations, Finance, Ways & Means, Transportation, Capital Budget) will meet daily to hear and pass bills on to the Rules Committees. The next cutoff date is March 1.

Two good bills to increase funding for school counselors and other student supports advanced to the fiscal committees where they are expected to be heard in the next week. HB 1265, sponsored by Rep. Lillian Ortiz-Self, phases in increased allocations for school counselors and includes a corresponding requirement that counselors spend at least 80 percent of their time providing direct services to students by September 1, 2022. WSCA strongly supports this bill.

In the Senate, the Ways & Means Committee will have the opportunity to hear SSB 5315, which proposes to phase in increased staffing ratios for high school nurses, social workers, and psychologists in the prototypical model, beginning in the 2019-2021. The bill also includes a cross reference which provides that school districts only receive increased allocations to the extent they demonstrate increased or existing staffing ratios at the increased level.

Another good bill supported by WSCA, SHB 1599, has advanced to the House Appropriations Committee. This bill, sponsored by Rep. Monica Stonier, proposes to de-link high stakes testing from high school graduation requirements. As it passed from the House Education Committee, the following revisions were made to the bill:

- Adds acceptance to an institution of higher education and qualifying employment as pathway options for high school students in the graduating class of 2020 and all subsequent classes, rather than only for students in the graduating classes of 2020 and 2021;
- Encourages school districts to make all pathway options available to students, but grants districts discretion in determining which pathway options they will offer;
- Removes a provision that required the OSPI, in collaboration with the SBE and others to examine and report upon options for replacing the statewide assessments in ELA and mathematics for high school students;
- Directs the SBE to convene, lead, and staff a competency-based education work group;
- Directs the OSPI, subject to specific funding provisions, to select and contract with a vendor to develop and implement a statewide online electronic platform for the high school and beyond plans of students, and requires the platform to be available to all students beginning in the 2020-21 school year; and
- Changes graduating class by which school districts must make optional assessments available to students from the graduating class of 2021 to the graduating class of 2022.

Upcoming Events

Appropriations (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/25 @ 1:30pm

- SHB 1216 - Public Hearing - Concerning nonfirearm measures to increase school safety and student well-being.
- SHB 1599 - Public Hearing - Promoting career and college readiness through modified high school graduation requirements.

Ways & Means (Senate) - SHR 4, - 2/25 @ 1:30pm

- SSB 5082 - Exec Session - Promoting and expanding social emotional learning.
- SSB 5572 - Public Hearing - Authorizing modernization grants for small school districts.

Appropriations (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/26 @ 1:30pm

- SHB 1479 - Public Hearing - Building capacity within the educator workforce to improve student mental health and well-being.

Ways & Means (Senate) - SHR 4, - 2/26 @ 1:30pm

- SSB 5903 - Public Hearing - Concerning children's mental health.
- SB 5635 - Public Hearing - Expanding opportunities for students to pursue mental and behavioral health professions.

Ways & Means (Senate) - SHR 4, - 2/28 @ 1:30pm

- SSB 5315 - Public Hearing - Increasing student support staff in the prototypical school funding model.
- SB 5389 - Public Hearing - Establishing a telehealth training and treatment program to assist youth.

Bill Details

Status

Sponsor

<u>HB 1109</u> (SB 5153)	Operating budget 2019-2021 Making 2019-2021 biennium operating appropriations. Makes 2019-2021 biennium operating appropriations.	H Approps	Ormsby
<u>HB 1121</u> (Dead) (SSB 5146)	High school graduation reqs Concerning flexibility in high school graduation requirements. Modifies certain common school provisions regarding flexibility in high school graduation requirements;	H Education	Dolan

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.

<u>SHB 1182</u>	Learning assistance program Modifying the learning assistance program.	H Approps	Santos
<u>SHB 1191</u> (SB 5554)	School notifications Concerning school notifications.	H Rules R	Goodman
<u>SHB 1216</u> (SSB 5317)	School safety & well-being Concerning nonfirearm measures to increase school safety and student well-being.	H Approps	Dolan
<u>HB 1221</u> (Dead)	Youth suicide/crisis plans Improving crisis planning in schools to prevent youth suicide. 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.	H Education	Orwall
<u>SHB 1240</u>	Suicide review teams Concerning suicide review teams.	H Approps	Mosbrucker
<u>SHB 1265</u>	School counselor access Increasing student access to school counselors.	H Approps	Ortiz-Self
<u>SHB 1355</u>	CTC counselor staffing Concerning staffing standards and ratios for counselors in community and technical colleges.	H Rules R	Ortiz-Self
<u>HB 1467</u>	High school grad. supports	H Education	Sells

(Dead) Revising academic supports associated with high school graduation requirements.

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.

[SHB 1479](#) **Student mental health** H Approps Senn
(SB 5777) Building capacity within the educator workforce to improve student mental health and well-being.

[SHB 1599](#) **High school graduation reqs.** H Approps Stonier
Promoting career and college readiness through modified high school graduation requirements.

[SHB 1874](#) **Adolescent behavioral health** H Approps Frame
(SSB 5904) Implementing policies related to expanding adolescent behavioral health care access as reviewed and recommended by the children's mental health work group.

[SHB 1876](#) **Children's mental health** H Approps Frame
(SSB 5903) Concerning children's mental health.

[HB 1925](#) **Adverse childhood exps.** H Approps Dolan
Informing new parents about adverse childhood experiences.

[SB 5069](#) **CTE course equivalencies** S EL/K-12 Zeiger
(Dead) Concerning access to state career and technical course equivalencies.
(SHB
1424) Increases access to state career and technical course equivalencies.

Social emotional learning S Ways & Means McCoy
Promoting and expanding social emotional learning.

[SSB 5082](#) Creates the social emotional learning committee to: (1) Promote and expand social emotional learning; and (2) Help students build awareness and skills in managing emotions, setting goals, establishing relationships, and making responsible decisions that support success in school and life. Encourages the governor and the tribes to jointly designate two members to serve on the committee who have experience working in and with schools. Requires the committee to have a joint meeting once a year with the educational opportunity gap oversight and accountability committee. Requires the office of the superintendent of public instruction to: (1) Adopt the standards and benchmarks recommended by the social emotional learning benchmarks work group in its October 1, 2016, final report; and (2) Align the programs it oversees with the standards for social emotional learning and integrate the standards where appropriate. Requires the professional educator standards board to incorporate the standards for social

emotional learning along the entire career continuum.

<u>SSB 5141</u>	School resource officers Concerning school resource officer mandatory training and policies.	S Ways & Means	Wellman
<u>SSB 5146</u> <u>(HB 1121)</u>	High school graduation reqs Concerning flexibility in high school graduation requirements.	S Ways & Means	Wellman
<u>SB 5153</u> <u>(HB 1109)</u>	Operating budget 2019-2021 Making 2019-2021 biennium operating appropriations. Makes 2019-2021 biennium operating appropriations.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
<u>SSB 5315</u>	Student support staff Increasing student support staff in the prototypical school funding model.	S Ways & Means	Wellman
<u>SSB 5317</u> <u>(SHB 1216)</u>	School safety & well-being Concerning nonfirearm measures to increase school safety and student well-being.	S Ways & Means	Wellman
<u>SSB 5343</u>	High school success Facilitating high school success.	S Ways & Means	Mullet
<u>SB 5389</u>	Telehealth program/youth Establishing a telehealth training and treatment program to assist youth. Requires the University of Washington, in collaboration with project ECHO (extension for community healthcare outcomes), to design a training curriculum and training delivery system to train middle, junior high, and high school staff to identify students who are at risk for substance abuse, violence, or youth suicide. Requires project ECHO to coordinate with medical schools, hospitals, clinics, and independent providers to develop a directory of psychiatrists licensed to practice in the state who have access to telemedicine technology and are able to provide psychiatric teleconsultations to students who are determined to be at risk. Requires a certificated or classified employee, school counselor, school psychologist, or school social worker, who identifies a student who may be at risk for substance abuse, violence, or youth suicide, to screen the student to determine if he or she is at risk. Prohibits a school district from scheduling a psychiatry teleconsultation for a student without first receiving authorization from the student. Requires individuals who are certified by the professional educator standards board as a school nurse, school social worker, school psychologist, or school counselor to complete a training program on identifying and referring students who are at risk for substance abuse, violence, and youth suicide, including the use of teleconsultation. Requires school districts, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, to require certificated and classified employees at each school to receive training based on the curriculum developed for identifying students who are at risk for substance abuse, violence, or youth suicide.	S Ways & Means	Becker
<u>SSB 5465</u>	Public education funding	S Ways & Means	Wellman

Concerning public education funding.

<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 2	McCoy
<u>SSB 5548</u>	High school diploma pathways Providing multiple pathways to a meaningful high school diploma.	S Rules 2	Wellman
<u>SSB 5572</u>	School modernization grants Authorizing modernization grants for small school districts.	S Ways & Means	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.	S Ways & Means	Brown
<u>SSB 5689</u>	Harassment, etc./schools Concerning harassment, intimidation, bullying, and discrimination in public schools.	S Rules 2	Lias
<u>SB 5801</u>	Teacher postretirement empl. Concerning teachers' postretirement employment options.	S Ways & Means	Wellman
<u>SSB 5903</u> (SHB 1876)	Children's mental health Concerning children's mental health.	S Ways & Means	Darneille
<u>SSB 5904</u> (SHB 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.	S Rules 2	Warnick
