

WSCA Legislative Report

February 20th (Week 6)

Last week, the Legislature crossed another major deadline for the 2022 session, and as lawmakers get closer to the end, the cutoffs occur in quick succession. Bills not passed off the floor in the chamber in which they were introduced (house of origin) by Feb 15th are now considered dead unless they are deemed necessary to implement the budget. Both chambers convened for floor sessions last Monday and Tuesday leading to the cutoff, and the House worked also worked the previous weekend. On Monday the House was in caucus or on the floor for 21 hours straight. They finally adjourned Tuesday morning at about 6:30 a.m. after debating a bill for nine hours straight.

House members introduced 602 new bills this session and passed 215 off the House floor by 5pm on Tuesday. Senators introduced 546 new bills, 222 of which were approved before cutoff. And while no concept is truly dead until Sine Die, several notable policies did not die due to time constraints, but because they failed to garner enough votes to move past the 5pm cutoff on Tuesday. The bill that could have granted legislative staff the right to collectively bargain also failed to advance. In response, more than 100 House and Senate Democratic staff members called in sick on Wednesday.

On Wednesday, attention shifted back to committees where hearings were scheduled on bills sent over from the opposite chamber. The next policy committee cutoff is this Thursday, February 24th. There will then be a quick turn before opposite house fiscal cutoff on Monday February 28th. Both the House and Senate are scheduled to work on Saturday, Feb 26th (the House for floor action and the Senate for Ways & Means). At this point they are not scheduled for hearings or floor action on Sunday, Feb 27th, but that is always subject to change.

The bicameral Economic Revenue Forecast Council released the [Spring Quarterly Economic & Revenue Forecast](#) last week. The forecast showed continued upward trends in our state revenue and budget projections. Tax collections have risen by an additional \$5 billion. Overall tax revenue stands at \$61.7 billion. On Monday, the Senate Democrats will release their proposed budget at 8 a.m., and House Democrats will release theirs at Noon. The fiscal committees in each chamber have scheduled their budgets for public hearings Monday.

Looking at some key dates related to the respective budget proposals in the coming week:

House 2022 Supplemental Operating Budget (HB 1816):

- Release on Monday, Feb 21st
- Hearing in House Appropriations on Monday, Feb 21st
- Executive session in House Appropriations on Wednesday, Feb 23rd
- Anticipated House floor action on Saturday, Feb 26th.

Senate 2022 Supplemental Operating Budget (SB 5693):

- Release on Monday, Feb 21st
- Hearing in Senate Ways & Means on Monday, Feb 21st
- Executive session in Senate Ways & Means on Wednesday, Feb 23rd

- Anticipated Senate floor action on Friday, Feb 25th

Electeds & Elections

Representative Laurie Dolan (D-22) [announced](#) last week that she will not seek re-election, and will retire from the Washington State Legislature at the end of 2022. Dolan has been in office since 2016. Shortly after her announcement, Dolan's former seatmate, Beth Doglio, announced that she will run for the open position. Doglio served in the state legislature from 2017 to 2021. She gave up her seat to run for the 10th Congressional District seat.

COVID Updates

Governor Inslee held a much-anticipated press conference on Thursday, February 17 to announce the end of the indoor mask mandate in Washington. While he will not be lifting the emergency orders, which allow the state to access federal funds, vaccine verification or proof of a negative COVID-19 test will no longer be required for attendance at large events as of March 1.

And as of March 21, masks will no longer be required in:

- Schools, childcare facilities, libraries
- Restaurants and bars
- Houses of worship
- Gyms
- Grocery stores, businesses, and retail establishments

Masks will continue to be required in:

- Healthcare facilities including hospitals, outpatient, dental facilities, and pharmacies
- Long-term care settings
- Public transit, taxis, rideshare vehicles and school buses (federal requirement)
- Correctional facilities
- Private businesses and local governments that want to require masks for their employees, customers, or residents

State Department of Health officials will release updated guidance for K-12 schools during the week of March 6 to help schools prepare for the transition.

Upcoming Events

Children, Youth & Families (House) - Virtual - 2/21 @ 1:30pm

- [SSB 5883](#) - Exec Session - Concerning an unaccompanied homeless youth's ability to provide informed consent for that minor patient's own health care, including nonemergency, outpatient, and primary care services, including physical examinations, vision examinations and eyeglasses, dental examinations, hearing examinations and hearing aids, immunizations, treatments for illnesses and conditions, and routine follow-up care customarily provided by a health care provider in an outpatient setting, excluding elective surgeries.

College & Workforce Development (House) - Virtual - 2/21 @ 1:30pm

- [SSB 5644](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning providing quality behavioral health co-response services
- [SB 5854](#) - Exec Session - Concerning ethical performance of faculty duties.

Early Learning & K-12 Education (Senate) - Virtual - 2/21 @ 1:30pm

- [E2SHB 1162](#) - Public Hearing - Creating new graduation credit and pathway options.
- [SHB 1759](#) - Exec Session - Requiring school districts and other public education entities to make information from the department of health about substance use trends, overdose symptoms and response, and the secure storage of prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, and firearms and ammunition, available through their websites and other communication resources.
- [HB 1834](#) - Exec Session - Concerning student excused absences for mental health reasons.
- [SHB 1867](#) - Exec Session - Concerning dual credit program data.

Education (House) - Virtual - 2/22 @ 8:00am

- [SSB 5376](#) - Exec Session - Promoting awareness of the governor's office of the education ombuds.
- [SSB 5594](#) - Exec Session - Concerning public school instruction in awareness of bone marrow donation.
- [2SSB 5720](#) - Exec Session - Providing student financial literacy education.

Civil Rights & Judiciary (House) - Virtual - 2/22 @ 10:00am

- [SB 5596](#) - Public Hearing - Conforming disclosure restrictions for mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers to the requirements of the Uniform Health Care Information Act.

Ways & Means (Senate) - Virtual - 2/22 @ 4:00pm

- [SHB 1590](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning enrollment stabilization funding to address enrollment declines due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [2SHB 1664](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning prototypical school formulas for physical, social, and emotional support in schools.
- [ESHB 1699](#) - Exec Session - Permitting individuals retired from the public employees retirement system, the teachers retirement system, and the school employees retirement system additional opportunities to work for a school district for up to 1,040 hours per school year while in receipt of pension benefits until July 1, 2025.

College & Workforce Development (House) - Virtual - 2/23 @ 8:00am

- [E2SSB 5600](#) - Exec Session - Concerning the sustainability and expansion of state registered apprenticeship programs.
- [SSB 5644](#) - Exec Session - Concerning providing quality behavioral health co-response services.

Civil Rights & Judiciary (House) - Virtual - 2/23 @ 10:00am

- [SB 5596](#) - Exec Session - Conforming disclosure restrictions for mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers to the requirements of the Uniform Health Care Information Act.

Education (House) - Virtual - 2/24 @ 10:00am

- [SSB 5376](#) - Exec Session - Promoting awareness of the governor's office of the education ombuds.
- [SSB 5594](#) - Exec Session - Concerning public school instruction in awareness of bone marrow donation.
- [2SSB 5720](#) - Exec Session - Providing student financial literacy education.

Behavioral Health Subcommittee to Health & Long Term Care (Senate) - Virtual - 2/24 @ 12:30pm

- [SHB 1800](#) - Exec Session - Increasing access to behavioral health services for minors.
- [2SHB 1890](#) - Exec Session - Concerning the children and youth behavioral health work group.

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
E2SHB 1162 High school graduation Concerning high school graduation credit and pathway options.	S EL/K-12	Stonier
SHB 1590 Enrollment stabilization Concerning enrollment stabilization funding to address enrollment declines due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	S Ways & Means	Dolan
HB 1601 Student homelessness pilot Expanding the students experiencing homelessness and foster youth pilot program.	H Approps	Leavitt
HB 1611 Highly capable students	S EL/K-12	Dolan

Advancing equity in programs for highly capable students.

<u>2SHB 1664</u>	Schools/support funding Concerning prototypical school formulas for physical, social, and emotional support in schools.	S Ways & Means	Rule
<u>ESHB 1699</u>	Work in retirement/schools Permitting individuals retired from the public employees retirement system, the teachers retirement system, and the school employees retirement system additional opportunities to work for a school district for up to 1,040 hours per school year while in receipt of pension benefits until July 1, 2025.	S Ways & Means	Bergquist
<u>SHB 1746</u>	Students/COVID-19 pandemic Updating the 2015 report and recommendations for supporting student success through measuring and mitigating community risk and protective predictors since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic.	S EL/K-12	Ortiz-Self
<u>SHB 1759</u>	School websites/drug info. Requiring school districts and other public education entities to make information from the department of health about substance use trends, overdose symptoms and response, and the secure storage of prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, and firearms and ammunition, available through their websites and other communication resources.	S EL/K-12	Callan
<u>E2SHB 1760</u>	Dual credit program access Expanding access to dual credit programs.	S Ways & Means	Paul
<u>SHB 1791</u>	Prof. educator reprimands Concerning reprimands for professional educators.	H 2nd Reading	Harris
<u>SHB 1800</u>	Behavioral health/minors Increasing access to behavioral health services for minors.	S Behavioral Heal	Eslick
<u>HB 1805 (SB 5797)</u>	Opportunity scholarship prog Concerning the opportunity scholarship program.	S Ways & Means	Paul
<u>HB 1834</u>	Student absences/mental hlth Concerning student excused absences for mental health reasons.	S EL/K-12	Callan
<u>HB 1836</u>	Scholarships/disadv. groups Awarding academic scholarships to members of underprivileged or disadvantaged groups.	H Civil R & Judi	Shewmake
<u>SHB 1867</u>	Dual credit program data Concerning dual credit program data.	S EL/K-12	Paul

<u>HB 1883</u>	Youth lifeline Establishing a lifeline for youth and young adults who have experienced or are at risk of entering into public systems of care.	H Children, Yout	Chopp
<u>2SHB 1890</u>	Children behavioral health Concerning the children and youth behavioral health work group.	S Behavioral Heal	Callan
<u>HB 1900</u>	Schools/discrimination, etc. Improving school districts' responses to complaints of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying.	H Education	Senn
<u>SHB 1941</u>	Active shooter drills Prohibiting active shooter scenarios for school safety-related drills.	S EL/K-12	Walen
<u>HB 1985 (2SSB 5595)</u>	Schools/support funding Concerning prototypical school formulas for physical, social, and emotional support in schools.	H Education	Dolan
<u>HB 2000</u>	OSPI basic education funds Clarifying the duty of the superintendent of public instruction to distribute federal and state basic education funds.	H Approps	Rule
<u>HB 2011</u>	Skill center funding Funding for skill center students for classes in sending school districts with less than 3,000 students and significant participation in skill centers.	H Approps	Rule
<u>HB 2014 (SB 5905)</u>	Outdoor school Establishing the outdoor school for all program.	H Education	Rule
<u>HB 2041</u>	Health care for minors Concerning greater consistency in the provision of health care services for minors under the age of 16.	H HC/Wellness	Walsh
<u>HB 2053</u>	Behavioral health work group Creating a behavioral health work group to study the root causes of rising behavioral health issues in Washington communities.	H HC/Wellness	Dent
<u>HB 2056</u>	K-12 instructional materials Promoting academic transparency in public schools.	H Education	Steele
	Outdoor learning grant prg.	S Ways & Means	Rule

[2SHB 2078 \(SB 5925\)](#) Establishing the outdoor school for all program.

HJR 4200 (Dead)	School district bonds Amending the Constitution to allow a simple majority of voters voting to authorize school district bonds.	H Cap Budget	Stonier
SB 5043 (Dead)	School employee housing Providing housing to school district employees.	S Rules X	Salomon
2SSB 5147 (Dead)	Learning stabilization, etc. Exploring alternative school calendars.	S Rules X	Hawkins
2SSB 5327	Youth safety tip line Creating a confidential youth safety and well-being tip line.	S Rules X	Brown
SSB 5376	Education ombuds awareness Promoting awareness of the governor's office of the education ombuds.	H Education	Wilson
SB 5536	Collaborative school govern. Establishing a collaborative school-based governance model.	S EL/K-12	Hasegawa
SSB 5537	Compulsory school attendance Changing compulsory school attendance requirements for children five, six, and seven years of age.	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SSB 5553	Early STEM metrics Providing data regarding early STEM metrics in the STEM education report card.	H CYFDP	Wilson
SSB 5563 (SHB 1590)	Enrollment stabilization Concerning enrollment stabilization funding to address enrollment declines due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	S Rules X	Wellman
SSB 5594	Bone marrow donation aware. Concerning public school instruction in awareness of bone marrow donation.	H Education	Short
2SSB 5595 (HB 1985)	Schools/support funding Concerning prototypical school formulas for physical, social, and emotional support in schools.	S Rules X	Wellman
SB 5596	Health info. disclosure	H Civil R & Judi	Trudeau

Conforming disclosure restrictions for mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers to the requirements of the Uniform Health Care Information Act.

<u>E2SSB 5600</u>	Apprenticeship programs Concerning the sustainability and expansion of state registered apprenticeship programs.	H Coll & Wkf Dev	Keiser
<u>SB 5601 (HB 1986)</u>	School district boards Empowering school district boards of directors.	S EL/K-12	Short
<u>SB 5630</u>	Early learning/basic ed. Expanding the statutory program of basic education to include the basic education program of early learning.	S EL/K-12	Hasegawa
<u>SSB 5638</u>	Mental health prof. licenses Concerning expediting approval for applicants for an associate license as a social worker, mental health counselor, or marriage and family therapist.	H HC/Wellness	Wagoner
<u>SSB 5644</u>	Behavioral health coresponse Concerning providing quality behavioral health co-response services	H Coll & Wkf Dev	Wagoner
<u>SSB 5719</u>	Dual credit costs Concerning dual credit costs.	S Ways & Means	Mullet
<u>2SSB 5720</u>	Student financial literacy Providing student financial literacy education.	H Education	Mullet
<u>SB 5735</u>	Async. instructional hours Counting asynchronous instructional hours towards those required by the instructional program of basic education.	S EL/K-12	Dhingra
<u>SB 5777</u>	COVID-19 vaccine/children Addressing the vaccination for COVID-19 requirement for children attending schools or day care centers.	S EL/K-12	Braun
<u>SB 5820</u>	Superintendent, appointing Appointing the superintendent of public instruction.	S EL/K-12	Carlyle
<u>SB 5854</u>	Faculty duties/ethics Concerning ethical performance of faculty duties.	H Coll & Wkf Dev	Randall

<u>SB 5858</u>	Education/parent rights Establishing parents' bill of rights related to their child's public education.	S EL/K-12	Dozier
<u>SSB 5883</u>	Homeless youth/health care Concerning an unaccompanied homeless youth's ability to provide informed consent for that minor patient's own health care, including nonemergency, outpatient, and primary care services, including physical examinations, vision examinations and eyeglasses, dental examinations, hearing examinations and hearing aids, immunizations, treatments for illnesses and conditions, and routine follow-up care customarily provided by a health care provider in an outpatient setting, excluding elective surgeries.	H Children, Youth	Trudeau
<u>SB 5902</u>	High school grad. credits Concerning the implementation of high school graduation credit requirements.	S EL/K-12	Wellman
<u>SB 5905</u> (HB 2014)	Outdoor school Establishing the outdoor school for all program.	S EL/K-12	Hunt
<u>SB 5922</u>	K-12 education funding Concerning K-12 education funding.	S EL/K-12	Braun
<u>SB 5925</u> (2SHB 2078)	Outdoor school Establishing the outdoor school for all program.	S EL/K-12	Hunt