

WSCA Legislative Session Report

January 23rd (Week 2)

General Update

Last week was another busy week filled with committee hearings on bills and some floor action in both chambers on early action bills, including the delay of the Washington Cares Fund, the state's long-term care program created by 2019 legislation and funded by a new payroll tax. A number of logistical and policy concerns arose as the roll-out of this new program drew near, and Governor Inslee and legislative leadership agreed to introduce and support legislation that would delay implementation to give time to work out these details. On two bipartisan votes, the House passed HB 1732, delaying implementation of Washington Cares until July, 2023 and HB 1733, establishing exemptions for certain veterans, spouses and registered domestic partners of military service members, nonimmigrant temporary workers, and employees who work in Washington and maintain a primary residence outside of Washington. House Republicans attempted to bring up their own long-term care bills through procedural motions, including a bill that would repeal the underlying program, but motions failed. Several Republican amendments were offered, including one that would require voter approval, but all were rejected or ruled out of order. [This 18-month proposed delay](#) is on the fast track, with the House voting the bill off their Floor Wednesday. According to Senate Majority Leader Andy Billig, the Senate should do the same by the end of next week.

On Friday, the House Education Committee passed HB 1664, which increases minimum allocations for nurses, social workers, psychologists, and counselors within the prototypical school funding model. The bill also direct OSPI to adopt rules that require school districts to prioritize funding allocated for physical, social, and emotional support staff who hold a valid educational staff associate certificate appropriate for the provider's role. In a surprise move, Democrats on the committee accepted an amendment from Rep. Jim Walsh (R-19) that requires every school in the state to have at least one school counselor and nurse. This requirement is unlikely to remain in the bill once it moves through the Appropriations Committee because of the unfunded requirement for all schools. Only three committee members voted against the bill.

955 bills have been introduced so far this session (501 in the House and 454 in the Senate). The pace of new bills being introduced slowed dramatically this week and the first cutoff of session is less than two weeks away on February 3rd. Bills must be voted out of the policy committee in their house of origin by that date or they will be considered dead, unless they are deemed "Necessary to Implement the Budget" (more on NTIB later). This means there is a great sense of urgency to get bills heard and voted out of committee quickly. A majority of bills will not make it past the first cutoff.

Last Monday was Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. In normal times, this is a big day for advocates to come to Olympia. Session doesn't stop for holidays (or weekends), so on holidays the Capitol campus would always be crowded with big hearings and lobby days. Even though that bustle on the campus doesn't happen in virtual session, the legislature still took time to honor Dr. King on his birthday, with both chambers passing resolutions ([SR 8634](#) and [HR 4635](#)) during floor sessions dedicated to Dr. King, his legacy and his call for action ([Senate Floor Session Honoring Dr. King](#) and [House Floor Session](#)).

On Thursday, we marked the second anniversary of the first case of COVID-19 confirmed in our state and the nation. Dr. John Wiesman, the former Secretary of Health(DOH) in Washington State, reflects on the

moment the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed here in Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO's) [podcast](#). According to DOH Secretary of Health Umair Shah, "We have now identified over one million cases in the state of Washington and have sadly lost over ten thousand lives."

[Click here](#) to watch this week's TVW Week in Review, which provides a good wrap-up of the past week in Olympia.

Upcoming Events

Early Learning & K-12 Education (Senate) - Virtual - 1/24 @ 1:30pm

SB 5902 - Public Hearing - Concerning the implementation of high school graduation credit requirements.
SB 5925 - Public Hearing - Establishing the outdoor school for all program.

Education (House) - Virtual - 1/25 @ 8:00am

HB 1611 - Public Hearing - Advancing equity in programs for highly capable students.
HB 1760 - Public Hearing - Expanding access to dual credit programs.
HB 1867 - Public Hearing - Concerning dual credit program data.
HB 2078 - Public Hearing - Establishing the outdoor school for all program.

Appropriations (House) - Virtual - 1/25 @ 3:30pm

HB 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 - 1/26 @ 8:00am

HB 1805 - Exec Session - Concerning the opportunity scholarship program.

State Government & Elections (Senate) - Virtual - 1/26 @ 8:00am

SB 5854 - Public Hearing - Concerning ethical performance of faculty duties.

Education (House) - Virtual - 1/27 @ 1:30pm

HB 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.

HB 1900 - Public Hearing - Improving school districts' responses to complaints of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying.

HB 1941 - Public Hearing - Prohibiting active shooter scenarios for school safety-related drills.

Early Learning & K-12 Education (Senate) - Virtual - 1/28 @ 8:00am

SB 5537 - Exec Session - Changing compulsory school attendance requirements for children five, six, and seven years of age.

SB 5594 - Exec Session - Concerning public school instruction in awareness of bone marrow donation.

Education (House) - Virtual - 1/28 @ 10:00am

HB 1611 - Exec Session - Advancing equity in programs for highly capable students.

HB 1760 - Exec Session - Expanding access to dual credit programs.

HB 1791 - Public Hearing - Concerning reprimands for professional educators.

HB 1867 - Exec Session - Concerning dual credit program data.

Behavioral Health Subcommittee to Health & Long Term Care (Senate) - Virtual - 1/28 @ 10:30am

SB 5644 - Exec Session - Concerning providing quality behavioral health co-response services.

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
<u>SHB 1162</u> High school graduation Concerning high school graduation credit and pathway options.	Passed, H Education	Stonier
<u>HB 1590</u> <u>(SB 5563)</u> Enrollment stabilization Concerning enrollment stabilization funding to address enrollment declines due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	H Approps	Dolan
<u>HB 1601</u> Student homelessness pilot Expanding the students experiencing homelessness and foster youth pilot program.	H Approps	Leavitt
<u>HB 1611</u> Highly capable students Advancing equity in programs for highly capable students.	H Education	Dolan
<u>HB 1664</u> Schools/support funding Concerning prototypical school formulas for physical, social, and emotional support in schools.	H Exec Action	Rule
<u>HB 1699</u> Work in retirement/schools	H Approps	Bergquist

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.

<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.	H EDDPS	Ortiz-Self
<u>HB 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.	H Education	Callan
<u>HB 1760</u>	Dual credit program access Expanding access to dual credit programs.	H Education	Paul
<u>HB 1791</u>	Prof. educator reprimands Concerning reprimands for professional educators.	H Education	Harris
<u>SHB 1800</u>	Behavioral health/minors Increasing access to behavioral health services for minors.	H CYFDPS	Eslick
<u>HB 1805</u> (SB 5797)	Opportunity scholarship prog Concerning the opportunity scholarship program.	H Coll & Wkf Dev	Paul
<u>HB 1834</u>	Student absences/mental hlth Concerning student excused absences for mental health reasons.	H Education	Callan
<u>HB 1836</u>	Scholarships/disadv. groups Awarding academic scholarships to members of underprivileged or disadvantaged groups.	H Civil R & Judi	Shewmake
<u>HB 1867</u>	Dual credit program data Concerning dual credit program data.	H Education	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>SHB 1890</u>	Children behavioral health	H CYFDPS	Callan

Concerning the children and youth behavioral health work group.

<u>HB 1900</u>	Schools/discrimination, etc. Improving school districts' responses to complaints of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying.	H Education	Senn
<u>HB 1941</u>	Active shooter drills Prohibiting active shooter scenarios for school safety-related drills.	H Education	Walen
<u>HB 1985</u> (SSB 5595)	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</u> (SB 5905)	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
<u>HB 2078</u> (SB 5925)	Outdoor school Establishing the outdoor school for all program.	H Education	Rule
<u>HJR 4200</u> (Dead)	School district bonds Amending the Constitution to allow a simple majority of voters voting to authorize school district bonds.	H Education	Stonier

<u>SB 5043</u> (Dead)	School employee housing Providing housing to school district employees.	S 3rd Reading	Salomon
<u>2SSB 5147</u> (Dead)	Learning stabilization, etc. Exploring alternative school calendars.	S Rules X	Hawkins
<u>2SSB 5327</u>	Youth safety tip line Creating a confidential youth safety and well-being tip line.	S Rules X	Brown
<u>SSB 5376</u>	Education ombuds awareness Promoting awareness of the governor's office of the education ombuds.	H Education	Wilson
<u>SB 5536</u>	Collaborative school govern. Establishing a collaborative school-based governance model.	S EL/K-12	Hasegawa
<u>SB 5537</u>	Compulsory school attendance Changing compulsory school attendance requirements for children five, six, and seven years of age.	S EL/K-12	Wellman
<u>SSB 5553</u>	Early STEM metrics Providing data regarding early STEM metrics in the STEM education report card.	S EDUDPS	Wilson
<u>SB 5563</u> (HB 1590)	Enrollment stabilization Concerning enrollment stabilization funding to address enrollment declines due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	S RecComm	Wellman
<u>SB 5594</u>	Bone marrow donation aware. Concerning public school instruction in awareness of bone marrow donation.	S EL/K-12	Short
<u>SSB 5595</u> (HB 1985)	Schools/support funding Concerning prototypical school formulas for physical, social, and emotional support in schools.	S Ways & Means	Wellman
<u>SB 5596</u>	Health info. disclosure Conforming disclosure restrictions for mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers to the requirements of the Uniform Health Care Information Act.	S BHDP	Trudeau
<u>SB 5600</u>	Apprenticeship programs Concerning the sustainability and expansion of state registered apprenticeship programs.	S Labor, Comm &	Keiser
	School district boards	S EL/K-12	Short

[SB 5601](#)**(HB
1986)**

Empowering school district boards of directors.

SB 5630	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
SB 5638	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.	S Behavioral Hea	Wagoner
SB 5644	Behavioral health coresponse Concerning providing quality behavioral health co-response services	S Behavioral Hea	Wagoner
SSB 5719	Dual credit costs Concerning dual credit costs.	S RecComm	Mullet
SB 5720	Student financial literacy Providing student financial literacy education.	S EL/K-12	Mullet
SB 5735	Async. instructional hours Counting asynchronous instructional hours towards those required by the instructional program of basic education.	S EL/K-12	Dhingra
SB 5777	COVID-19 vaccine/children Addressing the vaccination for COVID-19 requirement for children attending schools or day care centers.	S EL/K-12	Braun
SB 5820	Superintendent, appointing Appointing the superintendent of public instruction.	S EL/K-12	Carlyle
SB 5854	Faculty duties/ethics Concerning ethical performance of faculty duties.	S State Govt & El	Randall
SB 5858	Education/parent rights Establishing parents' bill of rights related to their child's public education.	S EL/K-12	Dozier
SB 5883	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	S Law & Justice	Trudeau

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.

<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> (HB 2078)	Outdoor school Establishing the outdoor school for all program.	S EL/K-12	Hunt
