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Week 8 – February 27–March 3, 2017

This Week in Review

About TWIO

This Week in Olympia is emailed to active WASA and AEA members each Friday during the Legislative Session and is posted on WASA's website at <https://wasa-oly.org/TWIO>.

Following last week's fiscal committee "[cut-off](#)" [deadline](#) almost all of the legislative action took place in the House and Senate Chambers, as legislators attempted to adopt priority bills before next week's house of origin cut-off. All Senate bills must be out of the Senate and all House bills must be out of the House by Wednesday, March 8, 5:00 p.m. in order to stay alive. The caveats remain: budgets and bills considered "Necessary to Implement the Budget" are exempt from these early deadlines—and there continue to be numerous procedural maneuvers available to revive dead bills. The general rule of thumb in Olympia is simple: if you have the votes, you can waive almost any legislative rule.

With both the policy committee cut-off and the fiscal committee cut-off passed, the list of viable bills has been pared down considerably. After next week's cut-off, the list of priority bills will come into even greater focus. Numerous bills in both chambers are facing little opposition, with many passing unanimously or with token opposition by just a few legislators. You would think most of those bills stand a great chance of passing the other body and then being sent to the governor's desk for action. It's never quite that simple, however. Interests opposing those bills will ramp up their efforts to defeat bills they don't like and, often times, the clock simply runs short on even the most mild, non-controversial bills. It is also important to remember that the two houses operate—and think—differently. Outside of Olympia, the talk is usually about the fights between Democrats and Republicans. True, partisan spats are common, but sometimes the nastiest fights occur between the House and the Senate or between the Legislature and the governor. So, a bill passing 98–0 in the House has no guarantee the bill will pass—or even be heard—in the Senate. Many Senate bills adopted with no dissenting votes will face the same fate in the House.

Because the majority of the action was on the House or Senate Floors (or in the respective partisan caucuses), few legislative committees met this week. The Senate Ways & Means Committee, however, held a public hearing on the most recent Education Funding Plan, introduced by moderate Democrats in the Senate. (More on that below.)

Next week, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, only two committees are scheduled to meet. On Thursday and Friday, most legislative committees resume their regular schedules; however, at this point, many of them have agendas "to be determined" as

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they wait for bills to be adopted by the opposite house. Both education committees will meet and both have published agendas. On Thursday, March 9, the House Education Committee will hold a work session on Alternative Education Options and will also hear two house bills dealing with options: [HB 1215](#), Innovation Schools; and [HB 1705](#), Flexibility Schools. Both bills are technically dead and are unlikely to move, but could set up further discussions for the interim and/or next session—and possibly for inclusion in a final Education Funding Plan (although at this point is less likely). Also on Thursday, the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee will hold a work session on K–12 School Funding. It is unclear if this work session will provide additional details about the Education Funding Plans currently on the table, or if this will be a more general review of K–12 funding. Depending on the focus of the hearing, it perhaps could provide a bit of a guide to where the Senate Majority ultimately hopes to land in a final, compromise Education Funding Plan. We will keep you posted.

Education Funding Plans

Not surprisingly, the Education Funding Plans continued to be a hot topic, with some public—and some behind-the-scenes—activities. First the behind-the-scenes issue. It is our understanding that, while the House and Senate have not yet begun any official negotiations on a final Education Funding Plan, members of the Education Funding Task Force have begun regular meetings. There’s been no word, yet, on any progress and any real movement seems unlikely anytime soon; however, the fact that at least a few key legislators feel the need to, at the minimum, come together and talk is certainly positive. It is more than likely that none of these members can or would be authorized to speak on behalf of their caucuses, but if these folks can build some consensus on some of the big picture issues, a bit of momentum could be built and that would be very positive.

This week’s major public action was the Senate Ways & Means hearing on [SB 5825](#) and [SJR 8207](#), discussed below. The other action related to education funding was a continuation of an action made by the Senate Ways & Means Committee this past Friday. On February 24, amid a flurry of activity hearing and adopting bills before the fiscal committee cut-off (and after we had published last week’s *TWIO*), the Committee moved [SB 5111](#), [SB 5113](#), and [SB 5127](#). Each bill was requested by Governor Inslee and are included in his 2017–19 Operating Budget proposal presented to the Legislature in December. SB 5111 is the governor’s Capital Gains Tax proposal, which would impose a 7.9 percent tax on individuals. It is estimated to raise \$821 million in 2017–19, increasing to \$1.8 billion in 2019–21. SB 5113 would increase the current B&O service tax rate from 1.5 percent to 2.5 percent, while also increasing the small business tax credit threshold to protect smaller businesses. The bill is projected to raise \$2.1 billion in 2017–19. SB 5127 would impose a Carbon Tax on fossil fuel production and on electricity generated by fossil fuels. The initial tax would be \$25 per metric ton of carbon emissions, increasing 3.5 percent (plus inflation) per year. It is expected to raise \$1.8 billion in 2017–19, increasing to \$2.3 billion per year by 2023.

The three bills, if adopted, would increase taxes by approximately \$30 billion over the next ten years, so it was strange to see Senate Republicans, who have vocally opposed tax increases (excepting their proposed \$2.0 billion property tax increase for [SB 5607](#)), to take action on these bills. Even if it wasn’t strange to move the bills to executive session, it WAS strange what occurred during executive session. Rather than debate the bills and vote on them—which would have been an easy slam-dunk for the Majority Republicans to defeat each bill—the motion presented was to refer each bill to the Senate Rules Committee “without recommendation.” On occasion a bill ends up in an inappropriate Committee and the bill can either be tanked, or it can be moved out of the Committee “without recommendation.” Essentially this is just a re-referral. That is not what happened to these bills, however. They weren’t simply moved to another Committee, they were sent to the Rules Committee, setting them up for Floor Action by the full Senate. In fact,

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at its first opportunity (on Monday), the Rules Committee quickly moved the three bills to the Senate's Second Reading Calendar, making them eligible for amendment and debate (followed by Third Reading and Final Passage) at any time.

The public rationale for this action, posited by Senator John Braun (R-Centralia), Chair of the Ways & Means Committee, was that the Senate has been waiting for weeks for the House to adopt a *McCleary* education proposal, along with funding. But because the House "chose to adopt a policy, but no way to fund it," Braun felt it was appropriate to move the bills to the Senate Floor to "move along negotiations." This is a nice theory, however, the move clearly had two strategies. Barring some mind-altering cataclysmic disaster in the Senate Republican Caucus, the likelihood of the Senate adopting a package of bills to raise \$30 billion is beyond laughable. So, the first strategy is simple: Publicly reiterate the Caucus objection to tax increases by voting down each of the three bills (presumably along with a series of TV soundbites, clever metaphors, and fancy anecdotes). The second obvious strategy is move devious (and political): Forcing Senate Democrats to stand up and vote for the taxes. This strategy puts Minority Democrats in a box. Either they vote 'No' and Republicans will accuse them of not being serious about supporting revenue; or they vote 'Yes' (with no possible way to reach the necessary 25 votes for passage) and hand the Republicans a huge campaign present.

Democrats objected to acting on the bills without a public hearing; however, the Republicans countered that Governor Inslee's budget request ([SB 5048](#)) received a hearing (on the third day of the session) and his tax proposals were well-known. Even so, the actual bills (SB 5111, SB 5113, SB 5127) had not been introduced at the time of that hearing. Each Republican member of the Committee voted to move the bills to Rules without recommendation. All of the Democrats, lacking an opportunity for a public hearing, lacking the ability to debate the issues, and not being able to register their support or opposition to the bills, refused to sign the sheet.

When the Rules Committee moved to advance the bills to the Second Reading Calendar, Democrats again objected and requested a rare roll call vote. All Republicans supported the move and all Democrats voted against the move. Following the Rules Committee action, Senator Andy Billig (D-Spokane) stated this was political theater and was "just voting for taxes for the sake of taxes." He argued that the governor proposed the taxes to pay for his proposed education plan, but the Senate has not voted on that education package. Senator Mark Schoesler (R-Ritzville), Majority Leader, publicly argued that the Ways & Means Committee and the Rules Committee actions are appropriate, saying: "This is just request legislation that deserves its rightful place on the Senate Calendar." If that's true, it is interesting to note that there are 21 bills in the Senate requested by Governor Inslee or his budget office, the Office of Financial Management. Including the three tax proposals, only six of these 21 bills have been adopted by a Senate Committee and advanced to the Rules Committee. If request legislation has a 'rightful place' on the Calendar, what happened to the other 15 bills?

Part of the reason for mentioning this is to remind you of something we presented in an earlier *TWIO*. We are halfway through this session and reaching a point where the two houses should be coming closer together in order to negotiate on and advance a final, compromise Education Funding Plan. These kinds of actions, however, drive the parties and the two houses further apart, making it even more difficult to work together productively. As noted before, we seem to be moving farther away, rather than closer to, the light at the end of the tunnel.

Moderate Senate Democrats

On Monday morning, the Senate Ways & Means Committee held a public hearing on the third legislatively produced Education Funding Plan, [SB 5825](#); the Committee took testimony on a [Proposed Substitute](#) version of the bill. Introduced by three of the

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Senate's moderate Democrats, the bill was introduced as a "third" way to address the required *McCleary* fix. Senator Mark Mullet (D-Issaquah), prime sponsor of the bill, believes his bill can be a bridge between the House and Senate plans ([HB 1843](#) and [SB 5607](#), respectively).

More details on the bill are available in the [February 17 edition](#) of *TWIO*, but the heart of his plan would: make local school district levies permanent, locking in place current rates; and double state funding of Local Effort Assistance (from \$765 million to \$1.5 billion per biennium) to support property poor districts. (Heard along with SB 5825 was [SJR 8207](#), a constitutional amendment to exempt regular local school district property taxes from the current one percent tax rate limitation—an action necessary if school district levies are made permanent or “regular.”) Sen. Mullet has stated he prefers his plan to the Senate Republican plan because “schools get more money and it costs the state less.” Committee staff has not yet done a fiscal analysis of the bill, so it is unclear how true this statement might be.

Understanding the need for revenue, Mullet has introduced legislation to serve as a revenue source, [SB 5855](#). The bill would adopt retail sales nexus standards, requiring retail sales tax collection by remote sellers selling into Washington. Said another way, internet sales from companies that do not have a physical presence in Washington State would begin to be required to collect sales tax. The proceeds from this new “internet sales tax” would not be dedicated to education; however, the funds are estimated to be sufficient to support Sen. Mullet’s proposal. He also introduced a similar bill, [SB 5856](#), which would dedicate the proceeds to housing and public assistance programs. Neither bill has been heard or otherwise acted upon.

In testimony, WASA signed in as “other” on SB 5825 (as we did on SB 5607 and HB 1843), noting that there are pieces of the plan we would support, areas which we would oppose, and several areas in which we simply do not have enough information or analysis to state an opinion. We stated we were appreciative of having an additional option on the table and stressed that it was our hope that this plan (or perhaps some other forthcoming plan) could assist in breaking the logjam between the two houses. In addition to some of the specific points we made about the bill, we reminded legislators that the constitutional paramount duty and Supreme Court orders mandate basic education funding to be “ample” and—like the other current plans—it was unclear if this plan reached that necessary bar. We also reminded Committee members that school administrators and school business officials stand at the ready to assist legislators as they strive to craft a bill that: both the House and Senate can adopt; the Court will accept; and works for our students and school districts.

It does not seem very likely that this plan would be the final Education Funding Plan ultimately adopted by this Legislature; however, individual pieces of this plan could be picked up and inserted into a final package. Until legislators begin to negotiate—or at least discuss their options—all ideas are possibilities.

Levy Cliff Update

This week, there was little discussion of the Levy Cliff and no new news. We continue to reiterate how important it is keep the heat up on this issue. There is no legitimate reason for the Legislature to delay action to postpone the Levy Cliff—unless you consider political expediency to be legitimate. It seems clear the Levy Cliff will be used as leverage in Education Funding Plan negotiations. Legislators need to hear your “stories” about what the Levy Cliff means to your school districts. And they need to know what the Legislature’s lack of action means to your district right now. Not all school districts will be issuing “pink slips” to teachers, but every school district with a levy is being impacted. If your district won’t be sending RIF notices to staff, you’re still likely diverting limited

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staff resources to draft dual budgets and teachers in your district are likely worried what falling over the Levy Cliff means to them. Many districts are in the process of going to career fairs, hoping to hire new teachers—at the same time it is unclear how much funding your district may have. This is difficult for the school districts, but must be disconcerting to prospective teachers. Thank you for your efforts thus far; please continue your contacts—urge legislators to address the Levy Cliff NOW and not wait until April.

Town Hall Days

As we reported previously, Saturday, March 11, 2017, has been set aside by legislators as a “Town Hall Day.” Many legislators will be in their home districts for meetings with constituents. This is an excellent chance to engage with your local legislators. Negotiations on Education Funding Plans (hopefully) should be underway soon and 2017–19 Operating Budget proposals will likely be released in the next few weeks, so this will be a timely opportunity to remind legislators about your concerns. To prepare, see WASA’s [2017 Legislative Platform talking points](#) and the [Local Funding Workgroup’s Prioritized “To-Do” List](#). Also, utilize the Hot Topics (both the [large, background paper](#) and the [small summary paper](#)) from this year’s WASA/WSSDA/WASBO Legislative Conference.

You are encouraged to attend your legislators’ Town Hall meetings and express your opinion. If your legislators have been receptive and/or supportive of your issues, express your thanks—and confirm their support. Know that there will be constituents in attendance who either have not heard your message or may disagree with your message. Don’t stay at home and let those detractors capture your legislators’ attention. On the other hand, if your legislators have been less-than-supportive of your education opinions, don’t let them win by default by avoiding their meetings. You can be sure that will simply harden their own opinion and will excuse their lack of support by saying they never heard from educators. Don’t make it that easy for them.

We do not have a comprehensive Town Hall schedule; however, an updated list has been released by both the [House Democratic Caucus](#) and the [Senate Democratic Caucus](#). Neither Republican Caucus has released a Town Hall schedule; however, at least a few of their members do have meetings scheduled. If you don’t see your legislator listed, or if you are represented by Republicans, you are encouraged to [contact them](#) to inquire whether they will be hosting an event.

Please note that not all legislators will hold a Town Hall meeting, and even if they do, it may be scheduled on a different day. Some legislators, in fact, have already held Town Halls; others have been utilizing “Telephone” Town Halls. Legislators are not required to hold Town Hall meetings and are not required to hold their meetings during this specific designated day.

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AEA

By Mitch Denning

With the deadline for house of origin bills coming next Wednesday, AEA focused this week on watching how our priority bills are faring, so our *TWIO* article this week will focus on two important AEA bills which both passed their respective houses of origin.

First on the House side, last night, an amended version of [2SHB 1508](#), WA Ready to Learn Act of 2017, passed the House, 90–8; it now goes to Senate Early Learning/K–12. There were four floor amendments which passed, sponsored by two Republican lawmakers. In summary form, Rep. Mike Steele’s (R-Lake Chelan) first amendment eliminated any reference to the elimination of the pre–K and 4–12 reduced price lunch copay, and saved the fiscal side of the bill about \$2.5M per year. His second amendment, subject to funding, refocused the efforts of the WA State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) in expanding the farm-to-school program, with coordination from OSPI. This program, mentioned in the original bill, is a successful partnership between school districts and small, direct marketing farm programs.

Two other amendments, both sponsored by Rep. Drew Stokesbary (R-Auburn), deal first with the direction to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) to validate in 2025 the effects of Breakfast After the Bell (BAB) programs on changes in students’ (a) tardiness and absenteeism; (b) suspensions; (c) reported illnesses and visits to the nurses’ offices; (d) standardized test results and (e) graduation rates. This is a new provision not found in the original bill.

Rep. Stokesbary’s second amendment eliminates the BAB Lighthouse Project for BAB best practices’ information dissemination and transfers a general obligation to OSPI to share successful BAB experiences of schools of differing sizes and different geographic regions with interested school districts.

Remaining in the bill is WSNA’s amendment passed by the House Education Committee which directs schools, when feasible, to give preference to using WA-grown foods in developing BAB menus. Also remaining in the bill is Rep. Caldier’s sugar amendment, with which WSNA disagrees, and which we discussed in last week’s *TWIO*.

WAMOA is pleased that [2SSB 5702](#), improving state funding for school construction, modernization and asset preservation, passed the Senate yesterday. Following the adoption of a simple floor amendment, which directs the leaders of both houses’ majority and minority parties, rather than the House Speaker and the Senate President, to appoint members of the Joint Legislative Task Force on Improving State Funding for School Construction, the amended bill was sent to the House, 49–0. Details of the bill were also discussed in last week’s *TWIO*.

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Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey – The Nexus Group

“Struggle and Strife Come Before Success; Even in the Dictionary”

Anonymous

Legislative floor action has dominated this week’s activities. I’ve heard persons say that watching floor action is often akin to watching paint dry. Either body takes the floor, recesses for long periods for private caucuses among their party members and then reconvenes to vote on bills for which there is little, if any, disagreement. The ‘hot topic’, ‘big bills’ are put off until sometime in the future which in the case of both chambers is March 8, where bills have to have passed their houses of origin.

At the risk of repetition, it’s important to remember that even though some bills will not survive these cut off dates, if it is determined they are necessary to implement the budget (NTIB), then they live until the end of session. So the term ‘dead’ really doesn’t mean ‘dead’. Some bills may surface again to be used in bargaining the final solution.

Pension Related Proposals

[SB 5833](#) Addressing the minimum retirement allowance under the teachers’ retirement system, Plan 1.

This bill would increase the lowest monthly pensions for those in TRS 1. The minimum pension that anyone with 30 years’ service would receive is \$1,725/month versus the current. \$1,650. This base will increase 3% per year forward. (Technically, the increase is to \$57.53/month per year of service). For those receiving the alternative minimum benefit, (currently \$1,791), they will receive an increase to \$1,872.48 with annual 3% increase in the following years. The alternative benefit is for those who have been retired for 20–25 years. This would take effect August 1, 2017.

Status: This bill is on the Senate floor calendar awaiting action.

[HB 1484](#) Providing an enhanced retirement benefit for public employees’ and teachers’ retirement system plans 1.

This bill would provide a one-time enhanced retirement benefit for TRS/PERS 1 Plans members to his/her monthly benefit of \$2 per year of earned service credit. As an example, for a retiree with 30 years, the increase would be \$720 or \$60/month.

Status: This bill has not moved, but efforts continue to be made to have it ruled NTIB so that legislators could take action if they desired.

[HB 1560](#) Addressing plan membership default provisions in the public employees’ retirement system, the teachers’ retirement system, and the school employees’ retirement system.

New employees currently have 90 days to select a pension plan. If they make no choice, they are defaulted/enrolled in Plan 3 (a hybrid defined contribution/defined benefit plan). This bill would make Plan 2 (a full defined benefit plan) the default plan if they make no selection.

Status: The bill was voted out of the House, 91–7, and has been passed to the Senate for committee scheduling. (Appropriations)

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Health Benefit Related Proposals

SB 5726 Addressing public school employee benefits.

This bill's intent is to provide public school employees with equitable access to quality and affordable health benefits through the state health care authority (HCA). The standard employee benefit plans would be only those available through the HCA/Public Employee Benefit Board (PEEB). If implemented it would ensure an orderly transition for the impacted districts, employees, and the state HCA by providing a transition period of up to three years.

The fiscal note is quite detailed. And a change of this magnitude would call for a leap into the unknown. How many new enrollees would there be? What would the rates be? What impact would any Federal actions have on insurance in general, including Medicare? How much more would it cost the state and employers? Etc.

Under the proposal working 630 hrs/week would qualify an employee for benefits (0.3 FTE). This could force some districts to open their benefit eligibility and increase the number of employees entitled to insurance. Some negotiated contracts, for example, have negotiated a higher hourly threshold that must be met in order for an employee to qualify for benefits. This could lower that threshold.

The fiscal note assumes that benefit dollars to districts would be increased to the state rate through negotiations with the Governor's Office. Currently, districts get \$780/FTE. State agencies, assuming the Governor's recent contract negotiations are funded, the state would receive an increase in benefit dollars to \$970/FTE in 2018 and \$1,029 in 2019. If the state benefit dollars do not increase to the state employee rate, districts could incur a substantial increase in their employee costs.

One potential positive to this proposal is that insurance rates would be uniform and somewhat predictable unlike the present situation where a district's rate depends on its history of claims. And districts across the state pay different rates that can vary year to year.

Two other aspects of the proposal to note: 1) The retiree remittance that a district 'rebates' back to the state would be eliminated by the move to PEBB, and 2) Pooling of benefit dollars would no longer be allowed.

If the legislature does not move the current bill in its present form, there is continuing sentiment to perhaps modify it to address the needs for classified employees for more affordable insurance, particularly since they are the lowest paid school employees.

Status: This bill was passed out of committee and is now in Rules.

SB 5653 Addressing the administration of the public employees' benefits program.

This bill transfers the administration of the Public Employees Benefit Board from the Health Care Authority (HCA) to the Department of Retirement Systems.

One statement made by a House member sums up the feelings many Republicans hold about the Health Care Authority. This was stated in reference to another bill being debated but is still germane to the point, "Don't move Behavioral Health from the shipwreck of DSHS to the train wreck of HCA."

Status: This bill is in Rules awaiting action.

Family and Medical Leave

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SHB 1116 Implementing Family and Medical Leave Insurance.

This bill would allow workers to care for family members with a serious health condition, to recover from their own serious health condition and/or to deal with exigencies arising out of the military service of a family member. It would require the employment security department to establish and administer a family and medical leave insurance program funded by a charge paid by both employers and employees in order to pay family and medical leave insurance benefits.

Status: This bill is now in Rules. There is substantial lobbying by various entities working this bill to have it moved to the House floor calendar, approved, and moved to the Senate. If this occurs, it is highly likely the Senate would not move the bill.

SHB 1434 The Washington state leave sharing program is modified. The purpose of the program is to permit state employees to come to the aid of a fellow state employee who is suffering from or has a relative or household member suffering from an extraordinary or severe illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition; a fellow state employee who is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking; a fellow state employee who is sick or temporarily disabled because of pregnancy disability or for the purpose of parental leave; or a fellow state employee who has been called to service in the uniformed services, which has caused or is likely to cause the employee to take leave without pay or terminate his or her employment.

The present shared leave program is expanded (See underlined section above). Employees are not required to deplete all of their annual and sick leave and may maintain 40 hours of annual and sick leave in reserve. School employees must maintain a personal balance of 22 days. Any excess could be shared. “Parental leave” is defined as leave to bond and care for a newborn child after birth or to bond and care for a child after placement for adoption or foster care, for a period of up to 16 weeks after the birth or placement. “Pregnancy disability” is defined as a pregnancy-related medical condition or miscarriage.

An all too common statement on the fiscal note reads: “Non-zero but indeterminate cost.” In fact to quote OFM, “We do not have any data on how much leave would be donated under the new provisions, so are unable to provide a cost estimate.”

The financial impact for school districts although unknown, can be doubled since districts must consider additional costs for substitutes, if used, to cover such employees on leave. This bill has an emergency clause and would take effect July 1, 2017.

Status: This bill passed the House, (68–30), and has been referred to the Senate for scheduling before the appropriate committee.

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

1:30–3:25 p.m.

Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education
Senate Hearing Room 1

House Education
House Hearing Room A

3:30–5:30 p.m.

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

Tuesdays

1:30–3:25 p.m.

Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education
Senate Hearing Room 1

House Education
House Hearing Room A

3:30–5:30 p.m.

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

Wednesdays

3:30–5:30 p.m.

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

Thursdays

8–9:55 a.m.

House Education
House Hearing Room A

1:30–3:25 p.m.

Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education
Senate Hearing Room 1

3:30–5:30 p.m.

Senate Ways & Means
Senate Hearing Room 4

House Appropriations
House Hearing Room A

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
<http://www.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 Cutoff Calendar

January 9, 2017

First Day of Session.

February 17, 2017

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

February 24, 2017

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

March 8, 2017

Last day to consider bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).

March 29, 2017

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

April 4, 2017

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

April 12, 2017*

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).

April 23, 2017

Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

*After the 94th day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, 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
HB 1005	Agency rule-making authority	H State Government	Taylor
HB 1006	The right to work	H Labor & Workplace	Shea
HB 1007	Religious objectors	H Labor & Workplace	Shea
HB 1011	Gender-segregated facilities	H Judiciary	Taylor
HB 1012	High school graduation/science test	H Education	Taylor
HB 1015	Carrying concealed pistols	H Judiciary	Shea
SHB 1017	School siting	H 2nd Reading	McCaslin
HB 1021	Funding education first	H Appropriations	MacEwen
HB 1023	Military students/activities	H Education	MacEwen
HB 1025	Appropriations legislation priorities	H Appropriations	Taylor
HB 1033	Private colleges/need grant	H Higher Education	Manweller
HB 1034	State officials/legal action	H Judiciary	Manweller
HB 1035	Prevailing wage survey data	H Labor & Workplace	Manweller
HB 1042	School district/ESD reports	H Rules R	Springer
SHB 1046	Certificates of achievement	H 2nd Reading	MacEwen
HB 1051	Infrastructure financing	H Capital Budget	DeBolt
SHB 1059	School levy lid revisions/delay	S Ways & Means	Lytton
SHB 1060	Medical marijuana/students	H 2nd Reading	Blake
HB 1067	Operating Budget 2017–2019	H Appropriations	Ormsby
HB 1068	Operating Sup Budget 2017	H Appropriations	Ormsby
HB 1072	Constitutionality of acts	H Judiciary	Koster
HB 1075	Capital Budget 2017–2019	H Capital Budget	Tharinger
HB 1080	State general obligation bonds	H Capital Budget	Tharinger
SHB 1115	Paraeducators	H 2nd Reading	Bergquist
HB 1146	Transportation Sup Budget 2015–2017	H Transportation	Clibborn
HB 1147	Transportation Budget 2017–2019	H Transportation	Clibborn
HB 1158	I-200 repeal	H Capital Budget	Santos
HB 1159	Employment after government service	H Rules R	Pellicciotti

SHB 1160	Sunshine committee	S State Government	Springer
2SHB 1169	Student loan assistance	H Passed 3rd	Orwall
2SHB 1170	Truancy reduction efforts	H Rules R	Orwall
HB 1174	Firearms/hunting education	H Education	Muri
HB 1203	School construction taxes	H Finance	Young
HB 1206	State estate tax, repealing	H Finance	Young
HB 1208	Charter schools/athletics	H Education	Johnson
HB 1215	Innovation schools	H Education	Hargrove
HB 1224	Growth management/sup court review	H Environment	Pike
SHB 1235	Physical education assessments	S Early Learning/K-12	Riccelli
HB 1236	Truancy/school assignments	H Judiciary	Klippert
HB 1246	School bus safety	H Education	McCabe
HB 1254	Educational grant program	H Education	Young
HB 1256	School assessment system	H Education	Young
SHB 1279	School safety drills	S Early Learning/K-12	Pettigrew
HB 1282	Career & technical education	H Appropriations	Tarleton
HB 1284	School emergency panic button	H Education	Lovick
HB 1287	Collective bargaining	H Labor & Workplace	Chandler
HB 1294	Model ethnic studies curriculum	H Rules R	Ortiz-Self
HB 1295	Language access/public schools	H Education	Ortiz-Self
SHB 1303	Educational interpreters	H 2nd Reading	Stambaugh
HB 1310	School violence reports	H Education	Manweller
HB 1313	Applied learning	H Education	Pettigrew
SHB 1319	Educators evaluation frequency	H Passed 3rd	McCaslin
S2SHB 1341	Professional certification/teachers	S Early Learning/K-12	Bergquist
SHB 1346	Nurse in school setting	S Early Learning/K-12	Springer
HB 1374	Educational staff associate/service years	H Appropriations	Dolan
SHB 1377	Student mental health	H Rules R	Ortiz-Self
HB 1393	Federal forestlands/education funding	H Appropriations	Walsh
HB 1412	Academic support	H Education	Sells
HB 1415	High school student assessments	H Education	Taylor
SHB 1417	OPMA/IT security matters	S State Government	Hudgins
SHB 1434	Shared leave/pregnancy	H Passed 3rd	Robinson

HB 1438	Balanced budget/education	H Appropriations	Ormsby
SHB 1444	Progression and graduation	H Passed 3rd	Caldier
SHB 1445	Dual language/early & K-12	H Passed 3rd	Ortiz-Self
HB 1451	Language access/students	H Appropriations	Orwall
HB 1453	Agriculture science education	H Education	Blake
HB 1457	Back-to-school supplies/tax	H Finance	Irwin
SHB 1481	Driver education uniformity	H 2nd Reading	Hayes
HB 1500	Tax exemptions	H Finance	Pollet
SHB 1508	Student meals & nutrition	H 2nd Reading	Stonier
HB 1509	Credits for high school graduation	H Appropriations	Stonier
SHB 1511	Learning assistance program	H Appropriations	Lytton
SHB 1516	Public records storage system	H Appropriations	MacEwen
HB 1517	School construction/lottery	H Capital Budget	MacEwen
SHB 1518	Social emotional learning	H Appropriations	Senn
HB 1539	Sexual abuse of students	H Education	McCabe
HB 1542	Dropout prevention/farming	H Education	Doglio
HB 1549	Tax preferences	H Finance	Lytton
HB 1550	B&O tax/education	H Finance	Lytton
EHB 1551	Student nutrition/grants	S Early Learning/K-12	Riccelli
HB 1555	Carbon pollution tax	H Finance	Lytton
HB 1563	Child abuse hotline/posting	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1564	Pesticide exposure	H Health Care/Wellness	Ortiz-Self
HB 1572	High school assessments	H Education	Dolan
HB 1573	Sunscreen/schools	H Education	Harris
HB 1579	Real estate disclosure/schools	H Business & Finance Services	Kilduff
SHB 1594	Public records administration	H 2nd Reading	McBride
HB 1595	Public records request costs	H 2nd Reading	Nealey
ESHB 1600	Career and college readiness	H Passed 3rd	Santos
HB 1601	Beginning educator support	H Appropriations	Santos
HB 1602	School sports/rights	H Judiciary	Young
HB 1608	Capital budget resources	H Appropriations	Pike
SHB 1618	Engagement coordinators	S Early Learning/K-12	Ortiz-Self
HB 1621	Social-emotional learning	H Appropriations	Senn

HB 1628	Foster care/education success	H Education	Kagi
HB 1643	Teacher loan forgiveness program	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1644	Teacher shortage	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1645	Educator shortage TO	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1654	Teacher certification	H 2nd Reading	McCaslin
HB 1664	Teaching effectiveness	H Education	Caldier
HB 1666	Tax preferences approval	H Finance	Santos
HB 1684	Innovative supplemental contracts	H Education	Santos
HB 1685	Retired teachers as mentors	H Education	Santos
HB 1686	Bilingual instruction definitions	H Appropriations	Santos
HB 1687	Gangs in schools' task force	H Education	Santos
HB 1688	Open education resources project	H Education	Santos
HB 1689	Student transportation allocation	H Appropriations	Santos
HB 1690	Bilingual instruction report	H Education	Santos
HB 1691	Teacher & principal evaluation program	H Education	Harris
SHB 1694	Public school construction	H Appropriations	MacEwen
HB 1703	School safety planning	H Education	Pollet
HB 1705	Flexibility schools & zones	H Education	Kirby
HB 1706	Civics test/high school graduation	H Education	Chandler
HB 1730	Capital gains excise tax	H Finance	Jinkins
HB 1732	Educator professional growth	H Passed 3rd	Springer
HB 1734	Substitute teachers/PESB	H 2nd Reading	Lovick
HB 1741	Educator professional data/PESB	S Early Learning/K-12	Slatter
HB 1756	Career & technical education	H Education	Manweller
HB 1764	Property tax revenue limit	H Finance	Lytton
HB 1767	Substitute teacher complaints	H Education	Kraft
HB 1778	School district bonds	H Education	Stonier
HB 1779	School district bonds/voting	H Education	Muri
HB 1781	Compost & recycling/schools	H Education	Kloba
HB 1788	Psychotropic medication/students	H Education	Hargrove
HB 1793	High school student assessments	H Education	Senn
HB 1800	Voting rights	S State Government	Gregerson
HB 1817	Zero-based budget reviews	H Appropriations	Stokesbary

HB 1818	State spending programs review	H Appropriations	Stokesbary
SHB 1827	Educator workforce supply	H Rules R	Santos
HB 1842	Lead in drinking water	H Environment	Pollet
ESHB 1843	Basic education program	S Early Learning/K-12	Sullivan
HB 1878	Allergen info in public schools	H Education	Stanford
SHB 1886	OSPI & state board of education	H 2nd Reading	Harris
SHB 1896	Civics education	H Education	Dolan
HB 1898	Middle school CTE	H Education	McCaslin
HB 1901	Month of the kindergartener	H Rules R	Griffey
HB 1913	Schools/leasehold excise tax	H Finance	Dolan
HB 1923	School construction grants	H Rules R	Blake
HB 1925	Schools/lead in water	H Environment	Pollet
HB 1926	Capital gains excise tax	H Finance	Pollet
HB 1934	Voting rights	H State Govt, Elections & Tech	Haler
HB 1948	OPMA/subgroups	H State Govt, Elections & Tech	Harmsworth
HB 1951	Public employees bargaining/OPMA	H Labor & Workplace	Manweller
HB 1982	School safety	H Education	Sullivan
HB 1989	OPMA/advisory boards	H State Govt, Elections & Tech	Pollet
HB 2034	Native American curriculum	H Education	Lovick
HB 2050	Classroom support	H Appropriations	McCaslin
HB 2053	Foster children/homeschool	H Early Learning/Human Services	Young
HB 2054	Foster license/homeschooling	H Early Learning/Human Services	Young
HB 2075	College and career readiness	H Appropriations	Pettigrew
HB 2083	Special election dates	H State Govt, Elections & Tech	Hudgins
HB 2110	School district health plans	H Education	Caldier
HJM 4001	Occupational portability	H Rules R	Sawyer
HJR 4200	Debt guarantee/infrastructure	H Capital Budget	DeBolt
HJR 4203	School district bonds	H Education	Stonier
HJR 4204	School district bonds/voting	H Education	Muri
HJR 4205	Operating budget timeliness	H Appropriations	MacEwen
HJR 4207	Individual income tax prohibit	H Finance	Manweller
HJR 4208	Property tax homestead exempt	H Finance	Stanford
SB 5013	Tenant property, disposition	S 2nd Reading	Warnick

SB 5017	Student loan information	S Higher Education	Bailey
SSB 5019	Ballots, prepaid postage	S Ways & Means	Hasegawa
SSB 5022	Education loan information	S Passed 3rd	Bailey
SB 5023	School levy lid revisions/delay	S Early Learning/K-12	Wellman
SB 5028	Native American curriculum	S 2nd Reading	McCoy
SSB 5031	Uniform money services act	H BFSDP	Angel
SB 5047	Operating Supplemental Budget 2017	S Ways & Means	Braun
SB 5048	Operating Budget 2017-2019	S Ways & Means	Braun
SB 5054	Safety belts in school buses	S Transportation	Dansel
SSB 5064	Student freedom of expression	S 2nd Reading	Fain
SB 5066	Zero-based budget reviews	H Appropriations	Miloscia
SB 5067	Voting rights	S State Government	Miloscia
SB 5068	District-based elections	S Passed 3rd	Miloscia
SB 5070	Paraeducators	S Rules 2	Rivers
SB 5076	School district bonds	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SB 5086	Capital Budget 2017-2019	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5090	State general obligation bonds	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5095	Transportation Sup Budget 2015-2017	S Transportation	King
SB 5096	Transportation Budget 2017-2019	S Transportation	King
2SSB 5107	Early learning opportunities	S Passed 3rd	Billig
SB 5111	Capital gains excise tax	S 2nd Reading	Braun
SB 5112	Tax preferences	S Ways & Means	Braun
SB 5113	B&O tax/education	S 2nd Reading	Braun
SB 5114	Quarterly revenue forecasts	S 2nd Reading	Braun
SB 5115	School director compensation	S Early Learning/K-12	Carlyle
SB 5117	Military students/extracurricular	S Early Learning/K-12	Rolfes
SSB 5120	Employment after government service	S Ways & Means	Carlyle
SB 5127	Carbon pollution tax	S 2nd Reading	Braun
SB 5129	Charter schools/athletics	H Education	Hunt
SSB 5142	Educational interpreters	H Education	Kuderer
SB 5149	Paid family leave	S Com/Labor/Sports	Fain
SB 5151	Ballot measure committees	S Rules 2	Fain
SSB 5155	K-2 suspension and expulsion	S 2nd Reading	Billig

SB 5166	Sales tax/indebtedness	S Ways & Means	Ericksen
SB 5183	Career & technical education	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5202	High school assessments	S Early Learning/K–12	Baumgartner
SSB 5203	Transit infrastructure/youth court	S Rules 2	Wilson
SB 5206	Career & tech education/elementary school	S Early Learning/K–12	Chase
SB 5216	Firearms/hunting education	S Early Learning/K–12	O'Ban
SB 5217	Teacher certification	S Early Learning/K–12	Zeiger
SB 5226	School district liability	S Law & Justice	Zeiger
2SSB 5236	Civic learning partnership	H Education	Zeiger
SB 5238	Teaching cursive in schools	S Rules 2	Warnick
SSB 5241	Foster care/education success	H Education	Carlyle
2SSB 5258	Washington AIM program	S 2nd Reading	Zeiger
SB 5267	Voting rights	S State Government	Hunt
SB 5283	Educational staff associate/service years	S Ways & Means	Warnick
SB 5290	Medical marijuana/students	S Early Learning/K–12	Hobbs
SB 5291	Academic support	S Early Learning/K–12	Pearson
ESSB 5293	Truancy reduction	S Passed 3rd	Darnelle
SB 5297	Educational employees' compensation	S Ways & Means	Ranker
SB 5298	Levy authority/local effort assistance	S Ways & Means	Ranker
SB 5310	Retired teachers/coaches	S Ways & Means	Hunt
SSB 5313	Civics education & campaign compliance	S Ways & Means	Fain
SB 5318	Agriculture science education	S Ways & Means	Hunt
SB 5325	Nurse in school setting	S Rules 2	Zeiger
SSB 5348	Special ed./cert of individual achievement	S Ways & Means	Fain
SB 5367	Pupil transportation funding	S Ways & Means	Becker
SB 5379	Cross-laminated timber	S State Government	McCoy
SSB 5404	Sunscreen/schools	H Education	Rivers
SB 5417	ASB food & beverage sales	S Early Learning/K–12	Chase
SB 5420	Declaration of Human Rights	S Early Learning/K–12	Chase
SB 5432	Special education funding allocation	S Early Learning/K–12	Rolfes
SSB 5443	Fiscal notes	S Rules 2	Brown
SB 5448	Psychotropic medication/students	S Rules 2	Rivers
SSB 5449	Digital citizenship	S 2nd Reading	Liias

SB 5450	Cross-laminated timber	S Local Government	Lias
SSB 5453	School construction grants	S Passed 3rd	Honeyford
SB 5459	Beginning educator support	S Early Learning/K–12	Rolfes
SB 5484	Early learning facilities fund program	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5486	Innovative supplemental contracts	S Early Learning/K–12	Zeiger
SSB 5487	Retired teachers as mentors	S Ways & Means	Zeiger
SB 5488	Bilingual instruction report	H Education	Zeiger
SB 5489	Bilingual instruction definitions	S Ways & Means	Zeiger
SSB 5503	Safety belts on school buses	S Ways & Means	Baumgartner
SB 5505	School district liability	S Law & Justice	Zeiger
SB 5526	Educator preparation data/PESB	S Early Learning/K–12	Zeiger
SSB 5529	Dual language/early & K–12	S 2nd Reading	Rolfes
SSB 5534	Housing allowance/schools	S Rules 2	Fortunato
SSB 5545	Public employee bargaining/OPMA	S Rules 2	Wilson
SB 5547	Educator professional growth	S 2nd Reading	Rolfes
SB 5548	Substitute teachers/PESB	S Early Learning/K–12	Rivers
SB 5556	PERS 1 & TRS 1/added benefit	S Ways & Means	Hunt
SB 5562	School district waivers	S Early Learning/K–12	Fortunato
SB 5563	Truancy law costs	S Human Services/Mental Health	Fortunato
SB 5567	Education sector excellence	S Early Learning/K–12	Miloscia
SB 5571	Compost & recycling/schools	S Early Learning/K–12	Palumbo
SB 5583	WIAA rules and policies	S Rules 2	Baumgartner
SB 5585	Future teachers' conditional scholarship	S Ways & Means	Ranker
SSB 5588	Racial disproportionality	S 2nd Reading	Hasegawa
SB 5601	Teacher postretirement employment	S Ways & Means	Darneille
SSB 5605	OSPI background checks	S Ways & Means	Walsh
SSB 5607	Education	H Appropriations	Braun
SB 5622	Career readiness education	S Early Learning/K–12	Rolfes
SB 5623	Basic education program	S Ways & Means	Rolfes
SB 5639	Alternative student assessments	S Rules 2	Conway
SSB 5641	School district class naming	H Education	Keiser
SSB 5644	Skill center facility maintenance	S Passed 3rd	Honeyford
SSB 5651	Siting of schools	S Rules 2	Conway

SB 5662	Professional educator standards board	S Rules 2	Zeiger
SB 5664	Federal forestlands/education funding	H Appropriations	Braun
SB 5668	Civics education	S Early Learning/K–12	Zeiger
SB 5673	OSPI & state board of education	S Early Learning/K–12	Zeiger
SB 5677	Schools/leasehold excise tax	S Ways & Means	Zeiger
SSB 5696	Breakfast after the bell	S Ways & Means	Wellman
SSB 5702	School construction funding	S 2nd Reading	Keiser
SB 5708	Student nutrition/grants	S Early Learning/K–12	Walsh
SB 5710	Public records act penalties	S State Government	Kuderer
SSB 5712	Bilingual education workforce	S 2nd Reading	Zeiger
SB 5714	Social emotional work group	S Early Learning/K–12	McCoy
SSB 5726	Public school employee benefits	S Rules 2	Hobbs
SB 5727	Public school employee benefits	S Ways & Means	Hobbs
SB 5733	Summer education programs	S Early Learning/K–12	Walsh
SB 5740	180-day school calendar	S Early Learning/K–12	King
SSB 5753	Early learning financing	S Rules 2	Zeiger
SSB 5758	College and career readiness	S Ways & Means	Rivers
SB 5765	Tax exemptions & deductions	S Ways & Means	Hasegawa
SB 5766	Bullying, etc., in schools	S Early Learning/K–12	Liias
SB 5772	Property tax revenue limit	S Local Government	Pedersen
SB 5775	Tax preferences repeal	S Ways & Means	Chase
SB 5802	Feminine hygiene products/schools	S Early Learning/K–12	Saldana
SB 5805	Landmarks/school districts	S Early Learning/K–12	Frockt
SB 5825	K–12 education funding	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SB 5829	Paid family leave	S Ways & Means	Fain
SSB 5833	TRS plan 1 minimum allowance	S 2nd Reading	Honeyford
SB 5853	Career & technical education	S Ways & Means	Walch
SB 5855	Retail sale nexus	S Ways & Means	Hobbs
SB 5856	Retail sale nexus/safety net	S Ways & Means	Hobbs
SB 5858	Professional certification/teachers	S Early Learning/K–12	Finn
SJM 8000	Free and fair elections	S State Government	Takko
SJM 8001	Elections, money spent on	S State Government	Hasegawa
SJR 8200	Publicly funded schools	S Early Learning/K–12	Baumgartner

SJR 8202	School district bonds	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SJR 8204	Prohibits individual income tax	S 2nd Reading	Fortunato
SJR 8207	School district levies	S Ways & Means	Mullet
SJR 8208	Four-year balanced budget	S 2nd Reading	Fain