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Week 4 – February 2–6, 2015

This Week in Review

Legislators continue to pump out legislation at breakneck speed. After 26 days of session, over 1,900 bills, resolutions and memorials have been introduced (which is an average of almost 13 bills per legislator). Legislation will surely continue to be introduced right up to the very end of the session—and during any special session(s)—however, the number of bills per day is finally beginning to slow. Most of the later-arriving bills will essentially be Dead on Arrival, as the calendar becomes their worst enemy. All legislation must traverse through the complicated maze that comprises the legislative process, including multiple time gates. To ensure the Legislature is not completely bogged down by the massive number of bills introduced every session (especially this one), a series of self-imposed “cut-off” dates are adopted. Bills that do not successful move through the process in time automatically die. With each succeeding cut-off date, the herd of bills continually is thinned.

The first cut-off date falls on February 20. All bills must be adopted by their original house (that is, House bills in the House and Senate bills in the Senate) policy committee by this date in order to remain alive. Shortly after, on February 27, the fiscal committee cut-off arrives. All fiscal bills must be moved out of their original house money committee (House Appropriations; House Finance; House Capital Budget; House Transportation; Senate Ways & Means; or Senate Transportation) by this date in order to remain alive. It is important to remember, however, a few things about cut-off dates. First, budget bills and bills that are considered “Necessary to Implement the Budget” (aka NTIB) are exempt from most of the early cut-off dates. Second, no bill is truly dead until the final gavel falls to adjourn the session (and even then, those dead bills are automatically revived at the beginning of the second year of the session—or any special sessions in between). There are multiple procedural maneuvers to revive “dead” legislation and the underlying theory in Olympia is that if you have the necessary votes, just about any rule can be waived. Concepts or language from dead legislation can also be amended onto a bill that remains alive, which complicates the bill watching. That is part of the reason WASA has two tracking lists—a list of “priority” legislation that will positively or negatively impact the education system (the [TWIO Bill Watch](#)); and a second list of potentially education-related bills (the [Comprehensive Bill Watch](#), which is a combination of the *TWIO* list and “other” legislation). Most of the bills in the second list have broad titles that could be used as vehicles for education-impacting issues; we closely watch those bills to ensure they don’t morph into “priority” legislation.

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 www.wasa-oly.org/TWIO.

Join us at the 2015 WASA/WSSDA/
WASBO Legislative Conference,
March 1-2. Register now at www.wasa-oly.org/Leg15

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Attack on Seattle

Seattle School District often garners a lot of attention during legislative sessions. They are the largest school district in the state; they are in a major media market, with four network TV stations, multiple Radio stations and the largest newspaper in the state; and the district sits in eight legislative districts. Unfortunately, a lot of the attention the district receives is negative. This year is no different. A package of three bills has been introduced to “assist” the Seattle School District. Successful adoption of any of these bills will mostly directly impact Seattle; however, they could ultimately impact other school districts as well. The first bill, **HB 1497**, was heard in the House Education Committee this week. Seattle currently has seven elected school directors, while the other 294 other school districts in the state have five. If HB 1497 was adopted, Seattle would retain its seven school directors; however, five of them would continue to be elected officials and two of them would be appointed by the Mayor of Seattle. Proponents, including sponsor of the bill Representative Eric Pettigrew (D-Seattle), argued that the appointment of two directors would provide the district with added stability. Opponents scoffed at the idea, noting that Seattle mayors do not often stay in office very long. There were additional concerns about how the citizens and parents in Seattle would be better served and represented by having *less* opportunity to elect board members. WASA signed in as “opposed” to the bill, but did not provide any comments. It is unlikely this bill will move.

The second bill, **HB 1860**, will be heard in the House Education Committee on February 9. The bill would split the Seattle School District into two separate school districts, both with five elected school directors. Under the provisions of the bill, OSPI and ESDs would be required to analyze options and make recommendations to the Legislature on how the district should be divided. While this bill is also unlikely to move, WASA will speak out against the bill. The immediate concern, of course, is the Seattle School District; however, the more global concern is the Legislature intervening in local school district business. HB 1860 would divide a current school district, but there are pockets of legislators that would rather go the other way and combine districts. Allowing the Legislature to make decisions about dividing school districts could open the door to more state intrusions into local decisions, including forcing school district consolidation. (NOTE: After this *TWIO* was prepared, HB 1860 was removed from the February 9 agenda. It is unclear if it will be heard later.)

The third bill in the “Seattle package” is **HB 1665**. It is also scheduled for action in the House Education Committee on February 9. While intended to directly impact Seattle, it would also impact 10–12 other districts. Currently, school directors may receive compensation of \$50 per day, not to exceed \$4,800 per year, for attending board meetings or performing other services on behalf of the school district. Prior to collecting the compensation, the school board must adopt a resolution authorizing the compensation. HB 1665 would allow board members of districts with an enrollment of at least 20,000 students to receive compensation for attending board meetings or performing other services on behalf of the school district; however, rather than the \$50 per day limit, the board would establish the daily amount of compensation. The board could adopt any amount so long as it does not exceed the annual salary for a state legislator. Like the current compensation, the new compensation package would be required to come from local levy funds.

School Facilities

Last week, the Senate Ways & Means Committee held a **work session on school facilities**. This week, the Committee followed up with a public hearing on Governor Inslee’s 2015–17 Capital Budget, introduced as **SB 5097**. Staff from the governor’s office provided the Committee with an **overview of Inslee’s proposal** and then the floor was open for public testimony. Like the hearing in the House Capital Budget Committee (on **HB 1115**), the room was packed and testimony was limited. WASA took a similar approach to our Operating Budget testimony and focused on our major concerns rather than addressing the few positive aspects of the request. We did say that we appreciated the governor’s “full funding” of current School Construction Assistance Program requests—but strongly noted that the supposed “full” funding simply

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was not enough because the state’s current funding formulas do not reflect the actual cost of construction or the true space needed for learning. We urged the Senate to significantly increase the Construction Cost Allowance (CCA) and the Student Space Allocation (SSA) to meet actual costs and space needs. We also expressed serious concerns that the governor’s budget fails to provide additional construction assistance to implement class size reductions or state funding of all-day kindergarten (even though the governor, in his Operating Budget request, proposes to fully fund those *McCleary* related items a year ahead of schedule). We closed with a comment that, while there is an ongoing debate about whether school construction is a part of basic education, the Supreme Court has made it clear that adequate state funding for school facilities is required to fully implement the all-day kindergarten and class size reduction components under the *McCleary* decision.

A special side note regarding school facilities: earlier this week legislation was introduced to amend the constitution allowing for a simple majority approval of bonds. The constitutional amendment, **HJR 4210**, and its necessary implementing legislation, **HB 1941**, is a compromise approach and would only allow school district bonds to be approved by a simple majority at the November general election. If a district chose to run the measure at one of the two special elections or during the primary election the current 60 percent supermajority would still be required. Prior to introduction of the legislation, stakeholders had been meeting with proponents, including the sponsor Representative Mia Gregerson (D-SeaTac). It was clear the leading legislators were ready to put some energy into the simple majority effort and wanted strong, bi-partisan support in the House in an effort to push the Senate (traditionally the more deliberative body—and, historically, the much tougher nut to crack in the levy simple majority effort). When the legislation was introduced, a strong 45-member group signed onto the bills. Unfortunately, only one Republican signed on. That member, Representative Dick Muri (R-Steilacoom), is helping to spearhead the effort with Rep. Gregerson, but was unable to convince any of his caucus-mates to co-sponsor. The levy simple majority effort was a 30+ year affair, so “Part II” to secure the simple majority for bonds certainly won’t happen overnight—but “a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.” The bills were referred to the House Education Committee, but have not yet been scheduled for a hearing.

Local Government Activities

For the last several years, WASA has been a part of a Local Government Coalition. The Coalition is comprised of associations representing school directors, cities, counties, public ports, public hospital districts, public utilities districts, fire districts, and others. As a Coalition we support—or oppose—issues of common interest. Much of our focus has been on issues surrounding the Public Records Act (PRA) and the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA). As with previous sessions, there are several PRA and/or OPMA issues on the docket. The key bills we—both WASA and the Coalition—are closely watching are the following:

- **HB 1086** – This bill would allow state and local agencies, including school districts, to assess a cost recovery fee for the actual cost of providing a public record if the request is primarily for commercial purposes. The bill was heard in the House State Government Committee on January 20.
- **HB 1431/SB 5395** – These companion bills would specifically exempt from disclosure information relating to a local government’s consideration to purchase or sell property when public knowledge would likely affect the property price. The bills essentially mirror language currently in OPMA, which allows real estate transactions to be discussed in an executive session; however, those records could technically be subject to release under PRA. The bills received a unanimous endorsement from the state’s “Sunshine Committee.” SB 5395 was heard in the Senate Government Operations & Security Committee on Tuesday. HB 1431 was heard in the House State Government Committee on Wednesday and adopted on Thursday.
- **HB 1684** – Currently, PRA allows state and local agencies, including school districts, to impose a reasonable charge for providing copies of public records. If actual per

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page costs are not calculated, agencies may charge up to 15 cents per page plus the actual postage or delivery charge and the cost of an envelope or container for mailing purposes. Records may also be provided electronically; however, there is no current mechanism allowing cost recovery. HB 1684 would allow agencies to establish a per megabyte charge for responses to public records requests provided electronically. It would also allow agencies to require a requester to pay a deposit before processing a request if more than ten percent of the agency's records are responsive to the public records request. The bill was heard in the House State Government Committee on Tuesday.

- **SB 5533** – Similar to HB 1684, this bill would allow local governments to charge a “reasonable fee” for electronically transmitted records. The bill was referred to the Senate Government Operations & Security Committee, but has not yet been scheduled to be heard.

Along with PRA/OPMA issues, the Local Government Coalition has worked together on various election matters. For the last three years, we have teamed up in opposition to bills that would have established a Washington Voting Rights Act (WVRA). Over the interim, proponents of the WVRA called several meetings with local government representatives in an effort to reach agreement. The meetings were generally constructive and proponents made a few concessions; however, our major concerns with the issue were not addressed. New legislation was introduced as **HB 1745** and **SB 5668**.

The bills are intended to promote equal opportunities for members of a minority (based on race, color or language) group to elect candidates of their choice or influence the outcome of an election. To enforce the prohibition against drawing election districts in a manner that denies these equal opportunities, the bill would establish a cause of action to redress violations. The motives behind the legislation are pure; however, implementation of this bill would likely not solve the problem that it is intended to address, leaving local governments, including school districts, vulnerable to costly litigation.

As a practical matter, HB 1745/SB 5668 would likely limit (or eliminate) the ability for local governments, including school districts, from using an “at-large” election system. We’ve argued that different school districts use different election systems: some have all at-large elections; some have all district-based elections; and some have a mix of those two systems. The bill would effectively eliminate a school districts’ choice in using an election system that best works for the district. Many school districts have moved to an all at-large election system to ensure that a full board of qualified directors can be seated. In some communities, a district-based election system results in a difficulty in finding candidates for certain seats. Using an at-large system enlarges the pool of potential candidates. It is also very disconcerting that a local government could be sued for circumstances beyond its control. After all, local governments do not decide: who files for office; which citizens register to vote; which registered voters actually cast ballots; or which candidates the voters ultimately support. Finally, if there actually are election abuses, citizens already have the ability to file suit under the federal Voting Rights Act.

These arguments have not resonated with proponents before and they are not resonating now. HB 1745 was heard on Thursday in the House State Government Committee and has already been scheduled for executive action next week. SB 5668 has been scheduled to be heard on February 10 in the Senate Government Operations & Security Committee.

High School Assessments

On Tuesday, the House Education Committee held a public hearing on **three bills** addressing high school assessments:

- **HB 1363** – This bill would repeal the requirement that students achieve a Certificate of Academic Achievement or Certificate of Individual Achievement in order to graduate.

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High school assessments would still be used for state and federal accountability purposes, but those assessments would no longer be a “high stakes graduation requirement.”

- **HB 1785** – Requested by Superintendent Dorn, this bill would eliminate the assessment graduation requirements and the Certificate of Academic Achievement, allowing school districts to focus on keeping students engaged through graduation and preparing them to be college and career ready. Students who fail to meet the standard on the new Smarter Balanced Assessment would be required to take and pass locally determined courses in their senior year that align with their college or career goals, including, when available, high school transition courses.
- **HB 1703** – Requested by Governor Inslee, this bill would modify the current high school assessment system by changing the administration of alternative assessments and align the assessment system with Career & College Ready graduation requirements. Among other things, the bill would provide for new alternative options for students that fail to pass one of the high school assessments. Districts would be required to offer a college readiness transition course—unless the district offered a Collection of Evidence alternative. School districts, however, would assume the responsibility for evaluating COE materials, if this bill was adopted.

As discussed in last week’s *TWIO*, WASA does not currently have a position on the issue of “delinking.” In testimony, we noted that our members are split on the issue and we had no comment on HB 1363 or HB 1785 at this point. We focused our comments on Inslee’s HB 1703. We stated that we generally supported his bill because it maintained a set of viable alternatives, including new college readiness transition courses. We did, however, express concerns regarding the change to the Collection of Evidence alternative. Under the bill, local districts would be responsible for evaluating COE materials. We noted that this would save the state some money, but would shift those costs to local districts. We argued that this was costly, inefficient and inappropriate.

Growth Management Act/Urban Growth Areas

Last week, **HB 1420** was heard in the House Local Government Committee. The bill would allow school districts to site schools outside of a county’s designated Urban Growth Area under the Growth Management Act when specific criteria are met. Bethel School District has been advocating for this change for several years. Unfortunately, the bill is drafted narrowly to apply only to Pierce County. At least 25 school districts (including Bethel) have similar issues in their local area. In testimony last week, we spoke in favor of the bill, but asked for an amendment to allow the new process to apply to other counties. On Thursday, the Committee moved the bill to executive session and before voting on the bill, adopted an amendment to expand the application of the bill to all counties, except King County. There are school districts in King County who have similar GMA restrictions; however, it was feared that including King County would drag the bill down. The amended HB 1420 now moves to the House Rules Committee and awaits action by the full House.

On the Senate side, a similarly drafted bill—**SB 5110**—awaits action in the Government Operations & Security Committee. SB 5110 is narrowly drafted like the original HB 1420; however, it is limited to school districts in Benton County.

Other Committee Action

On Tuesday, the House Education Committee held a public hearing on **HB 1386**, regarding school employee workforce reductions. The bill would provide for a new performance based framework and procedures for reductions in force due to enrollment decline or revenue loss. The bill would require workforce reduction decisions to be based on evaluation results rather than seniority. The underlying focus of the bill is similar to what will be required when TPEP is fully implemented. Most of those testifying on Tuesday said that the bill was premature—because TPEP is not yet fully implemented—and actually duplicative of current

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law. Committee members asked what school districts needed to ensure TPEP was fully and appropriately implemented. It provided a softball opportunity to express support for state-funded professional development so both teachers and principals are prepared for the new evaluation system.

Senator Steve Litzow (R-Mercer Island) has introduced a similar bill, [SB 5744](#), which will be heard by the Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee on February 9. While Litzow’s bill is similar to HB 1386, it is more expansive. It includes almost identical language regarding employee reductions due to enrollment decline, but also includes returning language from the past few sessions requiring principal and teacher “mutual agreement” for staffing assignments.

Upcoming Activities

In addition to some of the bills described earlier, there are several other priority issues set for action next week.

- On February 9, the House Education Committee will hear [HB 1805](#). The bill, an issue that continues to return, would change the definition of “school day.” As with previous bills, the expressed intent is to limit (essentially eliminate) half-days or partial days of instruction. As with previous bills, there is no contemplation for weather- or emergency-related late-arrivals and there is no consideration for the need to allow for teacher collaboration via PLCs.
- On February 10, The Senate Early Learning & K–12 Education Committee will hear [SB 5748](#) and [SB 5749](#) (requested by Supt. Dorn). Both are returning issues to require the use of student growth in teacher/principal evaluations in order to secure a federal waiver under NCLB.
- On February 11, the Senate Ways & Means Committee will hold a work session on K–12 levies. Committee staff has requested additional information regarding the [WASBO/WASA Local Funding Workgroup](#) (see the [Workgroup Talking Points](#)), so it is hoped some of that information will be publicly discussed.

Budget Pivot Tables Released

OSPI has posted a series of updated budget information on its School Apportionment & Financial Services site, including:

- [A pivot table](#) with district by district impacts of the Governor’s proposed budget. Note that the pivot table only includes impacts for the 2015–16 school year. Also included is an updated [John Jenft Budget Driver Summary](#) with the Governor’s budget proposal.
- An updated [Initiative 1351](#) Staffing Unit pivot table. The pivot table has been updated to show the number of staff units currently hired at each school district as shown in the preliminary 2014–15 S-275. The pivot table now shows current state allocated staff units, additional units provided by I-1351, current units in preliminary S-275, and the difference between current hired and combined total of current allocated and additional from I-1351.

Federal Update

The main focus of WASA’s *TWIO* is on activities occurring in our State Legislature; however, with the possibility of a long-awaited reauthorization of ESEA at the federal level, we felt it was appropriate to provide a federal update, with an opportunity for you to provide input.

The following comes from AASA's Policy and Advocacy Team:

Call to Action

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The ESEA reauthorization process continues to pick up speed. The House will be voting on an ESEA bill (the same bill that passed in 2013) the last week in February and the Senate Education Committee is expected to vote on an ESEA bill at the same time. As it stands today, both bills contain many critical policy changes that AASA members strongly support, but they also contain an unfortunate provision known as Title I portability.

Title I portability would afford states an option to have Title I dollars “follow the child” to a public school of their choice. This policy was originally intended to divert Title I dollars to private schools, but this policy push was unsuccessful, so proponents settled for making Title I dollars portable in public schools. Title I portability in public schools is problematic on a number of fronts:

1. Portability undermines Title I's goal of addressing achievement gaps in poor schools
2. Portability would deny district leaders the ability to effectively direct Title I funds to the students and schools who need dollars the most
3. Portability places a significant administrative burden on districts to allocate resources on a per-child basis rather than on a program basis
4. Districts with a poverty rate of more than 30 percent would lose money under portability, while districts with a poverty rate of under 15 percent would see dramatic increases in funding.
5. Portability would eliminate the ability of districts to focus resources on a particular school or grade level since the dollars must “follow the child.”

To assist you with your advocacy, please review [AASA's one-pager](#) for Hill staff about Title I portability. AASA also has a more comprehensive [white paper](#) that details the various flaws with portability. Finally, you can modify [AASA's sample letter](#) to express your concern with the inclusion of Title I portability in ESEA.

AASA strongly encourages you to take the time to write [your members of Congress](#) today asking them to not support Title I Portability in a reauthorized ESEA.

AEA

By Mitch Denning

On Tuesday, Nancy Moffatt, WASBO executive director, and I finished up the final three of our 26 visits with key legislators from all four caucuses, which began on January 27. The purpose of the meetings was to increase their understanding of the underfunding of K–12 basic education salaries, which are being paid for out of local levies. Most of them were surprised that on average 53 percent of local levies are paying for state basic education salary costs. Our next step is to determine who might be key leaders in each caucus, and which members of our WASBO/WASA Local Funding Work Group might help form our strategy on how to help these lawmakers develop a plan of action for fixing the problem.

On Thursday, we testified with concerns regarding SB 5097, the Governor's K–12 2015–17 Capital Budget, in Senate Ways & Means. We shared that we support the Small Repair Grant, as it was a very successful program, helping 178 districts from 2005–13 with small, urgent facility repairs. At the same time, we expressed a concern about the Healthiest Next Generation grant being included with the Small Repair grant. We suggested that the Senate separate the two programs into two grants, as urgent roof repairs are a higher priority for WAMOA than are water bottle filling stations and greenhouses, both found in the Healthiest

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Next Generation Grant. The Committee seemed to understand our request, as on January 28, Steve Story, director, facilities, Bethel SD, and WAMOA legislative chair, and I met with eight members of the Ways & Means Committee individually as part of our WAMOA legislative meeting day. We shared that same suggestion with them.

On Friday, Leeda Beha, director, child nutrition, Bethel SD, and WSNA's federal public policy and legislative representative, Lisa Chatterton, director, nutrition services, Franklin Pierce SD, and former WSNA president, and I testified in support of HB 1164, Apple a Day Program (kitchen equipment grant), sponsored by Rep. Marcus Riccelli (D-Spokane) in House Capital Budget. Beeda and Chatterton suggested specific ways that new equipment could help school kitchens serve healthier meals which would benefit their students greatly. Rep. Riccelli's similar bill last year passed the House, 91–7, but did not pass the Senate, as it was decided there would be no 2014–15 Supplemental Capital Budget.

Pensions/Health Benefits

By Fred Yancey – The Nexus Group

The availability of substitute teachers is a real problem for school districts across the state.

The good news is that legislators have clearly heard from their school leaders in their legislative districts about the need to expand the pool of those eligible to substitute. There is also data from a recent survey that further expresses the need.

The staff at the Select Committee for Pension worked with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and polled Washington's school districts for information about substitute teachers. See [survey results](#).

The polls were distributed November 24 and due back December 3. Even with this quick turnaround, 94 districts responded representing 43 percent of statewide enrollment. Over 89 percent of the responding districts indicated a shortage of substitutes.

How can this situation be fixed? What are legislators going to do?

Currently, there are at least three different approaches and resulting legislative proposals to address this concern.

HB 1737, addressing the availability of retired teachers as substitutes.

(A teacher in Plan 2 or Plan 3 that has retired under the ERF factors may be employed with an employer for up to two hundred sixteen hours per school year (27 days) without suspension of his/her benefits.)

Sponsors: Representatives Orcutt, Santos, Magendanz, Bergquist, Ortiz-Self, Kilduff, Kagi, Zeiger, Tarleton, Muri, Condotta, Pollet

This bill will have its first public hearing February 11 at 3:30 p.m., before the House Appropriations Committee chaired by Rep. Ross Hunter.

HB 1615 (SB 5545) – Concerning postretirement employment.

(Allows all certificated and classified retirees who used 2008 ERF's (Age 62 and 30 years of experience) to retire early with full benefits to return to work as substitutes, contract and/or project employees. This is the full fix eliminating the restriction entirely for all affected retirees. No hearings have been scheduled as of yet.)

Sponsors: Representatives Appleton, Santos, Pollet, Moscoso, Reykdal, Sells, S. Hunt, Dunshee, Ormsby, Bergquist, Ortiz-Self, Fitzgibbon

SB 5545 (HB 1615) – ERF certificated and classified employees may return to part-time work.

(See companion bill to HB 1615 cited above. No hearings scheduled to date.)

Sponsors: Senators McAuliffe, Chase, Lias, Conway

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SB 5148 – Allowing members who retire early under alternate early retirement provisions as set forth in RCW 41.32.765(3) and 41.32.875(3) to work as substitute teachers and continue receiving retirement benefits at the same time.

(The title says it all. "Beginning July 1, 2015, employment with an employer for the purposes of this subsection shall not include employment as a substitute teacher as defined in RCW 41.32.010.")

The definition of 'teacher' as cited in the bill is: "Substitute teacher" means:

- a. A teacher who is hired by an employer to work as a temporary teacher, except for teachers who are annual contract employees of an employer and are guaranteed a minimum number of hours; or*
- b. Teachers who either (i) work in ineligible positions for more than one employer or (ii) work in an ineligible position or positions together with an eligible position.*

Sponsors: Senators Parlette, Dammeier, Chase, Conway, McAuliffe, O'Ban

This bill directly addresses the need for substitutes with no limit as to number of days allowed. Should a district and students need a long-term sub, then a district could hire one, instead of a series of short-term subs as would be the case in HB 1737 cited above. This bill stands a solid chance of being passed. Its prime sponsors in the Senate are leading Republicans. The problem, however, will be in getting it through the House. The top leadership of the House is highly resistant to allowing once retired persons to reenter employment.

It is important to resolve the restrictions currently placed on certain retirees to return to work in short-term, substitute positions. Legislators need to continue to hear of the need to make such a change. Testimony before hearings, telephone calls, scheduled visits and emails would all be important actions to take to help change the present system.

In another vein, a hearing was before the House Committee on Labor on **HB 1273**, Implementing family and medical leave insurance.

(This bill, as written, establishes a family and medical insurance program in partnership with the Employment Security Department. Employees could take up to 12 weeks of paid leave. It would be funded by charging an employer 2/10th of 1 percent of an employee's wage. This charge would rise to 4/10th of 1 percent in 2018. Those collected dollars would fund the program.

This bill had a public hearing before the House Committee on Labor on January 29 at 8 a.m. WASA testified in opposition to the bill. It is an unfunded mandate. Cost to districts in 2017 is estimated to be over \$8.8 million, and cost to employees, the same \$8.8 million. By 2019, costs for both groups would rise to close to \$18 million for each. The bill is not sensitive to the fact that current collective bargaining agreements already provide for this type of leave although there is no guarantee that an employee would have accrued or been gifted up to 12 weeks of paid leave. But at any rate, a district provides medical leave, which is allowed to accrue, and often provides an opportunity for others to share leave if they wish. In addition, often the district has to also employ and pay a substitute. Meanwhile, that same district and employee is assessed the fee to fund this additional insurance program. This bill was voted out of committee in Executive Session on February 3.)

Sponsors: Representatives Robinson, Sells, Farrell, Hudgins, Kagi, Wylie, Sawyer, Walkinshaw, Moscoso, Ryu, Ormsby, Riccelli, Jinkins, Senn, McBride, Gregerson, Fitzgibbon, Moeller, Reykdal, S. Hunt, Stanford, Bergquist, Santos, Pollet, Fey, Tarleton

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

1:30–3:25 a.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

Thursdays

8–9:55 a.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

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 12, 2015

First Day of Session.

February 20, 2015

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

February 27, 2015

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

March 11, 2015

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

April 1, 2015

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

April 7, 2015

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

April 15, 2015*

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 26, 2015

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 #	Abbrev. Title	Status	Sponsor
HB 1001	Education, funding first	H Appropriations	MacEwen
HB 1003	Schools, disaster recovery	H 2nd Reading	Hawkins
HB 1008	Agency data practices audits	H Gen Govt & Information	Smith
HB 1028	Court security	H Judiciary	Appleton
SHB 1031	College in the high school	H Rules R	Johnson
HB 1036	Domestic partnerships & PERS	H Appropriations	Moeller
HB 1050	Annual leave payments	H State Government	Hunt
HB 1051	Supreme court elections	H Judiciary	DeBolt
HB 1058	Lobbyists, electronic filing	H State Government	Moeller
HB 1072	Prevailing wage surveys	H Labor	Manweller
HB 1073	Prevailing rate of wage	H Labor	Manweller
HB 1074	Prevailing wage survey data	H Labor	Manweller
HB 1075	Prevailing wages, paying of	H Labor	Manweller
SHB 1079	Joint utilization contracts	H Rules R	Kochmar
HB 1081	College in the high school	H Education	Sullivan
HB 1086	Public record commercial use	H State Government	Moeller
HB 1087	Traffic safety cameras	H Rules R	Takko
HB 1101	Conservation districts	H Local Government	Wilcox
SHB 1105	Operating Sup Budget 2015	S Ways & Means	Hunter
HB 1106	Operating Budget 2015–2017	H Appropriations	Hunter
SHB 1109	OSPI certificated employees/TRS		Reykdal
HB 1115	Capital Budget 2015–2017	H Cap Budget	Dunshee
HB 1116	Capital Sup Budget 2015	H Cap Budget	Dunshee
SHB 1120	School bus driver immunity		Wilcox
SHB 1121	Financial education partnership	H Rules R	Parker
HB 1142	Parking fees/H.S. students	H Education	Wilcox
HB 1149	Students/military families	H Education	Muri
HB 1154	Affordable college grant pr.	H Hi Ed	Bergquist

HB 1163	Paid vacation leave	H Labor	Tarleton
HB 1164	Student nutrition/grant program	H Cap Budget	Riccelli
HB 1166	State gen obligation bonds, accts	H Cap Budget	Dunshee
HB 1168	Retiree return-to-work/PERS	H Appropriations	Ormsby
HB 1189	City, district public records	H Rules R	Hunt
HB 1230	Interest arbitration	H Labor	Sells
SHB 1236	College bound scholarship	H HEDPS	Ortiz-Self
HB 1239	Tax exemption accountability	H Finance	Pollet
HB 1240	Student restraint, isolation	H Education	Pollet
HB 1242	Educational employee strikes	H Labor	Muri
HB 1243	Truancy of students	H Judiciary	Muri
HB 1254	Prevailing wages/pilot project	H Labor	Manweller
SHB 1273	Family & medical leave insurance	H LABDPS	Robinson
HB 1293	Paraeducators	H Education	Bergquist
SHB 1295	Breakfast after the bell		Hudgins
HB 1297	Trans Sup Budget 2013–2015	H Trans	Clibborn
HB 1299	Trans Budget 2015–2017	H Trans	Clibborn
HB 1300	Transportation revenue	H Trans	Clibborn
HB 1322	State retirement plans	H Appropriations	Reykdal
HB 1331	School library & tech programs	H Education	Muri
HB 1335	Rec. marijuana businesses	H Commerce & Gaming	Condotta
HB 1345	Professional learning	H Education	Lytton
HB 1349	Exempted info/public records	H State Government	Hunt
SHB 1354	Employee anti-retaliation	H Appropriations	Ryu
HB 1355	Minimum hourly wage increase	H Appropriations	Farrell
HB 1356	Sick & safe employment leave	H Appropriations	Jinkins
HB 1363	H.S. certificates/graduation	H Education	Hunt
HB 1379	February, April special elections	H State Government	Shea
HB 1385	Revenue growth for education	H Appropriations	Magendanz
HB 1386	School employees/reductions	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1408	Family engagement coordinator	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1413	Rec. marijuana businesses	H Commerce & Gaming	Moscoso
HB 1420	School siting and aid	H Local Government	Wilcox

HB 1433	Firearms in school zones	H Judiciary	Scott
HB 1436	Homeless youth	H Erly Lrn/H Svc	Kagi
HB 1444	Property tax relief	H Finance	Hunt
HB 1445	Computer science/world languages	H Higher Education	Reykdal
HB 1455	Prevailing wage/local governments	H Labor	Pike
HB 1477	Quarterly revenue forecasts	H Finance	MacEwen
HB 1483	Investment income B&O deduct.	H Finance	Pollet
HB 1484	Capital gains excise tax	H Finance	Jinkins
SHB 1491	Early care & education system	H Appropriations	Kagi
HB 1492	Technology literacy	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1495	Student user privacy	H Education	Reykdal
HB 1497	School district's board	H Education	Pettigrew
HB 1511	Tribal history, culture, etc.	H Comm Dev, Housing	Ortiz-Self
HB 1528	Epinephrine autoinjectors	H HC/Wellness	Robinson
HB 1538	Education employee COLAs	H Appropriations	Sells
HB 1541	Educational opportunity gap	H Education	Santos
HB 1542	PERS, TRS, SERS/earlier ages	H Appropriations	Hunt
HB 1546	Dual credit education opportunities	H Education	Reykdal
HB 1562	Allergen info in public schools	H Education	Sullivan
HB 1568	Dropout prevention/farming	H Education	Reykdal
HB 1570	Educator retooling/program	H Education	Gregory
HB 1583	School construction taxes	H Finance	Young
HB 1591	High school and beyond plans	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1592	Tuition waivers/state employees	H Higher Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1614	K-12 employee wages	H Appropriations	Reykdal
HB 1615	Postretirement employment	H Appropriations	Appleton
HB 1616	Beginning teacher salaries	H Appropriations	Riccelli
HB 1633	Housing trust fund projects	H Cap Budget	Zeiger
HB 1640	School district waivers	H Education	Hargrove
HB 1643	Bill & budget fiscal impact	H Appropriations	Wylie
HB 1661	Capital budget resources	H Appropriations	Pike
HB 1665	School director compensation	H Education	Carlyle
HB 1666	State-wide student assessments	H Education	Magendanz

HB 1682	Homeless students	H Education	Fey
HB 1684	Public records, charges for	H State Government	Takko
HB 1691	Public records act, remedies	H State Government	Van De Wege
HB 1703	High school assessment system	H Education	Santos
HB 1709	Impact fee payment	H Local Government	Springer
HB 1711	Public works contractors	H Cap Budget	Senn
HB 1714	Achievement index rating system	H Education	Manweller
HB 1737	Retired teachers/substitutes	H Appropriations	Orcutt
HB 1743	High school equivalency tests	H Higher Education	Lytton
HB 1745	Voting rights	H State Government	Moscoco
HB 1750	Sudden cardiac arrest	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1760	Student skills	H Education	Senn
HB 1770	Teacher certification	H Education	Bergquist
HB 1771	Prof. educator standards board	H Education	Gregory
HB 1783	Dual language instruction	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1785	Academic achievement certif.	H Education	Reykdal
HB 1790	Nurse in school setting	H Education	Springer
HB 1795	Learning assistance program	H Education	Sullivan
HB 1804	Educator professional growth	H Education	Springer
HB 1805	“School day” definition	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1813	Computer science education	H Education	MacEwen
HB 1834	Higher education facilities use	H Higher Education	Klippert
HB 1840	Conflict resolution/schools	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1854	Certificated instructional staff	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1855	Local graduation requirements	H Education	Caldier
HB 1860	Large 1st-class school districts	H Education	Santos
HB 1862	School counselors, etc.	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1864	High school graduation	H Education	Kilduff
HB 1865	Visual screening in schools	H Education	Magendanz
HB 1867	Classroom teacher evaluation	H Education	Bergquist
HB 1899	Public education system	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1900	School counselor, etc.	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1902	Spirits retail license tax	H Commerce & Gaming	Harmsworth

HB 1919	Special elections, timing of	H State Government	Hunt
HB 1936	Certificated employee contracts	H Labor	Muri
HB 1937	School employee insurance	H Appropriations	Magendanz
HB 1941	School district bonds/voting	H Education	Gregerson
HB 1947	Students/disability, special need	H Education	Pollet
HB 1950	High school science assessment	H Education	Lytton
HB 1952	School district territory	H Education	Pike
HB 1960	WA cmtly learning center program	H Education	Sullivan
HB 1971	Charter schools	H Education	Fey
HB 1974	School safety, security centers	H Education	Stambaugh
HB 1981	Elementary science education program	H Education	Pollet
HB 1982	Student completion	H Higher Education	Pollet
HB 1983	Teacher financial assistance	H Education	Pollet
HB 1991	Education employee orgs	H Labor	Muri
HB 1992	Capital budget resources	H Appropriations	Stanford
HB 1996	Music education/elementary schools	H Education	Ortiz-Self
HB 1999	Foster youth education outcomes	H Erly Lrn/H Svc	Carlyle
HJR 4204	Initiative measures	H State Government	Kagi
HJR 4206	Tax increase restrictions	H Finance	Orcutt
HJR 4209	Balanced budget	H Cap Budget	Scott
HJR 4210	School district bonds/voting	H Education	Gregerson
SB 5045	Union security provisions	S Ways & Means	Angel
SSB 5063	Revenue growth for education	S Rules 2	Hill
SB 5064	Quarterly revenue forecasts	H Appropriations	Hill
SB 5065	Homeless students	S EL/K-12	Froct
SB 5076	Operating sup budget 2015	S Ways & Means	Hill
SB 5077	Operating budget 2015-2017	S Ways & Means	Hill
SSB 5080	Dual credit educ. options	S Ways & Means	Dammeier
SSB 5081	State government expenditures	H State Government	Miloscia
SSB 5082	Career & tech education/elem. school	S Ways & Means	McAuliffe
SSB 5083	Sudden cardiac arrest	S 2nd Reading	McAuliffe
SB 5086	Dual credit education opportunities	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SSB 5093	Nuclear energy education program	S Ways & Means	Brown

SB 5095	State general obligation bonds, accts	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5096	Capital sup budget 2015	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5097	Capital budget 2015-2017	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5102	Rural schools/urban services	S GovtOp&StSec	Padden
SB 5110	School siting outside UGAs	S GovtOp&StSec	Brown
SB 5120	School district dissolutions	S Rules 2	Parlette
SB 5148	TRS early retire/substitutes	S Ways & Means	Parlette
SB 5160	Native early childcare & education	S EL/K-12	McCoy
SSB 5163	Students/military families	S 2nd Reading	Hobbs
SB 5179	Paraeducators	S EL/K-12	Hill
SB 5190	Public art and buildings	S Ways & Means	Benton
SSB 5202	Financial education partnership	S Rules 2	Mullet
SB 5211	Retiree return-to-work/PERS	S Ways & Means	Bailey
SB 5229	Technology literacy	S Ways & Means	Litzow
SSB 5252	School safety, security centers	S Ways & Means	Dammeier
SB 5285	Minimum hourly wage increase	S Commerce and Labor	Jayapal
SB 5286	Higher education support	S Higher Education	Baumgartner
SB 5291	Epinephrine autoinjectors	S Health Care	Mullet
SSB 5294	School library & tech programs	S Rules 2	McAuliffe
SB 5303	Washington AIM program	S Ways & Means	Litzow
SB 5306	Sick & safe employment leave	S Commerce and Labor	Habib
SB 5312	Educator retooling/program	S Rules 2	Litzow
SB 5316	Identifiable student information	S EL/K-12	Dammeier
SB 5327	H.S. certificates/graduation	S EL/K-12	McCoy
SSB 5329	Public employee bargaining	S Rules 2	Braun
SB 5334	Basic education/local levies	S EL/K-12	Mullet
SB 5336	Traffic safety cameras	S Rules 2	Miloscia
SB 5351	Education T.O.	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5352	Education T.O.	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5358	Transportation revenue	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5359	Trans sup budget 2013-2015	S Transportation	Hobbs
SB 5360	Trans budget 2015-2017	S Transportation	Liias
SB 5361	Transportation projects/bonds	S Transportation	Liias

SB 5384	Income to meet basic needs	S Commerce and Labor	Miloscia
SB 5390	Investment pools/state & county	S GovtOp&StSec	Dansel
SB 5391	Teacher cert. degree programs	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5392	Quality education council	S Rules 2	Litzow
SB 5393	Schools/exemplary performance	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5396	Children/guardians, family	S GovtOp&StSec	Roach
SB 5404	Homeless youth	S HumSer/MenHlth	O'Ban
SB 5415	Prof. educator learning days	S EL/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5419	Student user privacy	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SSB 5433	Tribal history, culture, etc.	S Rules 2	Litzow
SB 5435	State deferred comp program	S Ways & Means	Bailey
SB 5437	Breakfast after the bell	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5452	Early care & education system	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5459	Family & medical leave insurance	S Commerce and Labor	Keiser
SB 5469	Education employee COLAs	S Ways & Means	Hasegawa
SB 5473	PERS, TRS, SERS/earlier ages	S Ways & Means	Chase
SB 5478	Education reform/facilities	S Ways & Means	Dammeier
SB 5492	Tax exemption accountability	S Ways & Means	Frocket
SB 5495	Educator professional growth	S GovtOp&StSec	Litzow
SB 5496	Teacher certification	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5497	Prof. educator standards board	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5500	Firearms at schools/officers	S Law & Justice	Roach
SB 5506	Sexual health education/abuse, etc.	S EL/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5517	Sexual harassment prevention	S EL/K-12	Kohl-Welles
SB 5520	High school assessment system	S EL/K-12	Rolfes
SB 5526	Bullying, etc., in schools	S EL/K-12	Lias
SB 5533	Electronic data, charges for	S GovtOp&StSec	Hobbs
SB 5544	K-12 employee wages	S EL/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5545	Postretirement employment	S Ways & Means	McAuliffe
SB 5546	Beginning teacher salaries	S EL/K-12	Lias
SB 5548	School bus driver immunity	S EL/K-12	Lias
SB 5559	Tuition waivers/state employees	S Higher Educaton	Billig
SB 5578	Housing trust fund projects	S Rules 2	Dammeier

SB 5602	Bargaining unit reps	S Commerce and Labor	Warnick
SB 5636	GET ready for college programs	S Higher Education	Hasegawa
SB 5637	Peer mentoring program	S Higher Education	Hasegawa
SB 5651	Truant students, detention	S HumSer/MenHlth	Darneille
SB 5657	School day extension/homework	S EL/K-12	Mullet
SB 5667	Bill & budget fiscal impact	S Ways & Means	Hargrove
SB 5668	Voting rights	S GovtOp&Sec	Habib
SB 5675	Dual language instruction	S EL/K-12	Roach
SB 5676	High school equivalency tests	S Higher Education	Roach
SB 5679	Special education students	S EL/K-12	McAuliffe
SB 5681	State lottery accounts	S Ways & Means	Hill
SB 5688	Student skills	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5690	Learning assistance program	S EL/K-12	Dammeier
SB 5699	Capital gains excise tax	S Ways & Means	Nelson
SB 5715	Initiatives, fiscal impact	S Ways & Means	Fain
SB 5718	Public education system	S EL/K-12	Jayapal
SB 5721	Expanded learning opp's cncl	S EL/K-12	Billig
SB 5724	Safe routes to school program	S Transportation	Billig
SB 5744	School workforce reductions	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5745	Truancy reform	S HumSer/MenHlth	Hargrove
SB 5748	Teacher and principal evaluation	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5749	Student growth data elements	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5752	Racial disproportionality	S GovtOp&Sec	Hasegawa
SB 5765	Nurse in school setting	S EL/K-12	Jayapal
SB 5774	Prevailing wage surveys	S Commerce and Labor	Braun
SB 5775	Prevailing rate of wage	S Commerce and Labor	Braun
SB 5787	Limited-English parents	S EL/K-12	Jayapal
SB 5791	Charter schools	S EL/K-12	Darneille
SB 5803	3rd grade English assessment	S EL/K-12	Dammeier
SB 5805	Conflict resolution/schools	S EL/K-12	Rivers
SB 5807	Educator professional development	S EL/K-12	Litzow
SB 5814	WA cmtly learning center program	S EL/K-12	Dammeier
SB 5825	High school science assessment	S EL/K-12	Mullet

SB 5837	School management and performance	S Acct & Reform	Miloscia
SB 5850	Student restraint, isolation	S EL/K-12	Rivers
SB 5851	College bound scholarship	S Higher Education	Frocket
SB 5854	Employee org collective bargaining	S Commerce and Labor	Braun
SB 5856	College bound scholarship	S EL/K-12	Frocket
SJM 8006	Sexual abuse/children, peers	S EL/K-12	Kohl-Welles
SJR 8200	2/3 vote for tax increases	S GovtOp&StSec	Roach
SJR 8201	Initiative measures	S Ways & Means	Fain
SJR 8202	Income tax	S Ways & Means	Chase
SR 8601	Adopting senate rules	S Adopted	Schoesler

