



The Washington State Board of Education

An education system where students are engaged in personalized education pathways that prepare them for civic engagement, careers, postsecondary education, and lifelong learning.

Legislative Update

PREPARED FOR THE MARCH 2020 BOARD MEETING

Information

Materials included in packet:

- Legislative update email from February 28, 2020
- Bill tracker as of February 28, 2020
- *See additional materials*

Synopsis:

Staff will provide an update on the near final status of SBE's 2020 Legislative Priorities. In addition, staff will brief members on other K-12 legislation and budget items aligned with SBE's Strategic Plan and/or that impact the board or the board's areas of authority.



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The following is a message from Director of Advocacy and Engagement, J. Lee Schultz sent to Board Members regarding Legislative session:

Good afternoon, Board Members,

This week has been jam packed with the release of budget proposals and today's opposite house policy cutoff.

The big agenda item in yesterday's House Education committee was the Comprehensive Sexual Health Education bill (ESSB 5395). It took the entire time to get through all the amendments and pass the bill, with no time remaining for the other scheduled bills, which consequently "died." This includes the agency administration bill (SSB 6105) which had a proposed striker amendment by Chair Santos that would have allowed the Superintendent of Public Instruction to appoint a designee to serve in his or her place on the State Board of Education, but only as a non-voting member, which is consistent with current practice. In addition, the striker would have made significant changes to the administrative structure of the Professional Educator Standards Board. With the committee running out of time, the bill did not survive today's policy cutoff deadline, and is considered "dead" at this point. The other priority bills that died in House Ed yesterday include: Student immigration status (ESB 5834), Equity training/schools (ESSB 5908), Beginning educator support (SB 6138), and Teaching tribal history (SSB 6262).

This morning, the Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education committee passed a large number of bills out of committee, along with Member Reyes' gubernatorial appointment. We are shooting for the Senate to confirm our remaining three appointments – Reyes, Martin-Morris, and Kallappa – in the final days of session.

Attachments

Please see attached for:

- Next week's schedule (bill lists yet to be determined)
- Our bill tracker with updated status to reflect what passed today's cutoff
- Photos of the official copies of the School Recognition Resolutions
- A slide deck we sent to the House Education Committee with additional detail on graduation pathway options as a follow up to last week's work session

Budget highlights

- Both chambers released their 2020 Supplemental Operating Budget proposals on Monday, with public hearings that afternoon. The budget bills were passed out of their respective fiscal committees on Tuesday (Senate) and Wednesday (House). The Senate passed their budget off the floor yesterday, and the House is currently debating the Senate vehicle on the floor with a vote anticipated later this evening. There have been numerous amendments since Monday's release, and the budget writers will work out the details in their final deliberations.

Our budget requests

Unfortunately, our HSBP budget request is not reflected in either budget proposal. We have followed up with members that had expressed support, and plan to look into other avenues and build support over the interim.

Our budget request in support of two positions at ERDC was funded in the House proposal, and we are advocating for this funding to be retained in the final deliberations.

- A few of the K-12 highlights (amounts may have already changed):
 - Local Effort Assistance – Senate: \$45.8 M; House: \$48.0 M
 - School Counselors – Senate: zero; House: \$50.9 M
 - Special Education – Senate: \$20.7 M; House: zero
 - Paraeducator Training – Senate: \$12.6 M; House: \$17.0 M

For a detailed overview of the major K-12 budget items, I recommend the Special Budget Edition of This Week in Olympia by Dan Steele of the Washington Association of School Administrators.

Operating budgets

- SHB 2325 - Making 2019-2021 fiscal biennium supplemental operating appropriations.
- ESSB 6168 - Making 2019-2021 fiscal biennium supplemental operating appropriations.

Capital budgets

- HB 2324 – Concerning the capital budget.
- ESSB 6248 – Concerning the capital budget.

School Recognition Resolutions

The House and Senate adopted these on Monday. Please see attached for photos of the official copies.

- HR 4667 – Observing school recognition week.
- SR 8691 – Honoring schools that have been recognized for exemplary performance.

Recap of this week's activity

Testimony:

- SSB 6105 - Concerning the administration of state education agencies. (J. Lee / Other)
- SSB 6521 - Creating an innovative learning pilot program. (J. Lee / Pro)

See the rest of the memo on [SBE's blog](#).

Bill Tracker missing?

Certain Board Meeting documents are not ADA-compliant and therefore cannot be posted to this website. If you are looking for a document or information about a specific topic, please contact the Communications Manager, as documents may be available by request.