

January 19, 2020

## Historic day kicks off 2020 session

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The House kicked off the 2020 session January 13, by swearing in Rep. Laurie Jinkins, D-27, as the first woman Speaker of the House in Washington state history. Jinkins and many colleagues wore white in celebration of women's suffrage, and Jinkins vowed to work hard on behalf of all the citizens of Washington state.

Monday also marked the day for new members and re-elected members (members being replaced are in parentheses), to be sworn in. This included Sen. Ron Muzzall, R-10 (Bailey); Rep. Davina Duerr, D-1 (Stanford); Rep. Alex Ramel, D-40 (Morris); and Jesse Johnson, D-30 (Reeves). Both Sen. Liz Lovlett, D-40, and Rep. Alex Ybarra, R-12, who were appointed last session won re-election campaigns in November. And the Senate officially welcomed Derek Stanford, D-1, who replaced former Senator Guy Palumbo.

On Tuesday, Governor Jay Inslee delivered his [state of the state address](#). Titled "The Best of Who We Are," Inslee recognized previous successes that are making Washington a sought-after place to live, work and play. This included an emphasis on the Career Connected Learning Initiative, with the Governor citing several examples of how the effort is helping K-12 students who may be seeking well-paying career pathways, as well as individuals thinking of mid-career changes.

Inslee challenged the 2020 Legislature to take action on two key initiatives: sheltering and homelessness, and adopting a clean fuel standard. On the former, Inslee urged legislators to get beyond where the funding comes from but to commit to taking bold steps this session to move people into safe housing. On the clean fuel standard, a signature issue from last session's climate effort, Inslee said it was time Washington state has what the rest of the West Coast has put in place and that the standard adopted by California, Oregon and Canadian provinces has had little impact on fuel costs but a significant impact on carbon emissions.

As a final note, Inslee said he also hoped the legislature would make sure more children get access to early learning; that equity and diversity in the workplace are addressed; that common-sense gun safety measures are passed; K-12 education continues to see investments, including in special education; kids are protected from tobacco and vaping; and that children in foster care are helped. Unlike previous sessions, when applause was more one-sided, lawmakers seemed more united in support of the speech.

During the week both the House and Senate scheduled floor action on several of bills that had passed their respective chambers last session without much controversy, including [HB 1272](#), relating to seated school lunchtime, and [SB 5389](#), relating to telehealth services for K-12

schools. In a divided vote, the Senate approved [SB 5811](#), which would authorize the state Department of Ecology to adopt California’s zero emission vehicle program regulations and the types of vehicles under the standard is expanded.

In addition, committees hit the ground running, mixing work sessions, public hearings, and bill action. Legislators are working under a compressed 60-day schedule, with the first policy cutoff scheduled for February 7 and the first fiscal cutoff on February 11. Between those two dates, most of the new bills introduced this year are likely to fall by the wayside, even if their concepts linger. The last day of session is March 12.

### **WSPTA Legislative Priorities (all bills may be accessed [here](#))**

Washington State PTA adopts a [two-year platform](#). Issues adopted for the 2019 session carry forward into 2020. Delegates at the 2018 Legislative Assembly adopted five issues as the highest priority issues, and other adopted positions are listed as “Also Supported.” The Advocacy Committee has further refined the 2020 agenda to a handful of “actionable” issues, including the following (linked to informational one-page briefing sheets when available):

#### *Policy*

- [Preventing Gun Violence](#). Many bills have been introduced related to guns. Here are some of the [ones that track most closely with our platform](#):
  - HB 2240/SB 6077 is Governor/Attorney General request legislation to restrict high capacity magazines to 10 rounds. The Senate bill is up for hearing Monday in the Senate Law & Justice committee, which the House bill is up for hearing on Tuesday in the House Civil Rights & Judiciary committee.
  - HB 2241/SB 6076 is another joint request legislation that restricts assault weapons and large capacity magazines.
  - HB 2467 would create a centralized single point of contact background check system for firearms transfers. The bill had a public hearing last week and is up for action in committee this week. The bill has bi-partisan sponsorship.
  - HB 1010, which would give the Washington State Patrol the same authority as other law enforcement agencies to destroy confiscated weapons has not been activated this session.
- [Screening for Highly Capable Students](#).
  - [HB 1641 and SB 5354 are the screening bills from the 2019 session. The bills have not been activated yet this session but are available vehicles for the position adopted by WSPTA at the 2019 Legislative Assembly.](#)
  - [SB 6282 is not related to screening but is focused on recent changes for highly capable programs at Seattle Public Schools.](#)
- Protecting students from immigration issues (Resolution 18.25)
  - SB 5834 would protect student information so it couldn’t be used for immigration purposes and would require school districts to adopt model policies. A request to consider a 500-foot “school safe zone” was met with interest but we were informed it may not be legal so additional research is being done.

## Budget

- [Paraeducator funding, \\$40 million](#). The Governor’s proposed supplemental operating budget did not include funding for the training days required by law.
- Dyslexia funding (Resolution 18.32). The Governor’s proposed supplemental operating budget did not include the \$806,000 requested by OSPI to get this effort started in school districts, in advance of the 2021-21 mandate.
- [LEA funding](#) Several bills have been introduced related to levies and Local Effort Assistance.
  - HB 2237/SB 6075 would allow school districts that go beyond the \$2.50/\$1,000 assessed value to access up to \$2,500 in LEA funding. The Senate bill is up for a hearing next Wednesday in Senate education.
  - HB 2753/SB 6344 would give school districts the choice of either a \$2.50/\$1,000 AV levy or \$2,500 per student. The bill removes the “whichever is less” language from current law and applies to collections in calendar year 2021.
  - SB 6510 would provide school districts smaller than 300 student FTE with additional LEA, with the amount set in statute plus inflation.
- [Student safety and well-being](#), and support for a behavioral health specialist at each Educational Service District (ESD). The Governor’s proposed supplemental operating budget included funding to support one behavioral health specialist per ESD.
- [Capital budget: seismic retrofits](#) \$25 million OSPI request. The Governor’s proposed supplemental capital budget included \$10 million in support of seismic work.

Look for bills and committee hearings that relate to the above-listed issues, Top 5, and WSPTA’s “Also Supported Positions” in the Week Ahead and Bill Tracking List.

## The Previous Week

- President Janice Kutzera [testified](#) before the House Appropriations Committee in support of operating budget priorities, including funding for paraeducator training, dyslexia screening, the behavioral health specialist at ESDs, and funding to support a family engagement program by the Education Ombuds.
- Testimony was provided by legislative consultant Marie Sullivan on the Governor’s proposed capital budget; HB 1191 (school notifications); and SB 5834 (immigration protections).

## The Week Ahead *(Schedule subject to change, all bills can be founded through this [link](#))*

### *Monday, January 20 – Focus Day!*

#### **10 a.m., Senate Law & Justice, SHR 4**

- SB 6077 - Public Hearing - Concerning high capacity magazines. (Support/High)
- SB 6294 - Public Hearing - Concerning concealed pistol license training requirements.
- SB 6347 - Public Hearing - Extending the expiration date for a concealed pistol license.
- SB 6406 - Public Hearing - Concerning firearms.

### **1:30 p.m., Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education, SHR 1**

- SB 5607 - Public Hearing - Concerning dual language learning in early learning and K-12 education. (Hearing is on the Proposed Substitute.)
- SB 6132 - Public Hearing - Allowing the learning assistance program to support school-wide behavioral health system of supports and interventions.
- SB 6253 - Public Hearing - Creating a comprehensive statewide early care and education system by improving accessibility and affordability of early care and education programs for families.

### **1:30 p.m., House Education, HHR A**

- HB 2012 - Public Hearing - Providing equitable bonuses to K-12 instructional staff who attain national certification through professional organizations.
- HB 2233 - Public Hearing - Expanding the college in high school program to students in ninth grade.
- HB 2428 - Public Hearing - Studying students' life-threatening allergic reactions.

### *Tuesday, January 21*

### **10 a.m., House Civil Rights & Judiciary, HHR A**

- HB 1315 - Public Hearing - Concerning concealed pistol license training requirements.
- HB 2240 - Public Hearing - Concerning high capacity magazines.
- HB 2241 - Public Hearing - Concerning assault weapons and large capacity magazines.
- HB 2519 - Public Hearing - Concerning reasonable public safety measures to prevent dangerous individuals from acquiring ammunition.

### **10 a.m., Senate Law & Justice, SHR 4**

- SB 6163 - Public Hearing - Concerning unlawful possession of firearms for persons free on bond or personal recognizance pending trial, appeal, or sentencing for felony charges under RCW 46.61.502(6) and 46.61.504(6).
- SB 6288 - Public Hearing - Creating the Washington office of firearm violence prevention.

### **1:30 p.m., House Human Services & Early Learning, HHR C**

- HB 2661 - Public Hearing - Expanding accessible, affordable child care and early childhood development programs.

### **3:30 p.m., House Education, HHR A**

- HB 1860 - Public Hearing - Addressing lead in drinking water in schools.
- HB 2290 - Public Hearing - Concerning statewide implementation of early screening for dyslexia.
- HB 2583 - Public Hearing - Ensuring student transportation for students in out-of-home placements.

*Wednesday, January 22*

**1:30 p.m., House College & Workforce Development**

- HB 2523 - Public Hearing - Expanding access to higher education.

**1:30 p.m., Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education, SHR 1**

- SB 6075 - Public Hearing - Concerning local effort assistance.
- SB 6117 - Public Hearing - Concerning appropriations for special education programs.
- SB 6282 - Public Hearing - Concerning the development of individualized highly capable learning plans.
- SB 6510 - Public Hearing - Increasing local effort assistance for small school districts and small remote and necessary plants. (If measure is referred to committee.)

**1:30 p.m., Senate Health & Long-Term Care, SHR 4**

- SB 6254 - Public Hearing - Protecting public health and safety by enhancing the regulation of vapor products.

*Thursday, January 23*

**8 a.m., House Education, HHR A**

- HB 1191 - Exec Session - Concerning school notifications.
- HB 1459 - Exec Session - Establishing a running start summer school pilot program.

**10 a.m., Senate Law & Justice, SHR 4**

- SB 6077 - Exec Session - Concerning high capacity magazines.
- SB 6163 - Exec Session - Concerning unlawful possession of firearms for persons free on bond or personal recognizance pending trial, appeal, or sentencing for felony charges under RCW 46.61.502(6) and 46.61.504(6).
- SB 6288 - Exec Session - Creating the Washington office of firearm violence prevention.
- SB 6294 - Exec Session - Concerning concealed pistol license training requirements.
- SB 6347 - Exec Session - Extending the expiration date for a concealed pistol license.
- SB 6406 - Exec Session - Concerning firearms.

**1:30 p.m., Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development, SHR 2**

- SB 6424 - Public Hearing - Concerning room and board for college bound scholarship students.

**3:30 p.m., Senate Ways & Means, SHR 4**

- SB 6189 - Public Hearing - Clarifying eligibility for school employees' benefits board coverage.

*Friday, January 24*

**8 a.m., Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education joint meeting with Senate Health Care, SHR 4**

- SB 6279 - Public Hearing - Expanding school-based health centers. (Hearing is on the Proposed Substitute.) (If measure is referred to committee.)
- SB 6416 - Public Hearing - Providing telehealth services to schools. (If measure is referred to committee.)

**8:30 a.m., Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education, SHR 1**

- SB 6138 - Public Hearing - Concerning the beginning educator support team program.

**10 a.m., House Civil Rights & Judiciary, HHR A**

- HB 2467 - Exec Session - Establishing a centralized single point of contact background check system for firearms transfers.

Olympia [Capitol Campus Map](#)

HHR refers to hearing rooms in the John L. O'Brien Building

SHR refers to hearing rooms in the John A. Cherberg Building