

February 2, 2020

20 days done, 40 to go

Prepared by Marie Sullivan, WSPTA Legislative Consultant, legconsultant@wastatepta.org

Week 4 marks an important milestone in the 60-day session – the first cutoff. On February 7, bills with policy impact must pass out of the policy committee to remain alive. That means that most of the attention this coming week is on voting action in committees. Some committees will continue to hold a few public hearings on bills introduced later in session, but this is the time when members start to “markup” bills with amendments, and those watching bills need to be vigilant about possible changes to the underlying bills.

A good example of this is HB 2440, limiting high-capacity magazine rounds. In the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee January 30, three amendments were adopted, including one by Rep. Steve Kirby, D-29 (Tacoma), which would increase the limit from 10 rounds to 15 rounds. The bill passed out of committee.

This past week the Senate education committee heard three levy bills: SB 6344 (district choice bill, \$2.50 or \$2,500 per student); SB 6477 (allowing districts with a levy that hasn’t lapsed to return to CY2018 collections for calendar years 2021 and 2022); and SB 6533 (removing the two-tiers of per-pupil funding and making \$3,000 the maximum per student value). Public testimony was positive, but it is unclear if Senate Democrats have the votes to move any levy bill out of committee.

SB 6505, Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal’s signature policy request this session, would phase in dual credit requirements for Running Start, College in the High School, and AP/IB/Cambridge exams. As stated by Reykdal, the goal is to reduce the access barriers to these programs and help more students earn college-level credit. Testimony was mixed, with most testifiers, including Washington State PTA, saying they liked the policy goal, but access to dual credit was part of Basic Education and should be funded by the state, not absorbed by school districts, PTAs, or participating colleges. The bill is likely to move forward, but OSPI has indicated it is willing to consider some funding to support the policy objective. Chair Lisa Wellman encouraged Reykdal to pull together the various interests and see if he can come up with a substitute that is accepted by all parties.

In House Education, members heard a variety of bills, including bills to create a workgroup on family engagement and a bill on social emotional learning. Next Monday, the committee will consider taking a vote on HB 2184, requiring comprehensive sexual health education. While there had been some hope of a bi-partisan approach, it now appears that the bill is likely to have a divided and difficult journey. This will be a bill to track amendments, and the dialogue may affect the rest of the bills in committee as they deal with policy cutoff.

Other dates to keep in mind as the session rushes forward:

- February 11 is the day for bills with a fiscal impact to the state to be out of committee, which means the budget committees will be holding hearings over the weekend.
- February 19 is the day for bills to be passed from the chamber where they started. In other words, House bills must be out of the House, and Senate bills must be out of the Senate.
 - It is also Revenue Forecast day, so budget writers will have a better idea of how much is available for policy additions in a supplemental budget year.
 - Budgets are expected to follow the next week, with public hearings likely on February 24, 25, and 26.
- February 20-28 bills will be considered in the opposite chamber's policy committees, and March 2 is the cutoff for fiscal committee consideration.
- March 6 is the final day for bills to pass out of the opposite chamber, and the next seven days will be spent agreeing or disagreeing with the other chamber's amendments and budget negotiations.
- March 12 is the last day of the regular session, and all indications are the Legislature will be out on time.

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

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 passed out of Senate Law and Justice on January 23, and maintained the 10-round limit. As mentioned above, the House committee added an amendment to limit the rounds to 15. It is expected that this difference will get ironed out over the next few weeks.
 - HB 2241/SB 6076 is another joint request bill that restricts assault weapons and large-capacity magazines. The Senate bill has not had a public hearing, and the House bill hasn't passed out of committee.
 - HB 2467 would create a centralized single point of contact background check system for firearms transfers. The bill passed out of committee on a bi-partisan vote and has been scheduled in the House Appropriations committee February 6.
 - HB 1010, which would give the Washington State Patrol the same authority as other law enforcement agencies to destroy confiscated weapons, passed the House the previous week and has been referred to Senate Law & Justice.
 - We are waiting for SB 5434, banning weapons in daycares or childcare transportation or requiring guns to be in a stored or locked units, to come to the Senate floor for a vote. The bill passed the Senate in 2019 by a vote of 26-21.

- [Screening for Highly Capable Students.](#)
 - HB 1641 and SB 5354 are the screening bills from the 2019 session. We've been told the Senate bill will be the one to move this session, but it hasn't moved out of the Senate Rules.
 - SB 6282 is not related to screening but is focused on recent changes for highly capable programs at Seattle Public Schools. The bill has not been scheduled for a vote.
- 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. The bill passed out of Senate education without amendment on a partisan vote.

Budget

- [Paraeducator funding, \\$40 million.](#) The Governor's proposed supplemental operating budget did not include funding for the training days required by law. WSPTA and other advocates are seeking restoration of two additional days of training, at a reduced amount than requested by OSPI.
- 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. Budget requests in the Senate had a loose deadline for submission of 5 PM January 31. This request does not have a specific Senate champion.
- [LEA funding](#) As mentioned above, several bills have been introduced related to levies and Local Effort Assistance. It is unclear which, if any, will move out of committee. As a reminder, here are the suite of bills:
 - HB 2237/SB 6075 would allow school districts that are at \$2.50/\$1,000 assessed value to access up to \$2,500 in LEA funding.
 - 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.
 - SB 6477 would allow any district with a levy that hasn't lapsed to go back and use the collected amount in calendar year 2018 for two additional years: 2021 and 2022.
 - SB 6533 would change the maximum per student levy amount to \$3,000 for any school district. Last session two tiers were created for per-student amounts: \$3,000 for Seattle and \$2,500 for all other school districts. The bills are up for public hearing this week on January 27.
- [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. No word on if the budget writers will include.

- [Capital budget: seismic retrofits](#) \$25 million OSPI request. The Governor’s proposed supplemental capital budget included \$10 million in support of seismic work. With a debt capacity of \$70 million in the supplemental capital budget, the amount is likely to stay at \$10 million, not the \$25 million requested by OSPI last fall.

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

- Executive Director Andrew Estep [testified](#) in favor of HB 2631, increasing family engagement, in House Education.
- Northshore parent Austina De Bonte testified on SB 6505, the OSPI dual credit bill. Austina’s testimony is [here](#).

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

Monday, February 3

Early Learning & K-12 Education (Senate) - SHR 1, JACB - 2/3 @ 1:30pm

- SB 6511 - Public Hearing - Increasing equitable educational outcomes for foster care and homeless children and youth from prekindergarten to postsecondary education.
- SB 6563 - Public Hearing - Creating statutory authorization for school-based health centers.
- SB 6573 - Public Hearing - Eliminating the reduction in state basic education funding that occurs in counties with federal and state forestlands.

Education (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/3 @ 1:30pm

- HB 2128 - Public Hearing - Establishing new reporting requirements for the delivery and improvement of career and technical education.
- HB 2184 - Exec Session - Requiring comprehensive sexual health education with an affirmative consent curriculum in all public schools by the 2022-23 school year in accordance with the recommendations of the sexual health education work group.
- HB 2233 - Exec Session - Expanding the college in high school program to students in ninth grade.
- HB 2290 - Exec Session - Concerning statewide implementation of early screening for dyslexia.
- HB 2428 - Exec Session - Studying students' life-threatening allergic reactions.
- HB 2589 - Exec Session - Requiring contact information for suicide prevention and crisis intervention organizations on student and staff identification cards.

- HB 2643 - Public Hearing - Concerning educator recertification requirements regarding youth suicide screening, referral, and safety planning.
- HB 2864 - Exec Session - Establishing a running start summer school pilot program.

Health & Long Term Care (Senate) - SHR 4, JACB - 2/3 @ 1:30pm

- SB 6254 - Exec Session - Protecting public health and safety by enhancing the regulation of vapor products.
- SB 6416 - Exec Session - Providing telehealth services to schools.

Appropriations (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/3 @ 3:30pm

- HB 2704 - Exec Session - Establishing a competitive grant program for community sexual assault programs to provide counseling services in schools.

Tuesday, February 4

College & Workforce Development (House) - HHR B, JLOB - 2/4 @ 1:30pm

- HB 2523 - Exec Session - Expanding access to higher education.

Higher Education & Workforce Development (Senate) - SHR 2, JACB - 2/4 @ 1:30pm

- SB 6614 - Public Hearing - Establishing the rural college promise program.

Human Services & Early Learning (House) - HHR C, JLOB - 2/4 @ 1:30pm

- HB 2883 - Public Hearing - Expanding adolescent behavioral health care access.

State Government & Tribal Relations (House) - HHR E, JLOB - 2/4 @ 1:30pm

- HB 2551 - Public Hearing - Permitting students to wear traditional tribal regalia and objects of cultural significance at graduation ceremonies and related events.

Education (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/4 @ 3:30pm

- HB 1191 - Exec Session - Concerning school notifications.
- HB 2583 - Exec Session - Ensuring student transportation for students in out-of-home placements.
- HB 2631 - Exec Session - Creating a family engagement framework.
- HB 2690 - Exec Session - Providing students with equitable access to a high-quality public education by developing an infrastructure that assists public schools in the delivery of integrated student supports.

Wednesday, February 5

Civil Rights & Judiciary (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/5 @ 8:00am

- HB 2623 - Exec Session - Prohibiting the possession of firearms by persons convicted of certain criminal offenses.

Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation (Senate) - SHR 4, JACB - 2/5 @ 8:00am

- SB 6489 - Public Hearing - Concerning possession of vapor, vapor products, tobacco, and tobacco products by persons under the age of twenty-one.

College & Workforce Development (House) - HHR B, JLOB - 2/5 @ 1:30pm

- HB 2523 - Exec Session - Expanding access to higher education.

Early Learning & K-12 Education (Senate) - SHR 1, JACB - 2/5 @ 1:30pm

- SB 6480 - Public Hearing - Developing comprehensive school counseling programs.
- SB 6615 - Public Hearing - Concerning staff funding for school districts.

Human Services & Early Learning (House) - HHR C, JLOB - 2/5 @ 1:30pm

- HB 2883 - Exec Session - Expanding adolescent behavioral health care access.

Thursday, February 6

Behavioral Health Subcommittee to Health & Long Term Care (Senate) - SHR 4, JACB - 2/6 @ 8:00am

- SB 6588 - Public Hearing - Updating the children's mental health work group.

Education (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/6 @ 8:00am

- HB 1860 - Exec Session - Addressing lead in drinking water in schools.
- HB 2128 - Exec Session - Establishing new reporting requirements for the delivery and improvement of career and technical education.
- HB 2288 - Exec Session - Creating statutory authorization for school-based health centers.
- HB 2583 - Exec Session - Ensuring student transportation for students in out-of-home placements.
- HB 2643 - Exec Session - Concerning educator recertification requirements regarding youth suicide screening, referral, and safety planning.
- HB 2660 - Exec Session - Increasing the availability of school meals provided to public school students at no student cost.
- HB 2690 - Exec Session - Providing students with equitable access to a high-quality public education by developing an infrastructure that assists public schools in the delivery of integrated student supports.
- HB 2708 - Exec Session - Establishing a work group on school-based health centers.
- HB 2711 - Exec Session - Increasing equitable educational outcomes for foster care and homeless children and youth from prekindergarten to postsecondary education.
- HB 2816 - Exec Session - Nurturing positive social and emotional school and classroom climates.

Environment, Energy & Technology (Senate) - SHR 1, JACB - 2/6 @ 10:00am

- SB 6628 - Exec Session - Concerning emissions of greenhouse gases.

Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks (Senate) - SHR 3, JACB - 2/6 @ 1:30pm

- SB 6518 - Exec Session - Reducing prenatal exposure and harm to children by limiting environmental exposure to certain pesticides.

Appropriations (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/6 @ 3:30pm

- SHB 2467 - Public Hearing - Establishing a centralized single point of contact background check system for firearms transfers.
- SHB 2661 - Public Hearing - Expanding accessible, affordable childcare and early childhood development programs. (If measure is referred to committee.)

Friday, February 7

College & Workforce Development (House) - HHR B, JLOB - 2/7 @ 8:00am

- HB 2523 - Exec Session - Expanding access to higher education.

Human Services & Early Learning (House) - HHR C, JLOB - 2/7 @ 8:00am

- HB 2883 - Exec Session - Expanding adolescent behavioral health care access.

State Government & Tribal Relations (House) - HHR E, JLOB - 2/7 @ 8:00am

- HB 2551 - Exec Session - Permitting students to wear traditional tribal regalia and objects of cultural significance at graduation ceremonies and related events.

Civil Rights & Judiciary (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 2/7 @ 10:00am

- HB 2623 - Exec Session - Prohibiting the possession of firearms by persons convicted of certain criminal offenses

Behavioral Health Subcommittee to Health & Long Term Care (Senate) - SHR 1, JACB - 2/7 @ 1:30pm

- SB 6634 - Public Hearing - Expanding adolescent behavioral health care access.

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