

WOVE Legislative Update for Career and Technical Education

2020 Legislative Session | January 13, 2020

WOVE...Representing the Career and Technical Education field through advocacy activities, which promotes the value of CTE and the policies that are needed to support CTE practitioners, advance the field, and improve student learning.
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January 13 starts the 2020 Legislative Session for 60 days – start to finish. This is known as the “short session,” which happens in the year when state-wide elections for all of our Representatives in the House and half of the Senators in the Senate take place in the fall. The even-year sessions are when the current biennial budgets (Operating, Capital, and Transportation) are possibly updated due to changes in circumstances in the state or the economy overall. With the passage of 976 reducing car tabs back to \$30 there is a big hole in the Transportation Budget, which will put pressure on both Operating and Capital budgets to possibly help make up the shortfall. While this initiative is being contested in court, the legislature has to plan for the reduction in revenue to the state. General Education and CTE funding reside in the Operating Budget. The Capital Budget is important for skill centers in their ability to maintain and build facilities.

The Washington ACTE with guidance from the our Legislative Committee, WACTA officers, and OSPI, along with other voices from our affiliated sections have created a “[Legislative Strategic Plan](#)” (LSP) to outline our solutions to assure all the CTE funding enhancements the state provides are expended within local district CTE programs. These bills will not require additional state funds, thus making our two solutions for CTE resources much more palatable to the legislature.

If you have been following the Governor’s Career Connect Washington Plan (CCW), you will see he has proposed a supplemental budget for the biennium that provides increased funding to continue to expand career connected learning opportunities for Washington students. So, please study up, engage, and stay tuned. For more details on each of his proposals, please see the Governor’s [supplemental budget proposal](#).

Good news...we are not alone in this work! A coalition of partners continue to come together to raise Career and Technical Education within their legislative priorities in 2020 and beyond. Work Based Learning and career connected learning, which has a long history and grounding in CTE, are receiving more and more attention from our partners.

As always, if you are coming to Olympia to meet with your legislators and I can be of any help please let me know and please keep me posted on any feedback you receive from your communications to help us all support CTE this session.

Stay informed and connected during session by joining our weekly webinar legislative update. Just send me a direct email at tim@wa-acte.org and I will send you the information. You can also follow us on twitter at @WashCTE.

If there is anything we can do to improve the information you are receiving in the WOVE Newsletter, please let me know in a personal email to help us better communicate in 2020.

[WA-ACTE Legislative Strategic Plan](#) three focus areas:

FOCUS: CTE RESOURCES (Funding):

- We worked during the interim on CTE resources and other items for CTE next session. We believe our current resources language can be considered a “technical fix” in the short session. [Proposed Language for CTE Resources](#)

FOCUS: THE VALUE OF CTE:

- Many organizations are working on CTE-related actions that we monitor and engage with – stay tuned for more. This week [HB 1660](#) – Concerning the participation of students who are low income in extracurricular activities – was carried over from last session and has been scheduled for a hearing this week.

FOCUS: SUPPORT CTE STUDENT LEADERSHIP:

- [CTSO Funding](#) increase for statewide supervision and activities.

Keeping up on and taking action reminders:

The webpage for each chamber provides a full listing of the bills on the floor and their status. Source WSSDA - Check them out:

Senate Floor Activity: [Live TVW broadcast](#) & [Display board/Calendar of bills](#)

House Floor Activity: [Live TVW broadcast](#) & [Display board/Calendar of bills](#)

TVW's legislative archives and weekly programs. TVW is a great resource for watching legislative action live or recorded.

- [Archives](#) - here you can view past hearings of interest, just select the date and event you would like to view.
- [Legislative Review](#) - daily & weekly updates
- [The Impact](#) - Wednesday evenings
- [Inside Olympia](#) - Thursday evenings

Always remember to advocate on your own time and only using your personal email. Never use work resources to be assured that you do not violate PDC laws as a public employee.

- Review the week ahead committee meeting schedule, focusing on bills still alive in the process that have been scheduled for public hearing, then contact your legislators asking them to support our two CTE bills – especially if they serve on one of the committees where the bill has been assigned.
- Reach out with your perspective on the bill and share your story. Consider contacting your member on a bill important to you.
- Share CTE program data from your school/district, stories, and suggestions to improve the proposed policy from your perspective is important to legislators. *You are the expert for your program and the needs of your students so don't be anxious to share your story.*
- Follow-up with legislators/committees on a specific bill or issue.
- Provide input on bills not yet scheduled for hearings or on an issue area of interest or concern to you.

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[Washington State Legislature Website](#)

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