

## ***WOVE Legislative Update for Career and Technical Education***

**2021 Legislative Session | January 26, 2021**

*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. To subscribe to the WOVE Legislative Update or to view past issues, please click here.*

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A better future for all requires working together. Seems straight forward, but how do we put that into action in our schools, our programs, our communities, our state, and our nation? Personally, I believe we all have to share the vision of what a better future looks like. This was so beautifully said by poet laureate Amanda Gorman on Wednesday during the Inauguration. You may have heard excerpts but you owe yourself the time to hear the full poem if you missed it.

Her words resonate with me as to the process in making legislation...it can truly be “The Hill We Climb”. So, as we engage in the process here in Washington State, we must remember where we have been, analyze where we truly are, and chart a course for our preferred future that is better for all.

While we have just finished week two and have begun week three, we learn daily about what we have in front of us and there will be much more to understand as we move forward. Working together is critical for any success we may obtain during session! We have many CTE student leaders working to return funding for CTSOs – while that sounds good, we need all of us helping to bring about success on this priority.

### **Week 2 in review:**

This week [HB 1162](#) “Concerning high school graduation credit and pathway options” was heard on Friday (1/22) in House Committee ([Seen Here](#)). I was signed up to testify but was not called due to the large number of folks wanting to testify, so written testimony was submitted to the committee. Based on the input of our Open Leg Committee we signed in “Con” to the bill as written. We shared that 1599 and the pathways have only existed for two years. In that time districts have just begun understanding and implementing the pathways, then comes the pandemic adversely affecting those efforts. Due to both factors, we asked for the bill to not move forward giving more time for the existing pathways to be built out across the state and any changes to be based on good data and input from stakeholders.

State officers from various CTSOs have been holding virtual office meetings with legislative members sharing their stories and asking for the return of funding for their organizations. If you and your students would like to engage in this civic process, we are here to help.

### **What is happening in Week 3:**

[HB 1162](#) is scheduled for Executive Session on the 28<sup>th</sup> and we will be monitoring to see what happens.

We will be discussing upcoming bills at our weekly Open Leg Zoom Wednesday at 4:30 PM. Reach out to me if you do not already have the information to join in the meeting.

### **HOW TO ADVOCATE and ENGAGE:**

- [Bill Information](#) - find bill language and information here.
- [Committee Calendars and Agendas](#) - find out when committees meet and what is on their agenda.
- [Sign-Up to testify](#) - share your thoughts/suggestions by declaring your intention to testify no less than an hour before the hearing begins.
  - Prepare - Remote testimony is limited to two minutes in most cases, but be prepared to shorten to one minute if time slots get shortened.
- [Written Testimony](#) - Send committee members formal written testimony or other comments up to 24-hours **after** the start of a hearing.
- [Follow Along](#) - All committee hearings are live and archived on TVW.
  - [Senate Channel](#)
  - [House Channel](#)

### **A word of caution for working in this process:**

The WOVE Legislative Newsletter is for your information, education, and outreach.

Here are some simple guidelines in how you should properly use this information going forward. In a “virtual” world where many are working from home with school/public provided equipment it will be very important to pay attention to what is allowed when and how as we deal with this new process of advocacy.

- You may pass this information along to your home email and/or share with your administration.
- As a public employee using public resources (time, equipment, and servers) you may not engage in what can be considered “lobbying.” This means you should not during the school/contract day use school phones, computers, equipment, school email, and any use of public servers with your personal email to make direct contact to lobby any legislative member, this includes their staff or any member of the public that you are directing to vote in a certain way or take on any lobbying action. Lobbying is generally described as a direct ask for action in the political and/or legislative process at any level (local/state/nation).

So, if you choose to be personally or professionally involved in the political process you need to do so on your own time, outside the contract day, and with your own resources and personally owned equipment.

## WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE | BILL STATUS REPORT

*Click the link below for the current report listing all bills we are currently tracking and their current status:*

**[BILL STATUS & UPCOMING EVENTS REPORT](#)**

### 2021 CUTOFF CALENDAR

<b>January 11</b>	First Day of Session
<b>February 15</b>	Last day to read in committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) in house of origin, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
<b>February 22</b>	Last day to read in committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees in house of origin.
<b>March 9</b>	Last day to consider (pass) bills in house of origin (5 p.m.).
<b>March 26</b>	Last day to read in committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) from opposite house, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
<b>April 2</b>	Last day to read in opposite house committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
<b>April 11*</b>	Last day to consider (pass) 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).
<b>April 25</b>	Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.
* After 5:00 p.m. on the 91st day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, matters that affect state revenue, messages pertaining to amendments, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session may be considered.	

### WOVE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FOR CTE SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

***(please share with interested colleagues)***

**[PDF](#) | [WORD](#) (checks or purchase orders)**

**[Online \(credit cards only\)](#)**