WOVE Legislative Update for Career and Technical Education 2022 Legislative Session | February 17, 2022

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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Washington State Legislature Website

Tuesday's house-of-origin deadline left several bills on the Legislature's cutting room floor. The deadline, for House bills to clear the House and Senate bills to clear the Senate, is the procedural "half-way" point for bills to become law. The last few days featured extended debates over controversial bills. All that debate and procedural maneuvers ran out the clock, leaving dozens of bills stranded in the House and Senate due to lack of action. Remember there is a huge loophole for budget bills and things deemed necessary to implement the budget (NTIB) extending their ability to pass in some form from most of these deadlines.

This week there are a few key things that have died and a few key things that are moving across the capitol to the opposite chamber reducing our list of bills we are monitoring in the WOVE.

Revenue Forecast:

Today's February Revenue Forecast projected a \$2.774 billion increase in revenue. Combined with the prior increases experienced since lawmakers adopted the 2021-23 budget, revenues have now exceeded expectations by \$10.5 billion.

Watch full meeting here: "Economic and Revenue Forecast Council"

Here are a few highlights:

Revenue

- The WA economy is expected to outperform the national economy in both employment and personal income growth for 2022-2025.
- The forecast of funds subject to the budget outlook is increased by \$1,453 million for 2021-23 biennium.
- 1.3B in remaining Federal funds to be appropriated in the budget.
- Supplemental budget due out early next week.

Proposed Supplemental Budgets:

<u>Senate Capital Budget – Overall Summary found here.</u>

K-12 Education:

- \$123 million is provided to implement the School Seismic Safety Grant Program under Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5933 and for completing the 2019-21 seismic retrofit program. SSB 5933 provides increased grant funding for schools in high seismic hazard areas, built before 1998 and not retrofitted to 2005 seismic standards.
- \$13 million is provided to assist the Almira School District in replacing their elementary/middle school, which was destroyed by a fire in October 2021.
- The School Construction Assistance Program is reduced from \$730.6 million to \$540.7 million for 2021-23. The \$189.9 million savings reflects lower than anticipated demand to qualified school districts for the construction, renovation, and modernization of K-12 school facilities in fiscal year 2023.

Grants Funds for or related to CTE:

- \$30 million is provided to complete design and begin construction of a new Career and Technical Education facility at the West Sound Technical Skills Center in Bremerton.
- \$20,000 of the appropriations in this section is provided solely for the Sunnyside School District for the transfer of the Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center Sunnyside Satellite Campus and its related property and equipment.
- \$3.9 million provided for Franklin Pierce Farm Agricultural Resource Center (Tacoma).

Ed/CTE Funding Items:

HB 1590 - Concerning enrollment stabilization funding to address enrollment declines due to the COVID-19 pandemic - Authorizes the use of 2019-20 enrollment values to calculate enrichment levy limits in the 2023 and 2024 calendar years and to calculate local effort assistance in the 2022 and 2023 calendar years. (Referred to Ways & Means 2/14/22)

<u>HB 1808</u> - <u>Concerning pupil transportation funding</u> - (Referred to Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee)

<u>SB 5595</u> - <u>Concerning prototypical school formulas for physical, social, and emotional support in schools</u> - is still in Senate Ways and Means. Increases funds for nurses and counselors to support students and includes additional funds for Skill Centers. (Did not come out of Senate Rules – Deemed Dead at this point)

Items Valuing CTE:

SHB 1162 - Concerning high school graduation credit and pathway options - effort to "adjust" the graduation requirements and to add an additional Graduation Pathway. (Was released from Rules and PASSED the House 77-21; referred to Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee 2/16/22)

The Week Ahead:

Following is the committee hearing dates and times where you can find the link to the bill for the full text. If you wish to testify, you can find out how to do so using the following link: https://app.leg.wa.gov/csi/House

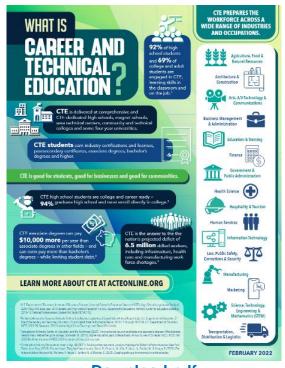
Current Bill Status Report & Upcoming Events

Federal Legislation - ACTE Advocacy Webpage

<u>Take Action</u>

<u>ACTE Policy Agenda</u>

Advocacy Resources



Download pdf

February is CTE Month!



<u>Visit the ACTE CTE Month Webpage for More Information</u>

2022 Washington State Proclamation

Engaging in the Process:

WOVE subscribers are encouraged to join our weekly Legislative Update meetings. If you would like to join us please let Tim Knue know directly at tim@wa-acte.org to receive the calendar/email information. These meetings are a great way to be aware of what is happening on a weekly basis and to help you engage with your local legislative members in achieving our legislative goals.

If you are ever feeling the need to testify on any bill this session, we post the related committee meeting times and dates for the coming week for your information in this newsletter. If I can help in any way with this, please let me know, I welcome all help in our efforts.

The "On the Virtual Hill" Process:

During 2022, in response to COVID-19, the House and Senate have made operational changes to adhere to public health guidance. Please go to the <u>House Covid-19 Operations</u> and <u>Senate Covid-19 Operations</u> plans for more details. All proceedings can be viewed on TVW. To view legislative proceedings click here for <u>TVW</u>. Please click here to go to the <u>committee website pages</u>. To find your Legislator click <u>here</u> or click <u>here</u> to send a message to your Legislator.

The legislative process this year will be like last - virtual! Here is what we know at this time and only if the effect of COVID diminishes will these restrictions to in-person access be loosened.

- Campus: All campus buildings minus the Capitol building will be closed to the public. There will not be any meetings allowed in any buildings including the Capitol, O'Brien, and Cherberg buildings.
- Senate:
 - All committee meetings will be virtual.
 - For now, floor action will be limited to 8 democrats and 7 republicans on the floor daily.

- Nobody from the public (lobbyists included) will be allowed in the chamber corridors or offices.
- The goal is to assess the pandemic status weekly and adjust as is possible.
- All legislators and staff will be required to COVID test multiple times per week (legislators going on the floor will be COVID testing daily).

House:

- All Committee meetings will be virtual.
- For now, floor action will be limited to 2 democrats and 2 republicans on the floor daily.
- Nobody from the public (lobbyists included) will be allowed in the chamber corridors or offices.
- All legislators and staff will be required to test multiple times per week (legislators going on the floor will be COVID testing daily).

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 **can and cannot** use this information going forward.

- You may pass this information along to your home email and/or share with your district administration.
- As a public employee using public resources (time, equipment, and servers) may not engage in what can be considered "lobbying." This means you should not, during the school/contract day, be using school phones, computers, equipment, servers (school email) to make direct contact with anyone to lobby any legislative member, this includes their staff or any member of the public that you are directing to "lobby." 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 directly 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.

2022 Session Cutoff Calendar	
February 24, 2022	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.
February 28, 2022	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.
March 4, 2022*	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).
March 10, 2022	Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

^{*} After 5:00pm on the 54th 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.
2022 Regular Session cutoff dates were established in <u>SCR 8401</u>, and adopted by the House & Senate.