WOVE Legislative Update for Career and Technical Education 2021 Legislative Session | March 15, 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, <u>please click here</u>.

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<u>HB 1162</u> - <u>Concerning high school graduation credit and pathway options</u> (WA-ACTE in Con on the bill):

- Reduces the number of credits required for high school graduation from 24 to 20 and applies the revised credit requirements to the graduating class of 2021 and subsequent classes.
- Establishes an additional graduation pathway option that enables students to meet graduation pathway requirements by completing a performance exhibition meeting specified criteria.
- Modifies credit waiver provisions by limiting a two-credit individual student waiver to students in the graduating class of 2019 and 2020.

<u>HB 1162</u> was assigned first reading on March 1, and is <u>now scheduled for public hearing in the</u> <u>Senate Committee on Early Learning & K-12 March 17 at 10:30 AM.</u>

The Washington Association for Career and Technical Education is asking that the committee **NOT advance** 1162 with the "performance exhibition" graduation pathway for the following reasons:

- Graduation pathways established in 1599 24 months ago, 12 of those months during a pandemic. School districts across the state have not had the time to fully develop and implement the new pathways with fidelity and offering a new pathway is premature at this time.
- The "performance exhibition" fails to meet the intent, purpose, and rigor of the existing pathways.
- Adding a new "performance exhibition" does not advance the K12 system to best meet the needs of students in their futures to fully engage in Washington's economy.

TAKE ACTION! Your help is critical...

You can help stop the passage of 1162 as written by submitting testimony to the members of the EL&K12 committee before March 17 by one or all of the following...

- Send email directly to committee members (<u>emails found here</u>)
- Send comments via <u>Senate Remote Testimony on 1162</u> select Early Learning K12 committee for the meeting on 3/17/2021 at 10:30 AM and choose 1162.
- <u>Testify in the Virtual Hearing</u> same process to select the committee, the date, and the bill. More on testifying is found below.
- Record your position on the bill Same as above, scroll down to How to State Your Position on a Bill Without Testifying

Revenue forecast is looking good...like over half a billion good...<u>Washington's latest economic</u> review: positive indicators amid ongoing uncertainty - Washington State Wire

Join us on Wednesday afternoons where we discuss upcoming bills at our weekly Open Leg Zoom at 4:30 PM. Reach out to me if you would like to have the information to join in the meeting.

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

HOW TO ADVOCATE and ENGAGE:

- <u>Bill Information</u> find bill language and information here.
- <u>Committee Calendars and Agendas</u> find out when committees meet and what is on their agenda.
- <u>Sign-Up to testify</u> 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.
- <u>Written Testimony</u> Send committee members formal written testimony or other comments up to 24-hours <u>after</u> the start of a hearing.
- Follow Along All committee hearings are live and archived on TVW.
 - o Senate Channel
 - o 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.

2021 CUTOFF CALENDAR	
March 26	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.
April 2	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.
April 11*	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).
April 25	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.	

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