WOVE Legislative Update for Career and Technical Education

2024 Legislative Session | January 11, 2024

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WA-ACTE Website | Washington State Legislature Website

The 2024 legislative session is upon us with January 8 marking day one of the 60-day short session. The first week on "the hill" has been filled with member meetings, stakeholder discussions, bill negotiations, and committee hearings. We also had our first legislative zoom of the session on Tuesday evening (now happening on Mondays).

This is the supplemental or "even" year of the biennium, which means a lot fewer bills get passed and a lot less money gets spent. But, that doesn't mean meaningful policy doesn't get deliberated, heard, and sometimes even passed into law.

Governor Inslee has released his supplemental state operating budget as well as capital and transportation budgets. You can see the Governor's proposed budget summary, bill, and agency details in this link. These are not final budgets but instead a starting point for the House and Senate to begin crafting their versions of the spending packages for the remainder of the biennium which ends June 30, 2025.

Supporting the following Bill(s):

This Week's Highlight: - House Bill 2236

You can sign-in to testify on the bill at the House Education Committee link and not have to wait until Tuesday. This bill has been scheduled for public hearing in the House Education Committee on January 16. The bill charges OSPI, the State Board for Community & Technical Colleges, the Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board, as well as a statewide organization representing CTE with developing an allied health professions CTE core plus program for providing instruction to students who are pursuing industry-recognized nondegree credentials. This adds to the "core" portfolio of offerings in secondary schools through CTE.

The WA-ACTE team has met several times over the past month with the bill sponsor, Rep. Shavers, as well as staff and stakeholders from Core Plus and others such as Boeing to get the final agreed upon language before the January 16 hearing date. Join us on the Monday legislative calls for more updates about this and other proposed legislation. Reach out to Tim (tim@wa-acte.org) for information to join if wanted.

The WA-ACTE legislative team is also monitoring and engaging with all legislation that affects our members this year. The main bills we are monitoring and engaging with are listed in the WOVE bill summary.

As a reminder, you can always reach out to your elected representatives by using the online legislative tools. Find your legislator here. Contact your legislator and their staff member here. And find bill information here.

Current Bill Status Report & Upcoming Events

Celebrate CTE Month in February!



Career and Technical Education Month® is a public awareness campaign, hosted by ACTE and sponsored by National Association of Home Builders, that takes place each February to celebrate CTE, the accomplishments of CTE programs and the importance of CTE for all students of all ages. We encourage you to use the resources on the CTE Month webpage to help us generate positive awareness of CTE!



ACTE 2023 Year-in-Review Legislative Update

Federal Legislation:

- ACTE Advocacy Webpage
- CTE Policy Watch Blog
- Take Action
- ACTE Policy Agenda
- Advocacy Resources

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.