

WASHINGTON STEM ADVOCACY COALITION CALL

4/14/2023 | NOTES

[Weekly Bill Tracker](#)

We are currently 9 days from adjournment and lots of bills are currently moving through the concurrence process!

Note: The End of Session Advocacy Coalition call will be on June 2 from 12pm-1pm. Calendar invite coming.

Week 14 Updates *(bill status as of 4pm on Friday 4/14)*

High School to Postsecondary:

SB 5243: Concerning high school and beyond planning.

Sponsors/Request: OSPI, Wellman (41st LD)

- Bill was unanimously concurred in the Senate on Friday afternoon! It now heads for signatures and then the Governor's desk.

Applying Dual Credit:

SB 5048: Eliminating college in the high school fees.

Sponsors: Mullet (5th LD) et al.

- Bill was unanimously concurred in the Senate on Friday afternoon! It now heads for signatures and then the Governor's desk.

HB 1316: Expanding access to dual credit programs.

Sponsors: Paul (10th LD) et al.

- The bill passed off the Senate floor on Wednesday, 4/12 with 47 yeas and 2 nays.
- The bill is on the House concurrence calendar.

HB 1146: Notifying high school students and their families about available dual credit programs and any available financial assistance.

Sponsors: Paul (10th LD) et al.

- The bill did not meet the Rules cut off.

Early Learning System Improvements:

HB 1525: Concerning eligibility for working connections child care benefits for persons participating in state registered apprenticeships.

Sponsors: Fosse (38th LD) et al.

- This bill passed on Monday, April 8th off of the Senate floor with 36 yeas and 12 nays.
- The bill is on the House concurrence calendar.

SB 5225: Increasing access to the working connections child care program.

Sponsors: Wilson, C (30th LD) et al.

- Bill passed off of the House and Senate floor and was signed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House.

Updates from Week 14 (Orlando/Jayne)

- Final policy cutoff on Wednesday evening. Each chamber had a final bill (often referred to as the “5 o’clock bill”
 - In the House: ESSB 5599: Supporting youth and young adults seeking protected health care services.
 - In the Senate: 2SHB 1724: Increasing the trained behavioral health workforce.
- We are now in the thick of the concurrence process up until the end of session. The bulk of concurrence will occur before the budgets surface.
 - House has 96 on the concurrence calendar, Senate: has 82 bills on the concurrence calendar
- Chambers can refuse to concur and insist on their position. Sometimes chambers will request a conference and have a few members on each side (conferees) to work out the final details of bills and budgets. Most bills will be passed in the concurrence process while some may die.
- Budgets will be released next week and we anticipate the legislature adjourning on time (April 23.)
- Bill signings by the Governor are starting to occur as well.

Bill signing!

- Bill signing is happening now. The Governor’s office releases the list when they are scheduled for signing..
- Up until April 18: The Governor has 5 days to sign bills.
- After April 18: The Governor has up until 20 days after session adjourned to sign bills. (Business days)
- Keep up to date on bill action here: <https://www.governor.wa.gov/office-governor/official-actions/bill-action>

BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN? DEFINITION OF THE WEEK

Week 14’s definition is CONCURRENCE.

- If a bill has been amended by the second chamber, the first chamber has to decide whether it will concur with the amendments.
- In addition to everything referenced above. 😊

Other Bills We Are Tracking (and more in the Bill Tracker)

HB 1013: Establishing regional apprenticeship programs

- Bill passed the Senate unanimously on Monday, April 10th, and has already been concurred and signed by the Speaker of the House.

SB 5593: Improving equity in the transfer of student data between K-12 schools and institutions of higher education.

- Passed off the House floor on Wednesday, April 12th, with 89 yeas and 8 nays.
- The bill is on the Senate concurrence calendar.

SHB 1332: Supporting public school instruction in tribal sovereignty and federally recognized Indian tribes.

- Bill was placed on 2nd reading in Rules but did not meet the cutoff.

SHB 1238: Providing free school meals for all.

- Bill passed Senate on Tuesday, April 11th with 44 yeas and 5 nays.
- The bill is on the House concurrence calendar.

SHB 1559: Establishing the student basic needs at public postsecondary institutions act.

- Bill passed the Senate floor on Wednesday, April 12th with 29 yeas and 20 nays.
- The bill is on the House concurrence calendar.

Career Connect Washington:

From Maud: Thank you to those of you who have used the [email-sending tool](#) to contact key legislators. If you have not yet done so, there is still time to reach out this week and early next week and it only takes a few minutes to do! We appreciate your support with communicating the importance of fully funding the \$3.158 million grant pool. Please note: We are not pressing for the \$2.5 million at this time.

Here is a quick summary of where things stand currently on the two primary asks:

- The \$3.158 million increase to the CCW grant pool
 1. Fully funded in Governor's budget and in Senate
 2. Funded at \$1 million level in House
- The \$2.5 million funding for WSAC to set up a hub coordinating team for CCW
 1. Fully funded in Governor's budget
 2. Not funded in Senate or House budgets

2023 Senate and House Budgets:

- Senate Operating Budget ([SB 5187](#)) and the House Operating Budget ([HB 1140](#)) are in budget negotiations.
- Transportation budget ([HB 1125](#)) and Capital Budget ([SB 5200](#)) are moving through the budget negotiations process after being passed from their respective chambers.
- Check out all the proposed budgets (Operating, Capital, Transportation) here: <http://leap.leg.wa.gov/>

ESSER Funding:

Note: Our partners and OSPI have made us aware of concerns of federally allocated Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ESSER) funding appropriated in the proposed Senate and House budgets that had already been set aside for allocation by OSPI. We are also aware that while not requested, some proviso appropriations in the budget have included ESSER funds. We know OSPI is sharing information with partners and working with the legislature and budget writers to address. We also know partners and programs across the state who may be impacted are also working on advocacy to elevate and address this. We will share any advocacy opportunities with the coalition and know many partners are reaching out directly to legislators about the program impact.

WASHINGTON STEM LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2023

- **Early Learning System Improvements:** Support the equitable implementation of the Fair Start for Kids Act through improvements to agency measurement and transparency. Support community efforts for increased investments to develop the early childcare workforce.
- **Applying Dual Credit:** Increase equitable completion and application of dual credit by bridging the gaps between K-12 and higher education systems.
- **High School to Postsecondary:** Improve the utility of postsecondary- and career-readiness strategies and tools through evidence and community voice.

ACTION: Invite a colleague, changemaker, or leader. Please ask them to sign up here to join the 2023 Washington STEM Advocation Coalition, receive notifications and information about future policy calls, and get updates on Coalition efforts.

Learn more on our website: <https://washingtonstem.org/advocacy2023/>

The WA STEM Advocacy Coalition exists to collect and disseminate information pertaining to statewide education policy. We exist to provide feedback and evidence-based recommendations to the Legislature. *Joining our weekly informational sessions to hear updates on our policy and advocacy does not in itself constitute lobbying.*