

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MEETING NO. 154
MAY 5, 2011**

LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

Background

During the 2011 legislative session, the Workforce Board staff promoted, monitored and provided input on issues that matched the priorities identified in *High Skills, High Wages*.

At the Board meeting, staff will provide the Board with insight on significant policy issues addressed during the regular legislative session, as well as the impact of pending budget proposals and/or the adopted budget.

Included in this tab is a summary of policy issues addressed by the Legislature, a list of major workforce-related bills that did and did not pass during the regular session, a list of budget-related bills that are likely to be considered during the special session, and a table of workforce-related items in the biennial budget proposals. Information on a final budget as adopted by the Legislature may be available at the meeting, provided agreement has been reached.

Board Action Requested: None. For discussion purposes only.

WORKFORCE-RELATED POLICY ISSUES – 2011 SESSION

YOUTH

Dropout Prevention

The Legislature passed a major dropout prevention initiative entitled the Pay for Actual Student Success (PASS) Act, E2SHB 1599. The legislation is subject to funding in the final budget that is passed (over \$7 million is provided in the House budget). It would fund the following programs:

- Opportunity Internships
- Jobs for America's Graduates
- Building Bridges
- Individualized student support activities provided by a college scholarship organization.
- A financial award for high schools that demonstrate improvement in certain dropout prevention indicators.

The bill directs OSPI, the Workforce Board, the Building Bridges Work Group, and the college scholarship organization to collaborate to assure the programs operate systematically and are expanded to include as many schools and students as possible.

There is also a provision in a bill directing OSPI to provide technical assistance, within available funds, for school and district improvement that is specifically targeted to reduce school dropouts and improve graduation rates (SHB 1443). This bill is necessary to implement the budget and likely to be considered during the special session.

Career and Technical Education

Tech Prep dual credits earned by CTE students are included in the “Launch Year” program under E2SHB 1808. The program requires institutions of higher education to develop and publicize a master list of postsecondary courses that can be fulfilled by achieving a qualifying score on proficiency exams or by meeting demonstrated competencies.

A bill requiring OSPI to develop a strategic plan for career and technical education has been delivered to the Governor (SHB 1710)

Work-Related Experience

A few bills focusing on providing work experience for students and/or young adults were considered by the 2011 Legislature:

- A Puget Sound Corps was created and Conservation Corp programs were consolidated in SHB 1294 which passed and was signed by the governor. The bill includes a provision to recruit disadvantaged students.
- Technical amendments to the Opportunity Internship Program, including changing the eligibility requirements and allowing students who have completed a GED to be enrolled were included in SHB 1608. However, the bill did not pass.

K-12 Education Governance

Bills in the House and Senate originally designed to provide sweeping changes in higher education and K-12 governance were amended in the regular session to provide further study of consolidation (SHB 1849) or to focus on consolidating several early learning and K-12 education

agencies into a Department of Education (SSB 5639). These bills did not pass during the regular session, but may be further considered during the special session as necessary to implement the budget. Highlights include:

- Creation of a consolidated entity for strategic planning in education – Education Council appointed by the Governor (SHB 1849); Department of Education (DOE) and Secretary of Education under the Governor (SSB 5639). Under SSB 5639, the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) is to cooperate and coordinate with the new DOE.
- Abolishing and/or transferring the duties of the Department of Early Learning, State Board of Education, Professional Educators Standards Board, Quality Education Council, Early Learning Advisory Council, Achievement Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee, Office of Education Ombudsman, and Washington State School Directors Association to the DOE. (SSB 5639).
- Creation of a P-12 Education Council to advise the Secretary of Education (SSB 5639).
- Governor-appointed transition teams must either complete a transition plan to phase-in the DOE (SB 5639), or prepare a proposed plan along with legislation necessary to implement it and abolish current agencies (HB 1849).
- The Governor is encouraged to assemble a transition team to consider, and if appropriate, coordinate the inclusion of state-level higher education agencies into the DOE under SB 5639.

ADULT

Unemployment Modification signed into law

SHB 1091 – Modifying the unemployment insurance program

- Establishes Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax caps and reductions.
- Provides for a temporary benefit increase by adding \$25 to the weekly benefit amount.
- Makes changes to Training Benefits (the program that provides additional weeks of unemployment insurance when a worker is in retraining), including expanding the definition of “dislocated worker,” eliminating certain deadlines and requirements for dislocated workers, and modifying the funding cap for Training Benefits. Funding continues to be limited to \$20 million per year, in addition to any funds carried forward from previous years. However, if funding is equal to or less than \$5 million, Training Benefits are obligated only for dislocated workers (i.e., other eligible individuals will not receive Training Benefits). If funds are exhausted, Training Benefits are obligated to dislocated workers only, and available funding for the following year is reduced by a corresponding amount.
- Makes changes to extended benefits, including a three-year look-back period. The look-back period is the comparison period used for figuring out when the state is eligible to “trigger on” the extended benefits program. Up until now, it has been a two-year period, which is thought to be too short to account for the prolonged high unemployment rates the state has recently seen.

Access to Postsecondary Education & Training

Several proposals that would increase access to postsecondary education and training were considered, with mixed outcomes. In a manner, capacity was added by incorporating online baccalaureate programs through Western Governors University (SHB 1822) and creating an aerospace student loan program for certificate-level training (ESHB 1846). Potentially at play for

special session will be a bill that mitigates the impact of tuition increases and increases baccalaureate degrees in high demand fields (HB 2088). On the other hand, a bill that requires students with excess credits or prior degrees to pay the full cost of instruction (SB 5868) might constrain access for some students. Finally, a proposal that would permanently expand financial aid eligibility to less-than half-time students (SHB 1650) did not make it out of Senate Higher Education. Without that bill or a proviso in the budget, the pilot allowing less-than half-time students access to need grants will lapse.

Passed:

- SHB 1822 – Nonprofit online university (Kenney)
- ESHB 1846 – Aerospace student loans (Eddy)

Budget-related bills:

- HB 2088 – Opportunity Scholarship Board (Probst)
- SB 5868 – Tuition fees/excess credits (Tom)

Did not pass:

- HB 1650 – State need grant eligibility (Hasagawa)

Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition

The Legislature looks at credit for prior learning as a means to decrease time-to-degree and more efficiently meet the demands of the labor market. Two proposals that recognize occupation-specific learning from the armed services passed (HB 1418 and ESSB 5307), while a bill aimed at creating more efficiency in assessing credit for prior learning (SHB 1522) did not pass but was moved into a budget-related bill (2SHB 1795).

Passed:

- HB 1418 – Military training/licensing for certain professions (Rolfes)
- ESSB 5307 – Military training/medical fields (Kilmer)

Did not pass but moved into budget-related bill 2SHB 1795:

- SHB 1522 – Credit for prior learning (Kenney)

Higher Education Finance, Performance & Accountability

A number of proposals that would impact access to and affordability of education and influence the shape of higher education accountability and performance reporting were considered during the regular session. Highlights from the budget-related bill at play for special session include greater tuition-setting flexibility for colleges and universities, authority for the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to use differential tuition models, placing the National Governors Association's "Complete to Compete" measures into statute and establishing performance contracts for the baccalaureate institutions.

Budget-related bills:

- 2SHB 1795 – Higher education opportunity act (Carlyle)
- SB 5915 – Higher education funding and performance (Kilmer)

Higher Education Governance

While sweeping education governance is not looking likely in 2011, two significant higher education governance proposals are still in play for the special session. These proposals would add certain duties to the Workforce Board's requirements, impact the Board's coordinating relationships in higher education, impact how the Board collaborates to analyze labor market supply-demand gaps, and shape higher education accountability & performance reporting (2SSB 5182 and HB 2074).

Budget-related bills:

- HB 2074 – Changing functions of the Higher Education Coordinating Board (Sullivan)

- 2SSB 5182 – Establishing the Office of Student Financial Assistance by eliminating the Higher Education Coordinating Board and transferring its functions to various entities (White)

INDUSTRY

Jobs

This session, the state’s economic development leaders looked to our entrepreneurs and small businesses, current Washington companies considering expansion, and businesses locating in the state to create family-wage jobs and long-term career ladders for our state’s citizens.

Small Business Support

Passed:

- State purchasing agencies must establish and implement plans to increase the number of in-state small businesses annually receiving state contracts for goods and services (HB 1770).
- Small businesses have seven calendar days, as opposed to two calendar days, to correct a violation before state enforcement agencies may impose a fine, civil penalty, or administrative sanction (HB 1150).

Did not pass:

- State agencies ease the regulatory burden on small businesses by providing an online business portal to better streamline the tax and licensure process (SHB 1165).

Career Ladders

House budget-related bill:

- State agencies share the unified strategic goal of increasing the percentage of Washington households living in the middle income bracket or higher (SHB 1601).

Did not pass:

- The Workforce Board creates a website that provides a forum for students and employers to match prospective interns with internship opportunities (SHB 1760).

Business Recruitment and Expansion

Passed:

- The Department of Commerce and Associate Development Organizations develop and coordinate streamlined business recruitment and retention protocols (HB 1916).

Did not pass:

- The state supports start-up manufacturing and high technology research and development activities through business and occupation tax exemptions (HB1943/SSB 5732; SB 5735).
- Employers locating or expanding in Washington continue to collect training allowances for employees through the Customized Employment Workforce Training Program (SB 5324).

Infrastructure and Innovation

Washington’s long-term growth and prosperity depends on ground-level investments on the front end. These local investments are often realized through state recognition and institutionalization.

Passed:

- Research labs, testing facilities, incubation facilities, and training centers built in innovation partnership zones can receive local improvement district funding (HB 1937/SB 5403).
- Impact Washington collaborates with industry sector and cluster associations to inform import-impacted manufacturers about Trade Adjustment Assistance (SB 5731).
- The Washington Economic Development Finance Authority’s debt limit is raised to \$1.5 billion (SB 5367).

Budget-Related Bills:

- Community redevelopment district growth fosters further growth through bonds and levies based on prospective property value increases (SSB 5705).
- The Washington Technology Center and the Spokane Intercollegiate Research and Technology Institute merge to respond to the technology transfer needs of existing state businesses (SSB 5764).
- Former King County stadium-directed revenues are redirected to fund tourism promotion, workforce housing, art and heritage programs, and community development (HB1997).

State Economic Development Strategy Improvement

The role of the Economic Development Commission is modified to provide a more strategic, and less programmatic, approach.

Passed:

- Among other changes, a second labor member and two more private sector members are added to the Economic Development Commission. The commission will focus on planning and evaluation and will hire a research manager (SSB 5741).

**2011-2013 Operating Budget
Governor vs. House vs. Senate
Workforce-Related Items**

Governor 2011-2013 = Governor’s Proposed Operating Budget for 2011-2013

House = House Approved Operating Budget for 2011-2013 (ESHB 1087)

Senate = Senate Approved Operating Budget for 2011-2013 (ESHB 1087 as amended)

GF-S = General Fund-State

FY = Fiscal Year

Workforce Board:

| | <u>Governor</u> | <u>House</u> | <u>Senate</u> |
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| <i>Budget Reduction</i> | \$315,000 (10 percent) reduction in GF-S (does not include 3 percent salary reduction or COLA cutbacks). | \$315,000 (10 percent) reduction in GF-S (does not include 3 percent salary reduction or COLA cutbacks). | \$315,000 (10 percent) reduction in GF-S (does not include 3 percent salary reduction, additional salary reductions for high-wage earners, or COLA cutbacks). |
| <i>WAVE</i> | Budget language directs the Workforce Board to <u>not</u> designate recipients of WAVE or recognize them at award ceremonies for the 2011-2013 biennium. | No budget language (see Higher Education Coordinating Board, below for WAVE appropriation suspension). | No budget language (see Higher Education Coordinating Board, below for WAVE appropriation suspension). |
| <i>Middle Income</i> | | “The board shall include in its comprehensive plan specific strategies to reach the goal of increasing the percentage of Washington households living in the middle-income bracket or higher as calculated by the Office of Financial Management, and developed by the agency or educational institution that will lead each strategy.” | |

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction:

| | <u>Governor</u> | <u>House</u> | <u>Senate</u> |
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| <i>Career and Technical Education Grants (FIRST Robotics)</i> | Funding eliminated. | Funding eliminated. | \$977,000 of GF-S for FY 2012 and \$977,000 of GF-S for FY 2013 are provided for secondary career and technical education grants. If equally matched by private donations, \$300,000 of the 2012 appropriation and \$300,000 of the 2013 appropriation shall be used to support FIRST Robotics programs. |
| <i>Pre-Apprenticeship Programs grants</i> | Funding eliminated. | Funding eliminated. | Funding eliminated. |
| <i>Skills Center Director</i> | | \$196,000 reduction - eliminates the position of Skills Center Director at OSPI. | \$196,000 reduction - eliminates the position of Skills Center Director at OSPI. |
| <i>CTE Student Leadership Organizations</i> | Funding eliminated. | Funding eliminated. | Funding eliminated. |
| <i>Summer Vocational Skill Center Program</i> | Funding eliminated | Funding eliminated (\$4,770,000 reduction). | Funding eliminated (\$4,770,000 reduction). |
| <i>Navigation 101</i> | \$2,924,000 for FY 2012 and \$2,924,000 for FY 2013 (\$392,000 reduction). | \$2,924,000 for FY 2012 and \$2,924,000 for FY 2013 (\$392,000 reduction). | \$2,808,000 for FY 2012 and \$2,808,000 for FY 2013 (\$624,000 or 10 percent reduction). |
| <i>Building Bridges Program</i> | Funding eliminated. | \$337,000 of GF-S for FY 2012 and \$337,000 of GF-S for FY 2013. | Funding Eliminated |
| <i>Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG)</i> | Funding eliminated. | \$150,000 of GF-S for FY 2012 and \$150,000 of GF-S for FY 2013. | \$135,000 of GF-S for FY 2012 and \$135,000 of GF-S for FY 2013 (10 percent reduction). |

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| <i>PASS Act Program</i> | | \$3,283,000 of GF-S for FY 2012 and \$3,283,000 of GF-S for FY 2013 are provided to implement the provisions of E2SHB 1599 (funds Pay for Actual Student Success, Building Bridges, JAG and Opportunity Internship programs). | |
| <i>Graduation Coaches</i> | | OSPI shall “develop a model policy that further defines the recommended roles and responsibilities of graduation coaches... in the context of a comprehensive school guidance and counseling program.” | OSPI shall “develop a model policy that further defines the recommended roles and responsibilities of graduation coaches... in the context of a comprehensive school guidance and counseling program.” |
| <i>Innovation Zones</i> | | \$100,000 of GF-S for FY 2012 and \$100,000 of GF-S for FY 2013 is provided for the implementation of Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1546 (Innovation schools and zones). | |
| <i>Education Council</i> | | \$209,000 of GF-S for FY 2012 and \$230,000 of GF-S for FY 2013 is provided for the implementation of ESHB 1849 (State education council). | |

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| Information Technology Academy | | \$2 million of GF-S for FY 2012 is provided for the Microsoft Information Technology (IT) Academy Program, which provides free educational software, as well as IT certification and software training opportunities for students and staff in public schools. | \$2 million of GF-S for FY 2012 and \$2 million GF-S for FY 2013 is provided for the Microsoft Information Technology (IT) Academy Program, which provides free educational software, as well as IT certification and software training opportunities for students and staff in public schools. |
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State Board for Community and Technical Colleges:

| | <u>Governor</u> | <u>House</u> | <u>Senate</u> |
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| Worker Retraining Program | Enhancement in FY 2011 not carried forward (\$17,556,000) . | Enhancement in FY 2011 not carried forward (\$17,556,000) . | \$7.5 million of GF-S for FY 2012 and \$7.5 million of GF-S for FY 2013 is provided for an additional 1,617 worker retraining slots each year at community and technical colleges. |
| Aerospace Student Training | | \$1,750,000 of GF-S for FY 2011 is provided for SBCTC to contract with the aerospace training and research center on Paine Field in Everett to support industry-identified training in the aerospace sector. | \$250,000 of GF-S for FY 2012 and \$250,000 for FY 2013 is provided to the new <u>Office of Student Financial Assistance</u> for implementation of the aerospace training scholarship and student loan program as specified in ESHB1846 (aerospace student loans). |
| Student Achievement Initiative | \$2,920,000 GF-S for FY fiscal 2012 and \$7,850,000 GF-S for FY 2013. | Of the amounts appropriated to SBCTC, \$10,000,000 is provided solely for the student achievement initiative. | |

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| <i>Student Retention</i> | | Requires the SBCTC to provide data and a comprehensive plan for reforming remedial education to improve student retention and completion and transfer to college-level programs. | Requires the SBCTC to provide data and a comprehensive plan for reforming remedial education to improve student retention and completion and transfer to college-level programs. |
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Higher Education Coordinating Board:

| | <u>Governor</u> | <u>House</u> | <u>Senate</u> |
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| <i>Elimination of HECB</i> <i>(replaced by the Office of Student Assistance and the Council of Higher Education in the Senate budget proposal)</i> | | | Pursuant to 2SSB 5182 (student financial assistance), the HECB is eliminated and all funds associated with non-financial aid programs are transferred to a new state agency, the Council for Higher Education (\$554,333 reduction). |
| <i>WAVE (Washington Award for Vocational Excellence)</i> | Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years. | Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years. | Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years. |
| <i>Washington Scholars</i> | Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years. | Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years. | Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years. |
| <i>Health Professionals Conditional Scholarship</i> | Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years. | Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years. | Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years. |
| <i>Work Study Program</i> | | Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. | \$23,700,000 reduction. |

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| <i>State Need Grant (SNG)</i> | | \$5 million reduction through elimination of SNG awards for students at for-profit institutions. Sufficient funding remains to allow current SNG recipients to complete their programs. | Funding for the SNG program is reduced to align increases in awards given to private institutions with their average annual tuition increase experience of 3.5 percent each year. |
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Department of Commerce:

| | <u>Governor</u> | <u>House</u> | <u>Senate</u> |
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| <i>Economic Development Commission</i> | \$113,000 (13 percent) reduction in GF-S. | \$113,000 (13 percent) reduction in GF-S. | \$45,000 (5 percent) reduction in GF-S. |
| <i>Associate Development Organizations</i> | \$641,000 reduction in GF-S. | \$676,000 (10 percent) reduction in GF-S. | \$485,000 (8 percent) reduction in GF-S. |
| <i>Microenterprises</i> | | \$39,000 (10 percent) reduction in GF-S. | \$24,000 (5 percent) reduction in GF-S. |
| <i>Economic Development Funding</i> | | \$100,000 of the Affordable Housing for All Account is provided for implementation of SHB 1997 (funding for tourism promotion, workforce housing, art and heritage programs, and community development). | \$100,000 of the Affordable Housing for All Account is provided for implementation of SHB 1997 (funding for tourism promotion, workforce housing, art and heritage programs, and community development). |
| <i>Cluster Grants</i> | | | \$350,000 is provided to administer a grant program to fund economic development activities designed to further regional cluster growth and to integrate sector-based and cluster-based strategies in the development of innovation partnership zones. |

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| <i>Tourism Development</i> | | \$12,859,000 (100 percent) reduction in GF-S to eliminate the state’s Tourism Development Program and make the Washington State Convention and Trade Center no longer a state agency. \$200,000 of the general fund—private/local appropriation is provided for a grant to the Washington Tourism Alliance for the maintenance of the Washington state tourism web site. | \$12,816,000 (100 percent) reduction in GF-S to eliminate the state’s Tourism Development Program and make the Washington State Convention and Trade Center no longer a state agency. |
| <i>Washington Technology Center</i> | | \$3,092,000 (65 percent) reduction in GF-S for the Washington Technology Center. | \$497,000 (10 percent) reduction in GF-S for the Washington Technology Center. |
| <i>Washington Technology Center Transfer</i> | | | Pursuant to SB 5764, the Washington Technology Center merges with the Spokane Intercollegiate Research and Technology Institute to form Innovate Washington. WTC funding is transferred to Innovate Washington (\$4,260,000 transfer) . |
| <i>Innovation Research Teams (STARS)</i> | | \$3,818,000 (100 percent) reduction in GF-S to eliminate the STARS program. | \$100,000 (3 percent) reduction in GF-S. |
| <i>Western Washington University Small Business Development Center</i> | | | \$593,000 (100 percent) reduction in GF-S. |

Washington State University:

| | <u>Governor</u> | <u>House</u> | <u>Senate</u> |
|---|-----------------|--------------|---|
| <i>Naval Shipyard Career Path (2+2+2)</i> | | | Within available funds, WSU is to serve an additional cohort of 15 FTE students in the mechanical engineering program located at Olympic College. |

MAJOR WORKFORCE-RELATED BILLS 2011 Legislative Session

Youth-Related

SHB 1294 – Puget Sound Corps – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Tharinger

Status: Enacted as Chapter 20, Laws of 2011

Creates the Puget Sound Corps as a distinct program within the Washington Conservation Corps. Consolidates management of the Washington Conservation Corps in the Department of Ecology and directs the department to administer the Corps as a partnership with the departments of Natural Resources and Fish and Wildlife, the state Parks and Recreation Commission, and when appropriate, other agencies and nonprofit organizations.

Recruitment efforts must be targeted to, but not limited to, residents of the state who meet the participation eligibility requirements provided in this section and are either: (a) A student enrolled at a community or technical college, private career college, or a four-year college or university; (b) A minority or disadvantaged youth residing in an urban or rural area of the state; or (c) military veterans.

Directs the Department of Ecology to establish consistent work standards and placement and evaluation procedures of corps programs; and selecting, review, approve, and evaluate the success of Corps projects.

Authorizes the department to partner with any other state agencies, local institutions, nonprofit organizations, or nonprofit service corps organizations in the administration of the corps. Allows other state agencies to maintain a conservation corps coordinator for the purposes of partnering with the department and the Corps.

If deemed practicable, the department is to work with the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to align the Conservation Corps Program with optional career pathways for participants that may provide instruction in basic skills in addition to the appropriate technical training.

HB 1412 – End of Course Math Assessment – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Santos; By Request of OSPI

Status: Enacted as Chapter 25, Laws of 2011

Allows students in the graduating classes of 2013 and 2014 to meet the state standard in mathematics using one (ninth or 10th grade), rather than two, end-of-course assessments for purposes of graduation. Students in subsequent classes would be required to meet the standards on both assessments.

HB 1521 – Recognition of Innovation Schools – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Maxwell

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Directs the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to: (1) develop basic criteria and a streamlined review process for identifying Washington innovation schools; (2) within available funds, develop a logo, certificate, and other recognition strategies to encourage and highlight the accomplishments of innovation schools; (3) create a page on the office web site to highlight examples of Washington innovation schools that includes links to research literature and national best practices, as well as summary information and links to the web sites of Washington innovation schools; and (4) publicize the Washington innovation school designation and encourage schools, communities, and school districts to access the web site and create additional models of innovation.

E2SHB 1546 – Innovation Schools/Innovation Zones – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Hargrove
Status: Delivered to the Governor

Directs OSPI to establish a process for school districts to apply to designate Innovation Schools, or groups of schools in one district or multiple districts as an **Innovation Zone**. Each Educational Service District (ESD) must recommend no more than three Innovation Schools, with at least 1 Innovation Zone.

Initial plans must be approved by a majority of the staff assigned to the school/schools and must be able to be implemented without supplemental state funds.

Authorizes the SBE or OSPI to grant waivers from statutes or rules pertaining to basic education requirements, student to teacher ratios, length of the school year, other administrative rules (except public health, safety, civil rights), comingling of state funds for categorical programs, flexibility in calculating course credits for high school courses

Requires an expedited review of waiver requests and authorizes denial if the waiver would decrease student achievement; jeopardize funds; or violate state or federal laws or rules.

Authorizes a second round of applications: November 1, 2013 which may include requests for supplemental state funding.

Establishes a School Innovation Account and authorizes OSPI to seek public/private grant funds.

E2SHB 1599 – PASS Dropout Prevention – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Probst
Status: Delivered to the Governor

Creates the Pay for Actual Student Success Program (PASS) to invest in proven dropout prevention and intervention programs and to provide an annual financial award for high schools that demonstrate improvement in dropout prevention indicators. A non-appropriated High School Completion Account (Account) is established to receive legislative appropriations for the PASS, federal funds, gifts, or grants. Expenditures of funds in the Account are authorized by OSPI and are used to make investments in the four prevention programs under the bill and to make PASS awards.

Dropout Prevention Programs. Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, funds are allocated as specified in the budget to support the PASS through the following programs:

1. The Opportunity Internship Program.
2. The Jobs for America's Graduates Program.
3. The Building Bridges Program, to be used to expand programs that have been determined to be successful in reducing dropout rates or to replicate these programs in new partnerships.
4. Individual student support services provided by a college scholarship organization with expertise in managing scholarships for low-income high potential students, including college and career advising, counseling, and community mentor programs.

Dropout Prevention Indicators. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) must annually calculate, for each high school, (1) the extended graduation rate, (2) the proportion of students at grade level, (3) the proportion of students who are suspended or expelled, and (4) a student attendance measure. The K-12 Data Governance group is to establish parameters for the collection of student attendance data and student discipline data. School districts must submit attendance and discipline data for high school students for purposes of the PASS beginning in 2012-2013.

Performance Metric and Award. OSPI must develop a metric for measuring performance on the dropout prevention indicators that assigns points and results in a dropout prevention score. The score must be weighted so that no high school qualifies for an award without an increase in its extended graduation rate. OSPI may establish a minimum level of improvement to qualify for

a PASS award. Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose, a high school that demonstrates improvement in its dropout prevention score compared to a baseline year is eligible to receive a PASS award in an amount determined by the OSPI based on appropriated funds and eligible high schools. High schools receiving awards may be required to demonstrate a community match.

Use of Award. Ninety percent of the award is allocated to the high school, and 10 percent is allocated to the school district. Award funds are to be used on activities and programs that support development of a dropout prevention, intervention and reengagement system. A variety of such activities and programs are listed. Award recipients are encouraged to implement dropout prevention and reengagement strategies in a comprehensive and systematic manner.

Support and Accountability. OSPI regularly informs schools about the PASS and the activities likely to increase the PASS awards. Within available funds, OSPI develops strategies for identifying and disseminating successful programs and may offer support and assistance through regional networks. Award funds may be withheld if OSPI finds that schools or districts have willfully manipulated their dropout prevention indicators.

Null and Void: The bill is null and void unless funded in the budget.

SHB 1608 – Opportunity Internship Program – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Billig

Status: Died in Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee

Changes the qualification criteria for entry into the opportunity internship program from students eligible for a free and reduced price lunch to those that: (1) would qualify for a state need grant on the basis of financial need; or (2) qualify to participate in the Title I-B youth program under the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998. Students who complete the internship and receive a GED may be eligible for financial aid, as well as those that complete high school. Pre-apprenticeship graduates are “needy students” for the purposes of qualifying for State Need Grants, rather than just Opportunity Internship graduates.

Directs the Higher Education Coordinating Board to create certificates that notifies opportunity internship graduates of their eligibility for an award and the importance of early filing of the free application for federal student aid to secure their eligibility.

Encourages Opportunity Internship consortia to provide stipends or financial incentives for internship and pre-apprenticeship completion.

Specifies that the teaching of mathematics, science, bilingual education, special education, or English as a second language qualifies as a “high-demand occupation” for purposes of the Opportunity Internship program.

Specifies that partnerships of high schools, teacher preparation programs, and community-based organizations offering the Recruiting Washington Teachers Program may be considered Opportunity Internship consortia.

The Workforce Board is required, in its final analysis of the program, to address the issue of whether the performance opportunity program warrants expanding participation to include students from middle-income families.

SHB 1710 – CTE Strategic Plan – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Moscoso

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Directs the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to convene, within existing resources, a working group (including a representative from the Workforce Board) to develop a statewide strategic plan for secondary career and technical education.

E2SHB 1808 – Launch Year Program – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Lytton: By Request of the Governor

Status: Enacted as Chapter 77, Laws of 2011

Requires all public high schools in the state to work toward the goal of offering a sufficient number of dual credit courses to give students the opportunity to earn the equivalent of one year's worth of postsecondary credit and inform students and their families about these opportunities.

Requires institutions of higher education to develop a master list of postsecondary courses that can be fulfilled by achieving a qualifying score on proficiency exams or by meeting demonstrated competencies.

Requires each institution to publicize its own list of credits or courses and provide it to the Higher Education Coordinating Board and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges in a form that the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction can distribute to school districts.

Requires the Higher Education Coordinating Board to annually publish on its website the agreed-upon list of high school courses qualifying for postsecondary credit and the exam scores and demonstrated competencies meeting postsecondary requirements.

SSB 5392 – Technology Education – Prime Sponsor - Sen. McAuliffe

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Requires school districts, under Goal 3 of the Basic Education Act, to provide students with the opportunity to integrate technology literacy and fluency along with other experiences and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems.

Adult-Related

EHB 1091 – Unemployment Insurance Modification – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Sells; By Request of the Governor

Status: Enacted as Chapter 4, Laws of 2011

Establishes caps on the flat social rate and reduces the multipliers used for certain graduated social rates.

Provides for a temporary benefit increase by adding \$25 to the weekly benefit amount, and non-charging the additional \$25.

Makes changes to training benefits, including expanding the definition of "dislocated worker," eliminating certain deadlines and requirements for dislocated workers, and modifying the funding cap for training benefits.

Makes changes to extended benefits, including a three-year look-back period.

HB 1418 – Credit for Military Experience (licensing) – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Rolfes

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Allows people with military training and experience to count that training and experience towards professional licensing requirements unless that profession's regulatory body determines that the training and experience is not substantially equivalent to the standards of this state.

SHB 1522 – Prior Learning Credit – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Kenney

Status: Died in Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee (included in SHB 1795)

The HECB, the SBCTC, the Council of Presidents, and the institutions of higher education are required to collaborate to:

- increase the number of students who receive credit for prior learning and increase the types of credits for prior learning that are awarded;
- improve consistency in policies and practices for PLA among institutions;
- develop tools to share exemplary practices;
- develop agreements when common patterns for granting credit for prior learning are identified; and
- develop outcome measures and report progress to the Legislature annually.

An ongoing work group, staffed by the HECB, is established to support the collaborative effort. The Office of Financial Management must track the number of students receiving academic credit for prior learning and the type of credits awarded.

A definition for prior learning is established that includes education and training, work experience, military training, and education received in other states and countries.

SHB 1650 – State Need Grant Eligibility – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Hasegawa

Status: Died in Senate Ways and Means Committee

Extends the expiration date through June, 2013 for a pilot program allowing students who are accepted for enrollment for at least three credits to be eligible for the State Need Grant. Requires the Higher Education Coordinating Board to report on student use, duration of use, completions, and recommendations for continuation.

SHB 1822 – Nonprofit Online University – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Kenney

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Directs the Higher Education Coordinating Board to recognize and endorse online, competency-based education, and integrate the academic programs of a regionally accredited not-for-profit online baccalaureate degree-granting institution of higher education into state policy and strategy.

ESHB 1846 – Aerospace Training Student Loans – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Eddy

Status: Enacted as Chapter 8, Laws of 2011

Establishes the Aerospace Training Student Loan Program for students at the Washington Aerospace Training and Research Center and the Spokane Aerospace Technology Center.

2SHB 1909 – Community and Technical College Innovation – Prime Sponsor – Rep.

Reykdal

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Creates the Community and Technical College Innovation Account to implement the College Board's strategic technology plan to improve student achievement, student services, and increase system-wide administrative efficiencies.

Allows the College Board to determine the percentage of operating fees to be transferred to the Account each year up to 3 percent.

SB 5135 Unemployment Insurance Program – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kohl-Wells

Status: Enacted as Chapter 3, Laws of 2011

Establishes a cap of 1.22 percent on the flat social rate and reduces the multipliers used for certain graduated social rates for rate year 2011.

Makes changes to the extended benefits program, including a three-year lookback period, for 2011.

ESSB 5307 – Credit for Military Experience (medical) – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kilmer

Status: Enacted as Chapter 32, Laws of 2011

Allows people with military training and experience to count that training and experience towards professional licensing requirements unless that profession's regulatory body determines that the training and experience is not substantially equivalent to the standards of this state.

SB 5463 – Common Student Identifiers – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kilmer

Status: Enacted as Chapter 109, Laws of 2011

Directs the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) to establish minimum standards for common student identifiers such that once a student has enrolled at any community or technical college he or she retains the same student identification upon transfer to any college district.

SB 5584 – Apprenticeship Standards – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Harper; By Request of the Department of Labor & Industries

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Authorizes the Director of the Department of Labor & Industries, rather than the State Apprenticeship Council, to adopt rules and appoint an assistant director without confirmation by the Council.

Authorizes compliance reviews and rule adoption. Limits approval of apprenticeship committees and authorizes an appeal to the Director of a decision by the Council that affects registration and oversight of apprenticeship programs and agreements for federal purposes.

SSB 5664 – Lake Washington Institute of Technology – Prime Sponsor – Sen. McAuliffe

Status: Enacted as Chapter 118, Laws of 2011

Changes the Lake Washington Technical College to the Lake Washington Institute of Technology.

Industry-Related

HB 1770 – State Purchasing – Prime Sponsor – Rep Hasegawa

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Requires all state purchasing agencies, subject to specified terms and conditions, to apply a bidding preference in the purchase of goods and services from in-state small businesses.

HB 1916 – Associate Development Organization Business Services – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Ryu

Status: House Passed Final Passage

Requires the Department of Commerce to develop business recruitment and retention protocols that department staff and associate development organizations (ADOs) will carry out.

Adds additional specification that ADOs must work throughout their counties.

Requires additional reporting for the ADOs with a county population greater than 1.5 million (King County) related to services to small businesses, and services to businesses outside the largest city in the county.

HB 1881 – Community Redevelopment Financing – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Springer

Status: Died in House Ways & Means Committee

Allows a county, city, or port district to create an apportionment district for the purposes of financing public improvements within the district. Authorizes a county, city, or port district to impose a property tax within the apportionment district on the incremental property value increase within the district to finance public improvements within the district.

HB 1937 - LID Funding-Innovation Partnership Zones – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Ryu

Status: Enacted as Chapter 85, Laws of 2011

Adds research laboratories, testing facilities, incubation facilities, and training centers built in areas designated as innovation partnership zones to list of projects authorized to receive local improvement district funding.

SB 5367 – Economic Development Authority Debt Limit – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kastama

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Increases the limitation on Washington Economic Development Finance Authority's outstanding debt from \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion.

SB 5731 – Washington Manufacturing Services – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Chase

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Allows Impact Washington (formerly Washington Manufacturing Services) to use up to 50 percent of their funds to assist industry cluster associations, networks, or consortia. Also requires Impact Washington to focus on the state's manufacturers affected by import competition by assisting them with the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance financing application process.

SSB 5741 – Economic Development Commission – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kastama

Status: Delivered to the Governor

Reestablishes the Economic Development Commission's (EDC's) mission to provide leadership, direction, and guidance on a long-term and systematic approach to economic development that will result in enduring global competitiveness, prosperity, and economic opportunity for all the state's citizens. Includes the following changes to the EDC structure and mission:

- Expands the EDC's membership to 23 members, 15 of which are voting members. Does not allow members to designate alternates or substitutes, but does allow members to participate in meetings via teleconference. Requires the chair of the commission to be a member of the private sector, and sets a two-term limit to each three-year membership term. Requires the EDC to evaluate the performance of the Executive Director in the same way that the Governor evaluates agency directors.
- Requires the Executive Director to hire a research manager responsible for managing the EDC's state economic development evaluation duties.
- Creates a biennial budget request for OFM approval, as well as an annual commission budget and work plan and present a fiscal report to the EDC quarterly for its review.

- Directs the EDC to develop and submit to the Governor and Legislature a biennial comprehensive statewide economic development strategy with a report on progress from the previous comprehensive strategy.
- Suggests a number of components that the statewide economic development strategy may contain, including a state economic vitality assessment, public and private sector best practices for strategy implementation, and recommendations for existing program expansion or deletion.
- Requires the EDC to consult, collaborate, and coordinate with relevant entities in the development of plans, inventories, assessments, and policy research.
- Prohibits the EDC from taking an administrative role in the delivery of services, but allows it to conduct outreach activities like regional forums and best practices seminars.
- Requires the EDC to evaluate its own performance on a regular basis.
- Creates the Washington State Economic Development Commission account in the state treasury for gifts, grants, and other funds received by the EDC. These funds may only be spent after appropriation and only for purposes related to the EDC mission.

Workforce-Related Bills Tied to the Budget

Youth-Related

E2SHB 1443 – Quality Education Council Recommendations – Prime Sponsor: Rep.

Maxwell

Status: House Rules Committee

Requires the Superintendent of Public instruction, before implementing the common core standards, ensure that a fairness and bias review is conducted, including an opportunity for input from the Achievement Gap and Oversight Advisory Committee.

Each school district board of directors that grants high school diplomas shall adopt a policy that defines a high school credit for purposes of meeting state and local graduation requirements. Requires the Washington State School Directors' Association to develop a model policy defining a high school credit. School districts may not prevent students from taking individual online courses and must award credit for courses that meet the district's graduation requirements.

Directs the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), within available state and federal funds for school and district improvement, to provide technical assistance to schools and districts specifically targeted to reduce school dropouts and improve on-time and extended high school graduation rates. The technical assistance is to be more intensive for those high schools and school districts in significant need of improvement.

Allows school district policies that define a high school credit to be based on a seat-time definition, demonstrated competencies, or some combination, as long as the policy specifies the means by which the district assures students have gained the knowledge and skills to earn a credit.

Contains provisions amending existing statutes on the Learning Assistance Program and Highly Capable Students Program.

Establishes a technical working group to recommend an enhanced salary allocation model that aligns state expectations for educator development and certification with the compensation system.

Allows partnerships that offer Recruiting Washington Teachers Programs to be considered Opportunity Internship consortia and to participate in the Opportunity Internship Program.

Allows the teaching of math, science, special education, bilingual education, and English as a Second language to be “high demand” for purposes of this program.

Beginning in the 2012-13 school year and through the 2015-16 school year, if a student does not pass the statewide high school science assessment then the student must successfully earn one additional high school science credit or CTE equivalent to graduate from high school . Prohibits OSPI from implementing end-of-course assessments in high school science.

Provides that if there are reductions in force (RIF), the contracts of teachers and principals who receive the lowest evaluation rating must be non-renewed first.

ESHB 1849 – Washington Education Council – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Haigh

The Washington State Education Council (Council) is established. The mission of the Council is to recommend policies, strategies, and a governance structure to make the public education system student-focused and able to provide seamless service delivery across all sectors, including early learning, K-12 education in the common schools, and postsecondary education.

The Council is directed to develop recommendations for restructuring the following state entities with responsibilities for early learning, K-12 education, and postsecondary education: Department of Early Learning; Early Learning Advisory Council; Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction; State Board of Education; Professional Educator Standards Board; Office of the Education Ombudsman; Washington State School Directors' Association; Achievement Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee; Quality Education Council; Higher Education Coordinating Board; State Board for Community and Technical Colleges; and Education Research and Data Center. The term "restructuring" includes reassigning, removing, or modifying duties, and eliminating or modifying the state entities as necessary to achieve more efficient and effective service delivery and more seamless oversight and policy.

A preliminary progress report is due by January 5, 2012, and a final report is due by December 5, 2012.

SSB 5639 – Educational Governance – Prime Sponsor; Sen. McAuliffe; by Request of the Governor

The Department of Education (DOE) is created as an executive branch agency to focus education policy development on implementing education programs and services that promote student achievement. The Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) is to cooperate and coordinate with the new DOE.

The executive head of the DOE is the Secretary of Education who is appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate. The Secretary is assigned specific tasks, including developing a system-wide strategic plan that integrates four system goals specified in the act. The DOE includes the Washington State School for the Blind and the State Center for Childhood Deafness and Hearing Loss. The Department of Early Learning, State Board of Education, and Professional Educators Standards Board are abolished and their powers, duties, and employees are transferred to the DOE. The Quality Education Council is abolished and some of its duties are transferred to the P-12 Council and the DOE. The Early Learning Advisory Council, Achievement Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee, Office of the Education Ombudsman, and Washington State School Directors Association are abolished.

A governor-appointed transition team must complete a transition plan by January 1, 2012, to phase-in the DOE. The phase-in begins by July 1, 2012, and must be completed by January 16, 2013. Once the transition is completed, the Governor is encouraged to assemble a transition team to consider, and if appropriate, coordinate the inclusion of state-level higher education agencies into the DOE.

A P-12 Education Council is created to advise the Secretary. The council consists of seven voting members: two members representing early learning appointed by the Governor; three members representing K-12 education elected by school district directors (one who resides in the Puget Sound area; one who resides outside the Puget Sound area; and one who resides in Eastern Washington); two members representing K-12 education appointed by the Governor; and the SPI who votes only in the case of a tie vote of the rest of the Council and cannot be chair of the Council. The DOE provides staff support to the Council.

SB 5924 – Running Start Fees – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Zarelli

Requires Running Start students to pay up to 10 percent of tuition and fees to the institution of higher education as determined by their governing boards. The institutions of higher education are to prorate the mandatory fees based on credit load.

Adult-Related

SHB 1042 – Job Training Tax Exemption - Prime Sponsor - Rep. Seaquist

Exempts certain leased property used by nonprofit organizations providing job training, placement, or pre-employment services from property tax.

SHB 1548 – Long-Term Care Workers – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Hunter

Delays the implementation of new basic training and the requirement for home care aide certification and the start date for increased continuing education hours for future long-term care workers and delays the start date for advanced training and peer mentoring to January 1, 2014.

Allows nurse delegation to certified home care aides who complete the required nurse delegation training.

SHB 1795 – Higher Education Opportunity Act – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Carlyle

Authorizes public baccalaureate institutions to set tuition rates for all students for academic years through 2014-15; and continue to do so beginning 2015-16 within certain parameters tied to the Global Challenge States.

Retains tuition setting authority for community and technical colleges with the state.

Permits the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to initiate differential tuition.

Directs public baccalaureate institutions to retain revenues from tuition raised above certain limits to support financial aid that mitigates tuition increases for middle class students with incomes up to 125 percent of the median family income.

Permits public higher education institutions to charge Running Start students a fee that is up to 10 percent of tuition and fees in addition to other mandatory fees.

Requires higher education institutions to report data that aligns with the National Governors Association Complete to Compete metrics with additions that include graduate and professional degrees, STEM participation, student debt load, disaggregation of measures based on various student demographics, including socio-economic status, among others.

Requires that four-year colleges and universities award junior standing to Washington CTC graduates who have earned transferrable associate or arts or sciences degrees and contains numerous other provisions with regards to transfer policy.

Requires collaboration of higher education institutions and state agencies to increase the number of students receiving credit for prior learning and increase the types of credits awarded for prior learning.

Establishes a work group, including the Workforce Board, to oversee implementation of prior learning report recommendations and requires a report on progress.

Adds a requirement that the HECB consult with four-year higher education institutions, and the SBCTC, for developing State Need Grant award criteria that does not solely rely on a first-come, first-served basis.

Provides regulatory relief for numerous short-term restrictions regarding meeting in private spaces, personal service contracts, travel, hiring, equipment purchase and wage increases.

Requires that by August 2013 all lower division courses across all institutions be attributed with common course numbers and descriptions.

HB 2074 – Higher Education Coordinating Board Duties – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Sullivan

Eliminates many duties of the Higher Education Coordinating Board, including:

1) Analyzing the need for additional degrees and programs and major expansions or mission

change; 2) Establishing minimum admission standards for four-year institutions; 3) Reviewing and evaluating budget requests; 4) Setting statewide transfer, articulation, credit and course equivalency policies; and 5) developing standardized methods and protocols for measuring the undergraduate and graduate educational costs for the state universities, regional universities, and community colleges.

HB 2088 – Opportunity Scholarship Act – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Probst

Creates the Opportunity Scholarship program and the Opportunity Expansion program to:

- 1) Help mitigate the impact of tuition increases;
- 2) Increase the number of baccalaureate degrees in high employer demand and other programs; and
- 3) Invest in programs and students to meet market demands for a knowledge-based economy while filling middle-income jobs with a sufficient supply of skilled workers.

Creates the Opportunity Scholarship Board to provide oversight and guidance for the Opportunity Expansion program and the Opportunity Scholarship program.

Changes the name of the “State Need Grant” to the “Opportunity Award.”

Creates the Opportunity Scholarship Account and the Opportunity Expansion Account.

2SSB 5182 – Student Financial Assistance – Prime Sponsor – Sen. White

The Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) is eliminated. The Council for Performance and Accountability in Higher Education (Council) is created. The purpose of the council is to develop performance-based measures and goals for each state university, regional university, and the state college, linked to the role, mission, and strategic plan of the institution of higher education.

The Council performs essential state governance functions previously assigned to the HECB. Every four years the Council assembles a workgroup to develop a 10 year projected master plan for higher education.

The current student financial aid functions performed by the HECB are all transferred to the newly created Office of Student Financial Assistance (Office) that administers all state and federal financial aid and the advanced college tuition payment program. The Office is under the supervision of the Council.

HECB data gathering functions are maintained by the institutions or the Education Research and Data Center.

Every two years, Office of Financial Management must produce an assessment of the number and type of academic and training credentials required to match employer demand. This is done jointly with the four-year institutions of higher education, the SBCTC, and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

SSB 5717 – Higher Education Funding – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Tom; By Request of the Governor

Sets bachelor degree completion targets for and provides tuition setting authority to four-year institutions of higher education.

Requires the Higher Education Coordinating Board to board establish an accountability monitoring and reporting system as part of a continuing effort to make meaningful and substantial progress towards the achievement of long-term performance goals in higher education.

Provides Junior standing to a graduate of a community or technical college in this state who has earned a transferrable associate of arts or sciences degree when admitted to a four-year institution of higher education.

Requires community and technical colleges to identify and publish in their admissions materials the college level courses that are recognized by all four-year institutions of higher education as transferring to the four-year institutions of higher education.

SB 5868 - Excess Credits/Prior Degrees – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Tom

Requires tuition fees at a community or technical college for any student with a baccalaureate degree to equal a sum not less than the cost of instruction, unless (1) the student is a dislocated worker or (2) engaging in a job training program under the purview of the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (Workforce Board).

Tuition fees for resident undergraduate students who have accumulated more than 125 percent of the number of credits required to complete their respective baccalaureate degree are required to equal a sum not less than the cost of instruction at a state university, regional university, or The Evergreen State College. The credits students earn from advanced placement programs must not be applied when totaling excess credits.

SB 5915 – Higher Education Funding and Performance – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kilmer

Provides that reductions or increases in full-time tuition fees must be as provided in the omnibus appropriations act for resident undergraduate students at community and technical colleges. Authorizes the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to pilot or institute differential tuition models.

Authorizes the governing boards of the state universities, the regional universities, and the Evergreen State College to charge differential tuition rates.

Requires performance data be collected by the four-year institutions of higher education and requires the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) to submit a report on progress toward degree completion goals and on comparisons with other states, with recommendations to the fiscal and higher education committees of the legislature along with their biennial budget recommendation.

Requires the HECB master plan to include a plan for achieving degree completion targets by 2018 and every two years thereafter, and requires the state universities, the regional universities, and The Evergreen State College to negotiate an institutional performance contract with the HECB and the Office of Financial Management.

Directs the HECB to establish a baccalaureate degree incentive program with awards beginning with the 2013-2014 fiscal year based upon each institution's individual performance improvement on a set of measures.

Provides that a graduate of a community or technical college in this state who has earned a transferrable associate of arts or sciences degree when admitted to a four-year institution of higher education shall have junior standing and shall be deemed to have met the lower division general education requirements of that institution.

Also provides that a student who has earned the equivalent of ninety quarter credit hours and has completed the general education requirements at that four-year institution of higher education in Washington when admitted to another four-year institution of higher education shall have junior standing and shall be deemed to have met the lower division general education requirements of the institution to which the student transfers.

Industry - Related

SHB 1997- Economic Development Funding – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Orwall

Directs stadium-related tax sources in King County to a dedicated account once the obligations for stadium debt are paid. Requires that money in the dedicated account be used for arts and heritage programs, affordable housing provided by nonprofit organizations and housing authorities, community development, and the Washington State Convention Center.

ESB 5764 – Innovate Washington – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kastama

Creates Innovate Washington as the successor agency to the Washington Technology Center and to the Spokane Intercollegiate Research and Technology Institute. Its primary goal is to respond to the technology transfer needs of existing businesses in the state.

Innovate Washington is to operate a small business innovation assistance program to help in the procurement of awards from federal small business research programs. Centers of Excellence are to act as brokers of assistance available for firms in targeted industries and work with Innovate Washington to develop methods to identify businesses within a targeted industry that could benefit from the services of Innovate Washington.