

**WASHINGTON STATE
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
MEETING NO. 153
MARCH 10, 2011**

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Background

During the current legislative session, the Workforce Board staff is monitoring and providing input on legislation and budget proposals that match the priorities identified in *High Skills, High Wages* and the budget motion passed by the Board at its January meeting. Staff have also met this session with members of workforce-related committees to provide a briefing on the Board's priority issues related to their respective committees.

Attached is a summary of the major workforce-related themes that have emerged during the session in bills relating to youth, adults and industry. Also attached is a digest of workforce-related bills that were introduced in the 2011 session and their current status and a summary of workforce-related budget items in the 2011 Supplemental and 2012-2013 biennium operating budgets (including items addressed in the second supplemental budget that passed the Legislature recently).

The Board is reminded that staff provides a "Legislative Report" with daily updates and status of workforce-related bills, as well as a weekly hearings schedule under the "News & Legislative Updates" tab on the agency's website.

Board Action Requested: None. For discussion purposes only.

WORKFORCE-RELATED THEMES – 2011 SESSION

YOUTH

K-12 Education Governance

Bills in the House and Senate originally designed to provide sweeping changes in higher education and K-12 governance have been amended 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). 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).
- 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).

Work-Related Experience

A few bills focusing on providing work experience for students and/or young adults are moving forward in the session.

- Technical amendments to the Opportunity Internship Program, including changing the eligibility requirements and allowing students who have completed a GED to be enrolled are included in SHB 1608.
- A Puget Sound Corps is created and Conservation Corp programs consolidated in SSB 5230 and SHB 1294 (which includes a provision to recruit disadvantaged students).

Dropout Prevention

Despite the current fiscal crisis, the legislature is considering investing in dropout prevention. 2SHB 1599 creates a Pays for Actual Student Success (PASS) program to 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 creates a High School Completion Account designed for public and private funding and directs OSPI, the Workforce Board, the Building Bridges Working 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).

Career and Technical Education

Despite loss of funding for expansion of high-demand CTE programs of study, some legislation on career and technical education is moving forward, including:

- A bill requiring OSPI to develop a strategic plan for career and technical education (SHB 1710)
- A bill setting the standards for new CTE Student Learning Organizations in statute HB 1168).

ADULT

UDPATE: Unemployment Modification signed into law

SHB 1091 – Modifying the unemployment insurance program

- Establishes UI tax caps and reductions.
- Provides for a temporary benefit increase by adding \$25 to the weekly benefit amount.
- 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. 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 2-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

These proposals would increase access to education and training through expanding financial aid eligibility to less than half-time students (1650), incorporating more online baccalaureate capacity through Western Governors University (1822 & 5136), and creating an aerospace student loan program for certificate-level training (1846 & 5674).

- HB 1650 – State need grant eligibility
- SHB 1822 & SB 5136 – Nonprofit online university
- HB 1846 & SB 5674 – Aerospace student loans

Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition

These proposals would recognize lifelong learning of the workforce while more efficiently meeting the needs of industry for a skilled workforce.

- SHB 1522 – Credit for prior learning
- HB 1418 & SSB 5307 – Military training/medical fields
- SSB 5308 – Military training/licensing for certain professions

Higher Education Finance, Performance & Accountability

These proposals would potentially impact access to and affordability of education and influence the shape of higher education accountability and performance reporting. Highlights include greater tuition-setting flexibility for colleges and universities, authority for the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to use differential tuition models, a \$500 million business tax credit to fund an endowment for baccalaureate scholarships, and placing the National Governors Association’s “Compete to Complete” measures into statute.

- SHB 1666 & SSB 5717 – Higher education funding task force
- SHB 1795 – Higher education opportunity act

Higher Education Governance

These proposals would impact the Workforce Board’s coordinating relationships in higher education and shape higher education accountability & performance reporting (SSB 5182). They would also simplify the way that students access financial aid for sub-baccalaureate education and training (SSB 5462).

- SSB 5182 – Establishing the Office of Student Financial Assistance by eliminating the Higher Education Coordinating Board and transferring its functions to various entities.
- SSB 5462 – Requiring a streamlined financial aid process for community and technical colleges.

INDUSTRY

Jobs

The state’s economic development leaders look 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

- 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).
- State agencies make a greater effort to include small businesses in public works projects (SHB 1173).

Career Ladders

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

- The Department of Commerce and Associate Development Organizations develop and coordinate streamlined business recruitment and retention protocols (HB 1916; HB 1926; SSB 5321).
- The state supports start-up manufacturing and high technology research and development activities through business and occupation tax exemptions (HB 1943/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.

- Community redevelopment district growth fosters further growth through bonds and levies based on prospective property value increases (SSB 5705).
- Research labs, testing facilities, incubation facilities, and training centers built in innovation partnership zones can receive local improvement district funding (HB 1937/SB 5403).
- The Community Economic Revitalization Board objectives include enhancing job and business growth through facility development and other improvements in innovation partnership zones (SB 5404).
- 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).

State Economic Development Strategy Improvement

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

- Among other changes, a second labor member is added to the Economic Development Commission. The commission will focus on planning and evaluation and will hire a research manager (SHB1884/SSB5741).

**Operating Budget Reductions and Proposals
Workforce-Related Items
Supplemental for Current Biennium and Proposed for 2011-2013**

Supplemental = Supplemental Budget Adopted by the Legislature on Dec. 13, 2010 (effects current year, FY 2011, funding)

Supp 2 = Second Supplemental Budget Adopted by the Legislature on Feb. 18, 2011.

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

GF-S = General Fund-State

FY = Fiscal Year

Workforce Board	Supplemental 1 and 2	Governor 2011-2013
Budget Reduction	\$91,000 - 6.3 percent reduction in GF-S	\$343,000 – 10 percent reduction (does not include 3 percent salary reduction) in GF-S
WAVE	No change.	Gov: Directs the Workforce Board to <u>not</u> designate recipients of the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence (WAVE) or recognize them at award ceremonies for the 2011-2013 biennium.

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Career and Technical Education Grants (for secondary CTE high demand courses and course equivalencies)	\$912,000 GF-S for FY 2011 reduced to \$456,000.	Funding eliminated.
Pre-Apprenticeship Programs grants	\$175,000 GF-S for FY 2011 reduced to \$93,000	Funding eliminated.
CTE Student Leadership Organizations	\$97,000 GF-S for FY 2011 reduced to \$48,000.	Funding eliminated
STEM Lighthouse High Schools (best practices in STEM instruction)	\$150,000 GF-S for FY 2011 reduced to \$75,000	Funding eliminated.
Summer Vocational Skill Center Program	Supp 2: Funding eliminated FY 2011 (\$1,785,000)	Funding eliminated (\$4,770,000 reduction).
Navigation 101	\$3,120,000 of GF-S for FY 2011 reduced to \$2,924,000.	\$2,924,000 for FY 2012 and \$2,924,000 for FY 2013.
Statewide Dropout Prevention, Intervention, and Retrieval (Building Bridges)	\$337,000 of GF-S FY 2011 reduced to \$225,000.	Staffing for Building Bridges eliminated.
Dropout Prevention (Jobs for America's Graduates)	\$150,000 of GF-S for FY 2011 reduced to \$100,000.	Funding eliminated.

State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

<i>Budget Reduction</i>	\$26,449,000 - 4% reduction in GF-S.	4% reduction carried over into 2011-2013 (does not include 3% salary reduction).
<i>Worker Retraining Program</i>	No reduction in \$17,556,000 enhancement from the Opportunity Express Account.	\$17,556,000 enhancement in FY 2011 eliminated.
<i>Student Achievement Initiative</i>	No change.	\$2,920,000 GF-S for FY fiscal 2012 and \$7,850,000 GF-S for FY 2013.

Employment Security Department

<i>Worker Retraining (SB 5809)</i>	Supp 2: \$318,000 reduction in GF-S.	
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Higher Education Coordinating Board

<i>WAVE (Washington Award for Vocational Education)</i>	No change.	Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years.
<i>Health Professionals Conditional Scholarship</i>	No change.	Suspended for the 2011-2013 biennium. Provides an appropriation for awards made in prior years.

Department of Commerce

<i>Economic Development Commission Budget Reduction</i>	No change.	\$113,000 – 15 percent reduction in GF-S.
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WORKFORCE-RELATED BILLS
2011 Session
As of Feb. 24, 2011

Youth-Related

HB 1064 – School Truancy - Prime Sponsor: Rep. Appleton

Status: House Judiciary Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Changes mandatory requirements for school districts to file a petition for truancy with the juvenile court to a permissive duty.

Specifically authorizes truancy boards to use truancy diversion and school reengagement programs.

Requires proof that a child has notice of a hearing, the ability to have transportation to the hearing, and proof that the child is not in school at the time of the hearing before a court may issue a warrant for arrest of the child for failure to attend a court hearing.

If a child is found in contempt of a truancy order, the court may require the child to: a) attend the child's current school; b) attend another public school, an alternative education program, center, a skill center, dropout prevention program, or another public educational program; or c) attend a private nonsectarian school or program including an education center.

HB 1168 – CTE Student Organizations/Dual Credits – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Liias

Status: House Rules Committee -2nd Reading

Addresses what career and technical student organizations must do in order to receive state support.

Prohibits a college from charging a student more than a standard transcription fee to accept career and technical education courses with an agreement in place for receiving dual credit.

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

Status: House Rules Committee – 2nd Reading

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 (DOE) 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 DOE 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 DOE 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.

SHB 1330 – High School Math Assessments – Prime Sponsors - Rep. Dahlquist & Rep. McCoy

Status: House Ways and Means Committee

Allows students in the graduating classes of 2013 and 2014 to meet the state standard in mathematics using one (ninth or tenth grade assessment), 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. It is clarified that students, beginning with the class of 2015, have the option to meet the state standard on both EOC high school mathematics assessments or use results from one or more retake assessments to earn a CAA.

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

Status: House Ways and Means Committee

Allows students in the graduating classes of 2013 and 2014 to meet the state standard in mathematics using one (ninth or tenth grade assessment), 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 1414 – School District Waiver Authority – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Dahlquist

Status: House Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Provides a process for school district boards of directors to waive certain state education requirements when the local board determines it is necessary to do so.

2SHB 1443 – Quality Education Council Recommendations – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Maxwell

Status: House Education Appropriations & Oversight Committee: Do Pass Second Substitute Recommendation

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.

Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 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.

HB 1447– School Innovation Program – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Hunt
Status: House Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Establishes the School Innovation Program to foster change in the public school system by enabling educators and parents of selected schools and school districts to restructure certain school operations and develop model school programs that will improve student performance.

Permits the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education to grant certain waivers of state statutes and administrative rules for pilot projects in the school innovation program.

HB 1463 – Student Assessment and Graduation – Prime Sponsor: Rep. McCoy
Status: House Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Repeals provisions that establish student assessments as a requirement for high school graduation.

Eliminates the objective alternative assessment.

HB 1521 – Recognition of Innovation Schools – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Maxwell
Status: Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee

Directs the Office of the 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.

SHB 1530 – BECCA Bill Responsibilities – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Pedersen
Status: House Rules Committee: 2nd Reading

Makes the duties of a school district in responding to students with unexcused absences discretionary rather than mandatory.

SHB 1546 – Innovation Schools/Innovation Zones – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Hargrove
Status: House Ways and Means Committee

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.

Allows proposals for performance-based evaluation & compensation.

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), salary lid compliance, 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.

SHB 1599 – PASS Dropout Prevention – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Probst

Status: House Ways and Means Committee

Provides a financial award for high schools that demonstrate improvement in the dropout prevention. Fifty percent of an award must be used for dropout prevention activities.

The Office of the Superintendent of Public instruction must develop a metric for measuring the performance of each high school.

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

Status: House Education Appropriations and Oversight Committee: Do Pass Substitute Recommendation

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 1988. 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: House Second Reading Calendar

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

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

Status: House Education Appropriations and Oversight Committee: Executive Action Taken

Within existing resources, all public high schools in the state must work toward the goal of offering a sufficient number of high school courses to give students the opportunity to earn the equivalent of a year's worth of postsecondary credit toward a certificate, apprenticeship program, technical degree, or associate or baccalaureate degree.

All public high schools must also inform students and their families about the opportunities to earn postsecondary credit during twelfth grade to get an advanced start on their career and postsecondary education.

Institutions of higher education must biennially develop a master list of lower-division general education postsecondary courses that can be fulfilled by achieving an agreed-upon score on a proficiency exam or meeting demonstrated competencies. Each institution must publish on its website and in its admissions materials its own list of courses that can qualify for postsecondary credit. Each institution must recognize at least one year of course credit that can be earned through proficiency exams or demonstrated competencies. The successful completion of the exam and award of credit must be noted on the student's college transcript.

Each institution of higher education must provide a list of postsecondary courses that can be fulfilled by proficiency exams or demonstrated competencies to the HECB and SBCTC in a form that the Superintendent of Public Instruction is able to distribute to school districts.

The HECB must 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.

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

Status: House Education Appropriations and Oversight Committee: Do Pass Substitute Recommendation

Creates the Washington State Education Council (WSEC) to: (a) provide strategic oversight and advocacy for the public school system, including early learning, kindergarten through twelfth grade education, and postsecondary education; and (b) recommend policies and strategies to make the public education system student-focused and able to provide seamless service delivery across all education sectors and entities.

The WSE will be composed of the (a) nine members of the public appointed by the governor; (b) nine members of the public appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI); (c) the SPI, who shall serve as the chair and chief executive officer of the council; and (d) four members of the legislature.

The SPI is to exercise supervision over all matters pertaining to the public school system. The WSEC is to develop a transition plan to restructure the duties, responsibilities, and authority of the following state educational agencies and submit it to the Legislature by December 5, 2012, including: (a) The Higher Education Coordinating Board; (b) The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges; (c) The State Board of Education; (d) The Professional Educator Standards Board; (e) The Quality Education Council; (f) The Achievement Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee; (g) The Washington State School Directors' Association; (h) The Office of the Education Ombudsman; (i) The Education Research and Data Center; (j) The Department of Early Learning; and (k) The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

HB 1891 – Common Core Standards – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Klippert

Status: House Higher Education: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Delays adoption of the common core standards to July, 2013 with the condition that the 2013 Legislature determines that the Superintendent of Public Instruction has shown that implementation of the common set of standards is prudent and beneficial for students and the citizens of the state.

HB 1973 – Educational Governance – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Sullivan; by Request of the Governor

Status: House Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

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. A governor-appointed transition team must complete a transition plan by January 1, 2012, to phase-in the DOE. Phase-in begins by July 1, 2012. The Department of Early Learning (DEL), State Board of Education (SBE), Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB), and State Board for Community and Technical colleges (SBCTC), are abolished as state agencies and the powers, duties, functions and employees are transferred to the DOE; and the Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) and Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) are abolished.

If a constitutional amendment abolishing the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) is not ratified at the November 2011 general election then the SPI is housed within the DOE beginning July 1, 2012. SPI must coordinate and collaborate with the DOE in carrying out many of the duties of the SPI and/or the DOE.

The statutory language that the SPI has supervision of all matters pertaining to public schools is retained. If a constitutional amendment abolishing the SPI is ratified at the November 2011 general election then the SPI is abolished and the powers, duties, functions, and employees of the SPI are transferred to the DOE by January 16, 2013.

The head of DOE is the Secretary of Education (Secretary), appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate. The Secretary is given specific statutory tasks, including developing and implementing a system-wide strategic plan that integrates four system goals specified in the act.

A P-20 Education Council is created to advise the Secretary. Its 11 members are appointed by the Governor representing early learning, K-12, community colleges, career and technical education, and university education.

HB 1973 – Streamlining Educational Governance – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Sullivan

Status: House Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Directs the Quality Education council to report to the governor and Legislature by December 1, 2011, with recommendations and an implementation timeline for further streamlining of education governance, including, but not limited to, restructuring state agencies, boards, and offices and reassigning duties and responsibilities. The council is to focus primarily on state governance of K-12 education but may include other recommendations if the council determines that the interests of students would be better served by additional restructuring in early learning and higher education.

Abolishes the Professional Educator Standards Board and transfers its powers, duties, and functions are hereby transferred to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

HB 1980 – Strategic Education Investments – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Seaquist

Status: House Ways and Means Committee

Requires the legislature, in each odd-numbered year, to identify and establish a set of strategic investments to enhance and improve public education.

Directs the Citizen Commission for Performance Measurement of Tax Preferences (CCPMTP) to identify and recommend the repeal or modification of a set of tax preferences that are expected to create sufficient revenue for the state general fund to make the strategic investments identified by the legislature.

Directs the appropriate standing committees of the legislature, in each even-numbered year, to hold a public hearing on the proposed legislation submitted by the CCPMTP and the specific strategic investments to enhance and improve public education that will be made with the estimated revenue.

Provides that legislation enacted to implement the recommendations of the CCPMTP shall be submitted as a referendum bill to the people at the next general election.

HJR 4220 – Eliminating SPI as Elected Official – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Sullivan

Status: House Education Committee (Not Subject to Cut-off)

Proposes an amendment to the state Constitution eliminating the superintendent of public instruction as a statewide elected official.

SB 5227 – End of Course Math Assessment – Prime Sponsors: Sen. McAuliffe and King;

By Request of OSPI

Status: Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee: **Did Not Pass out of Committee**

Requires students in the classes of 2013 and 2014 to meet the math standard on only one end-of course assessment (ninth or tenth grade assessment) for purposes of graduation. Students in subsequent classes would be required to meet the standards on both assessments.

ESSB 5230 – Puget Sound Corps – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Ranker

Status: House Environment Committee

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 (DOE) and directs the DOE 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 DOE 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 DOE 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 DOE 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.

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

Status: Senate Rules Committee: 2nd Reading

Adds “technology” to the Basic Education Goal Two subjects so school districts provide the opportunities for students to know and apply the core concepts and principles of technology.

SB 5479 – K-12 Performance Goals – Prime Sponsor - Sen. McAuliffe

Status: Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

The current requirement for the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt and revise performance improvement goals in reading, writing, science, and mathematics is made permissive. If the SBE establishes such goals then districts must annually report on performance improvement.

Directs each school district to establish three-year growth targets (at both the district and for each high school level) to increase the number of students who meet the state mathematics and science standards established for high school graduation on the state assessments; and establish district-wide and school-level plans to achieve the mathematics and science growth targets, which must address graduation rates, dropout reduction, and school attendance; and may address the performance of different student groups on assessments, strategic allocation of resources, frequency of monitoring of learning and teaching, focused professional development, supportive learning environments, high level of family and community involvement, and any unique circumstances or characteristics of the school district.

Directs the SBE to review the district growth targets using their accountability index and if the targets are appropriate and reasonable then the SBE must approve them. If they are not appropriate then the SBE must work with the districts to establish appropriate targets that can be approved.

SB 5522 – OSPI under Executive Branch – Prime Sponsor - Sen. Tom

Status: Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Creates the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction as an executive branch agency.

Provides that the act takes effect January 13, 2012, if the proposed amendments to Article III of the state Constitution, eliminating the superintendent of public instruction as a statewide elected official, is approved by the voters at the next general election.

SSB 5572 – Running Start Limits – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kilmer

Status: Senate Ways and Means Committee

Permits an institution of higher education with an enrollment in excess of appropriations for full-time equivalent students to establish policies to manage the number of Running Start students accepted for enrollment or in a specific program of study at that institution if the Running Start students comprise more than twelve percent of the full-time equivalent enrollments.

SB 5603 – Online Courses – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Tom

Status: Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Requires school districts to offer approved online courses, excluding similar courses otherwise offered by the resident school district, to students for credit.

SSB 5616 – Launch Year Program – Prime Sponsor – Sen. McAuliffe: By Request of the Governor

Status: Senate Ways and Means Committee

Within existing resources, all public high schools in the state must work toward the goal of offering a sufficient number of high school courses to give students the opportunity to earn the equivalent of a year's worth of postsecondary credit toward a certificate, apprenticeship program, technical degree, or associate or baccalaureate degree.

All public high schools must also inform students and their families about the opportunities to earn postsecondary credit during twelfth grade to get an advanced start on their career and postsecondary education.

Institutions of higher education must biennially develop a master list of postsecondary courses that can be fulfilled by achieving a agreed-upon score on a proficiency exam or meeting demonstrated competencies. Each institution must publish on its website and in its admissions materials its own list of courses that can qualify for postsecondary credit. Each institution must recognize at least one year of course credit that can be earned through proficiency exams or demonstrated competencies. The successful completion of the exam and award of credit must be noted on the student's college transcript.

Each institution of higher education must provide a list of postsecondary courses that can be fulfilled by proficiency exams or demonstrated competencies to the HECB and SBCTC in a form that the Superintendent of Public Instruction is able to distribute to school districts.

The HECB must 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 5639 – Educational Governance – Prime Sponsor; Sen. McAuliffe; by Request of the Governor

Status: Senate Ways and Means Committee

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 systemwide 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 5726 – Recognition of Innovation Schools – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Harper

Status: Senate Rules Committee – 2nd Reading

Directs the Office of the 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 website 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 websites 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.

SB 5792 – Innovation Schools/Innovation Zones – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Ericksen

Status: Senate Early learning and K-12 Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Permits any school or a group of schools within a school district to submit to its board of directors an innovation school plan. Any school district board of directors that receives an innovation school plan or innovation zone plan must either approve or disapprove the plan within 60 days of receiving the plan.

Innovation school and innovation zone plans must be able to be implemented without supplemental state funds, but may include requests for supplemental funds from the school district or from the state for specified components of the plan.

A school district board of directors that has authorized an innovation school or an innovation zone may seek endorsement of the innovation school or innovation zone by the state board of education. The Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education, and the Professional Educator Standards Board, each within the scope of their statutory authority, must waive the application of policies and procedures for an endorsed innovation school or schools within an innovation zone.

School districts are encouraged to implement an innovation school in a persistently lowest-achieving school.

SJR 8212 – Eliminating SPI as Elected Official – Prime Sponsor - Sen. Tom

Status: Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee - Not Subject to the Cut-Off

Proposes an amendment to the state Constitution eliminating the superintendent of public instruction as a statewide elected official.

Adult-Related

SHB 1059 – Apprenticeship Standards – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Hudgins; By Request of the Department of Labor & Industries

Status: House Rules Committee – 2nd Reading

Authorizes the Director of the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I), 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. The L&I Director must consult with the Council and receive the Council's recommendations prior to adopting rules.

Limits approval of apprenticeship committees and authorizes an appeal to the L&I Director of a decision by the Council that affects registration and oversight of apprenticeship programs and agreements for federal purposes.

Provides that L&I may only issue certificates of completion of apprenticeship when authorized by the Council.

HB 1090 – Unemployment Insurance Rates – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Sells; By Request of the Governor; SB 5135 is Senate companion

Status: House Labor and Workforce Development Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Makes changes to the formulas used to calculate the social cost factor for rate year 2011.

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

Does not make changes to the training benefits program.

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.

SHB 1417 – Credit for Military Experience (medical) – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Rolfes

Status: House Rules Committee – 2nd Reading

Requires the Department of Health to develop a process to evaluate military training and experience that may be applied toward meeting the training and educational requirements in certain medical professions.

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

Status: Senate Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection Committee

Requires the Department of Licensing and the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to develop a process to evaluate military training and experience that may be applied toward meeting the training and educational requirements for licensing of certain professions.

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

Status: House Rules Committee – 2nd Reading

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.

HB 1525 – Common Course Numbering – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Orwall

Status: House Higher Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Requires the Higher Education Coordinating Board and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to convene a work group including representatives from each of the institutions of higher education to establish a single set of common course numbers and common course descriptions for all common lower division courses at all institutions of higher education.

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

Status: House Education Appropriations & Oversight Committee: Do Pass Substitute Recommendation

Allows part-time students who are accepted for enrollment for at least three credits to be eligible for the State Need Grant by removing the pilot status of the program and the expiration date.

SHB 1666 – Higher Education Funding – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Seaquist; By Request of the Governor

Status: House Ways and Means Committee

Sets degree production targets to increase 27 percent over 2010 levels by 2018.

Provides increased tuition flexibility for public baccalaureate institutions based upon a baseline of fiscal year 2008, and benchmarked against the 60th percentile of per-student funding at comparable institutions in the Global Challenge States.

Creates the Washington Pledge Scholarship Endowment for low and middle income students who wish to obtain a baccalaureate degree, and a tax credit for businesses that contribute.

Adopts new performance measures for four-year public baccalaureate institutions and creates a program to incentivize progress.

Requires the creation of a one year transferrable academic completion certificate. 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.

Establishes public interest degrees, which are defined as associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degrees in the STEM fields: science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Tuition increases for students who enroll in public interest degrees cannot exceed 5 percent per year.

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

Status: House Ways and Means Committee

Authorizes public baccalaureate institutions to set tuition rates for all students for academic years 2011 through 2014.

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.

Requires an actuarial analysis by the state actuary for the Guaranteed Education Tuition Program.

Permits public higher education institutions to charge Running Start students a fee that is equal to 10 percent of tuition and fees.

Establishes data reporting requirements for public baccalaureate institutions in statute and repeals performance agreements. The NGA Complete to Compete Metrics are established in statute.

Requires that public higher educational institutions publish all transferrable courses and make them easily accessible on their institutional websites.

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.

HB 1816 – Higher Education Operations – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Anderson

Status: House Higher Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Sets tuition authority for institutions of higher education and minimum state support funding goals and state-supported enrollment levels.

Creates the Washington Higher Education Internship Program and sets requirements for a qualifying internship. Provides a tax credit to participants for wages and benefits paid to qualifying interns.

Creates the Washington Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) within the state investment board's portfolio of investment pools, exclusively for upper division and graduate students. Eliminates a number of conditional loan and scholarship programs, including state need grant and state work-study.

Directs the institutions of higher education and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) to each administer state and federal financial aid for their students according to such rules as they may adopt and pursuant to guidelines developed by the Council of Presidents.

Abolishes the Workforce Board and assigns its duties to the SBCTC.

Requires the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB), in conjunction with SBCTC and institutions, to develop a system and policies that include common lower division academic transfer course numbering and a common curriculum content framework.

Transfers higher education coordinating board data collection functions to the legislative evaluation and accountability program.

Directs the state treasurer to develop and provide a one-stop financial aid web-based portal that displays all student financial aid programs available.

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

Status: House Rules Committee – 2nd Reading

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.

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

Status: House Education Appropriations and Oversight Committee: Do Pass Substitute Recommendation

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

HB 1863 – Student Veterans – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Seaquist

Status: House Higher Education Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Directs Western Washington University to coordinate a program that leverages leadership of returning veterans.

Appropriates \$872,000 in FY 2012 and \$975,000 in FY 2013 for the program.

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

Status: House Ways and Means Committee

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 5107 – College and University Governance – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Benton

Status: Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Creates the Washington state college and university system.

Abolishes the Council of Presidents.

Abolishes the governing boards of the University of Washington, Washington State University, the regional universities, and The Evergreen State College and transfers their powers, duties, and functions to the board of regents of the Washington state college and university system.

Eliminates the Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Workforce Board.

Requires the governor to appoint the board of regents for the Washington state college and university system.

SB 5108 – Council of Presidents – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Benton

Status: Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Abolishes the Council of Presidents.

SSB 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.

SSB 5136 – Nonprofit Online University – Prime Sponsor - Sen. Kastama

Status: Senate Ways and Means Committee

The Legislature expresses its intent to partner with Western Governors University (WGU) to establish WGU-Washington and provide enhanced access to postsecondary education for all Washington students, including dislocated workers and placebound students.

WGU-Washington is recognized as a Washington baccalaureate degree-granting institution that is self-supporting.

The Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) may work to eliminate unnecessary barriers to the delivery of online, competency-based education and work with WGU-Washington to integrate its academic programs and services into state policy and strategy.

The HECB must work with WGU-Washington to create data-sharing processes and performance assessments. Any modifications in contractual terms or relationships, or changes in nonprofit status, will require consultation and approval by the HECB.

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

Status: Senate Ways and Means Committee

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 disappearing workgroup to develop a ten-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 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.

SB 5287 – Polytechnical College – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Hobbs

Status: Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee: **Did Not Pass out of Committee**

Creates an independent four-year polytechnical college in Snohomish county and authorizes an investment district to provide financing the college.

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

Status: Senate Second Reading Calendar

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. Substitute excludes dental hygienists; military training for dental technicians not equivalent.

SSB 5308 – Credit for Military Experience (licensing) – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kilmer
Status: Senate Rules Committee – 2nd Reading

Provides that an applicant with military training or experience satisfies the training or experience requirements for a related profession unless the board regulating the profession determines that the military training or experience is not substantially equivalent to the standards of this state.

SB 5443 – Developmentally Disabled Training – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Chase
Status: Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee: **Did Not Pass out of Committee**

Directs the Higher Education Coordinating Board to develop a centralized program for grants for institutions for programs designed to develop training projects focused upon improvement of services to adult individuals with developmental disabilities, subject to funding availability.

SSB 5462 – Community College Financial Aid – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kilmer
Status: Senate Ways and Means Committee

Directs the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) to create an efficient, streamlined, and simple financial aid process for colleges and students. The new process must include, but is not limited to, standardized application forms, eligibility criteria, deadlines, award verification, and published informational materials.

SB 5463 – Common Student Identifiers – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kilmer
Status: Senate Rules Committee – 2nd Reading

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: Senate Rules Committee: 2nd Reading

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.

SB 5608 – Student Veterans – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kilmer

Status: Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee: **Did Not Pass out of Committee**

Directs Western Washington University to coordinate a program that leverages leadership of returning veterans.

Appropriates \$872,000 in FY 2012 and \$975,000 in FY 2013 for the program.

SB 5654 – Common Course Numbering – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Keiser

Status: Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee: **Did Not Pass out of Committee**

Requires the Higher Education Coordinating Board and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to convene a work group including representatives from each of the institutions of higher education to establish a single set of common course numbers and common course descriptions for all common lower division courses at all institutions of higher education.

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

Status: Senate Second Reading Calendar

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

SB 5674 – Aerospace Training Student Loans – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Eide

Status: Senate Second Reading Calendar

Creates the Aerospace Training Student Loan Program to be administered by the Higher Education Coordinating Board. Eligible students will be screened and selected to receive an aerospace training student loan, in coordination with the Aerospace Futures Alliance.

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

Status: Senate Ways and Means Committee

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 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 5719 - Tuition for Students with Disabilities – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Shin

Status: Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee: **Did Not Pass out of Committee**

For students with disabilities, fixes tuition fees at the rate in effect on the first day of the first academic term in which that student is enrolled.

SB 5774 – College Consolidation – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Hargrove

Status: Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee: **Did Not Pass out of Committee**

Consolidates Cascadia Community College with Lake Washington Technical College, All Cascadia Community College real property located in Bothell is to be owned and occupied by the University of Washington and all students enrolled in Cascadia Community College are to be transferred to lake Washington Technical College.

SB 5787 – State Need Grant Merit – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Becker

Status: Senate Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Provides for the following student financial aid awards:

1. A state need grant award of up to 100 percent of the student's unmet financial need if the student is enrolling in an institution of higher education for the first time;
2. A base state need grant award of up to 25 percent of the student's unmet financial need if the student has below a C annual grade point average at an institution of higher education;
3. A state need grant academic merit award of:
 - (A) Up to 50 percent of the student's unmet financial need if the student has a C annual grade point average at an institution of higher education;
 - (B) Up to 75 percent of the student's unmet financial need if the student has a B annual grade point average at an institution of higher education; or
 - (C) Up to 115 percent of the student's unmet financial need if the student has a A annual grade point average at an institution of higher education.

Industry-Related

SHB 1165 – Small Business Support – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Lias

Status: House Ways & Means Committee

Requires the Department of Revenue (DOR) to provide specific information to small business taxpayers.

Gives small business taxpayers the right to rely on the information provided by the DOR.

Requires the Department of Licensing and the DOR to include a statement on specific documents that references the online business portal maintained by the Department of Commerce.

Repeals the sunset on the Office of Regulatory Assistance.

SHB 1173 – Small Works Roster – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Kenney

Status: House Rules Committee – 2nd Reading

Increases the size of businesses defined as "small businesses" for the purposes of the limited public works process.

Revises an awarding agency's authority to adopt procedures to encourage small business participation in small works roster contracting by referencing "minibusinesses" and "microbusinesses."

HB 1320 – Washington Investment Trust – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Hasegawa

Status: House Business and Finance Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Establishes the Washington Investment Trust (WIT) to promote agriculture, education, community development, economic development, housing, and industry in Washington state by building a resource to help stabilize and grow Washington's economy.

The purpose of the WIT includes providing financing for housing development, public works infrastructure, educational infrastructure, student loans, and community quality of life projects;

The WIT may establish lending programs to support public purposes, including expand student loans, educational infrastructure, and individual development accounts.

SHB 1601 – Middle-Income Jobs – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Probst

Status: House Rules Committee: 2nd Reading

Directs area Workforce Development Councils to develop strategic plans for workforce training and education for a 10-year time period and four-year updates beginning in March of 2013.

Requires the state comprehensive plan for workforce training and education to incorporate information from the area comprehensive plans.

The comprehensive plan developed by the Workforce Board and the area strategic plans developed by the area Workforce Development Councils must delineate specific strategies to reach the goal of increasing the percentage of Washington households living in the middle-income bracket or higher.

Requires the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Employment Security Department, the Department of Social and Health Services, and the Department of Labor and Industries to adopt as one of their goals to increase the percentage of Washington households living in the middle-income bracket and delineate specific strategies to reach the goal.

The Workforce Board is required to review agency strategies and rate the proposed strategies based on criteria adopted by the Board.

Requires the Revenue Department and the Department of Personnel, as resources allow, to provide appropriate assistance to state agencies developing goals and strategies to increase the percentage of Washington households living in the middle-income bracket or higher.

HB 1674 – Manufacturing Innovation and Modernization Extension Service – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Kenney

Status: House Rules Committee: 2nd Reading

Makes the Manufacturing Innovation and Modernization Extension Service Program (MIMES Program) permanent.

Changes the biennial report on the MIMES Program to a report in any year following the year in which funding was received by a qualified affiliate.

SHB 1760 – Student Internships Website – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Probst

Status: House Education Appropriations and Oversight Committee: Do Pass Substitute Recommendation

Requires the Workforce Board to create a unified, profile-based web application that provides a forum for students and employers to develop networks and match prospective interns with internship opportunities. Implementation of the web application is subject to funding in the operating budget or receipt of other moneys.

HB 1884 – Economic Development Commission – Prime Sponsor: Rep. Kenney

Status: House Government Appropriations and Oversight Committee

Reestablishes the Economic Development Commission's (EDC) 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

- 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.
- 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.

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

Status: House Rules Committee - 2nd Reading

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 1926 – Web-Based Business Services System – Prime Sponsor – Rep. Kenney

Status: House Rules Committee - 2nd Reading

Requires the Department of Commerce and associate development organizations to use a web-based information system for business recruitment, retention, expansion, and trade by January 1, 2013.

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

Status: House Rules Committee – 2nd Reading

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.

HB 1943 – Manufacturing Research and Development Activities B&O Exemption – Prime Sponsor - Rep. Smith

Status: House Ways & Means

Provides a business and occupation tax exemption on the value of products manufactured pursuant to research and development, and a licensing agreement with the University of Washington or Washington State University.

Requires the licensing agreement to be entered into between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2015.

Limits the exemption to the first five years of product production.

SB 5238 – Washington Investment Trust – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Prentice

Status: Senate Financial Institutions, Housing and Insurance Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Establishes the Washington Investment Trust (WIT) to promote agriculture, education, community development, economic development, housing, and industry in Washington state by building a resource to help stabilize and grow Washington's economy.

The purpose of the WIT includes providing financing for housing development, public works infrastructure, educational infrastructure, student loans, and community quality of life projects;

The WIT may establish lending programs to support public purposes, including expand student loans, educational infrastructure, and individual development accounts.

SB 5319 – Manufacturing Innovation and Modernization Extension Service Program – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kastama

Status: Senate Rules Committee 2nd Reading

Makes the Manufacturing Innovation and Modernization Extension Service Program (MIMES Program) permanent.

Changes the biennial report on the MIMES Program to a report in any year following the year in which funding was received by a qualified affiliate.

SSB 5321 – Associate Development Organizations Duties – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Chase

Status: Senate Rules Committee - 2nd Reading

Directs Associate Development Organizations (ADOs) to must work closely with the Commerce Department to carry out state-identified economic development priorities and requires ADOs to comply with the business recruitment and retention protocols established by the Commerce Department when working with businesses on site location and selection assistance and providing business retention and expansion services.

SB 5324 – Customized Training Program – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Shin

Status: Senate Ways and Means Committee

Repeals the expiration date for the Washington customized employment training program.

SB 5402 – Tax Deferrals-Innovation Partnership Zones – Prime Sponsor - Senator Chase,

Status: Senate Economic Development, Trade and Innovation Committee: Did Not Pass out of Committee

Beginning July 1, 2011, adds an area designated as an innovation partnership zone as an area eligible for tax deferrals for economic development investment projects.

SB 5403 - LID Funding-Innovation Partnership Zones – Prime Sponsor - Senator Chase

Status: Senate Second Reading Calendar

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 5404 – CERB Objectives– Prime Sponsor - Senator Chase

Status: Senate Ways and Means Committee

Adds enhancing job and business growth through facility development and other improvements in innovation partnership zones as an objective for the Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB).

SB 5637 – Student Internships Website – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kastama

Status: Senate Economic Development, Trade and Innovation Committee: **Did Not Pass out of Committee**

Requires the Workforce Board to create a unified, profile-based web application that provides a forum for students and employers to develop networks and match prospective interns with internship opportunities.

SSB 5705 – Community Redevelopment Financing – Prime Sponsor – Sen. Kilmer

Status: Ways & Means Committee

Allows special property taxes within a particular community redevelopment area to be used to finance public improvements. Once approved, the public improvement jurisdiction may levy no more than one percent of the property value increase for the year in which the property is established.

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

Status: Rules Committee 2nd Reading

Requires Impact Washington (formerly Washington Manufacturing Services) to use at least 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 5732 – Research & Development B&O Tax Credit – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Chase

Status: Ways & Means Committee

Exempts B&O tax on the value of products manufactured in Washington during their first five years of production if the products were developed as a result of research and development at the University of Washington or the Washington State University.

SB 5735 – Research & Development B&O Tax Credit – Prime Sponsor: Sen. Chase

Status: Senate Ways & Means Committee

Removes the expiration date for the operational research and development tax credit, which is allowed for expenditures in high technology businesses that exceed .92 percent of income in B&O taxes.

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

Status: Senate Ways and Means Committee

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.
- 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.

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

Status: Senate Ways & Means Committee

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.

SJR 8213 – Community Redevelopment Financing - Prime Sponsor: Sen. Kilmer

Status: Senate Ways & Means Committee

Presents a constitutional amendment to voters that would allow local governments to levy a tax based on increased property value in redevelopment districts. This tax would be exempt from uniformity requirements, the one percent limit on real and personal property, and the state limit on general obligation bonds.