



BOARD MEETING AGENDA

March 10, 2021 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Meeting No. 247

Click Link to Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99892451717?pwd=NEJwQlIXTIRWSUNySXI2TIBLc3AwQT09>

Meeting ID: 998 9245 1717 | Password: 780404

10:00 a.m.	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome and Introductions	
10:05 a.m.	Chairs Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consent Agenda (Action)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Approval of January 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes○ ETPL Policy Updates• Executive Director's Report	1
10:10 a.m.	Economic Security for All Briefing and Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Miriam Halliday, Workforce Southwest• Jamilet Nerell, Benton-Franklin WDC• Shannon Brundle, Spokane Workforce Council	2
10:25 a.m.	Postsecondary Financial Aid for Jobseekers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mike Meotti, WSAC• Will Durden, SBCTC	3
10:40 a.m.	Inclusive, Equitable, Economic Recovery Campaign (Action) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eric Wolf, Workforce Board	4
11:50 a.m.	Legislative Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nova Gattman, Workforce Board	5
12:00 p.m.	Meeting Wrap-Up and Adjourn	

Tab 1



MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 246
January 27, 2021

Board Members Present:

Perry England, Chair
Chris Alejano, Representing Underserved Populations
Gary Chandler, Representing Business
Kairie Pierce for Larry Brown, Representing Labor
Lee Anne Caylor, Representing Business
Jane Hopkins, Representing Labor
Creigh H. Agnew, Representing Business
Mark Martinez, Representing Labor
Suzi LeVine, Employment Security Department (ESD)
Rebecca Wallace for Chris Reykdahl, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Lisa Brown, Department of Commerce
Marie Bruin for Jan Yoshiwara, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC)
Mark Mattke, Representing Local Government
David Stillman for Cheryl Strange, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

Call to Order

Mr. Perry England called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on a virtual meeting using Zoom.

Opening Remarks

The Board paid tribute to the passing of former Board Member Mr. Tony Lee. Mr. Lee was one of the Board's longest serving members. He helped establish and was the first to occupy the seat designated to representing underserved populations.

The Board provided a proclamation in recognition of Employment Security Commissioner Suzi LeVine's contribution to the state's workforce development system and to the Board's work over the past two years and wished her success in her new role with the Biden/Harris Administration. Ms. LeVine introduced Deputy ESD Commissioner Cami Feek who will be taking over as acting Commissioner until a new appointment is made by the Governor.

Approval of Minutes

Motion 2021-246-01: Ms. Creigh Agnew moved to approve the minutes from the November 2020 and December 2020 Board Meetings as presented. Mr. Mark Martinez seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Waiver Request

Following an unsuccessful public procurement process earlier this year, Workforce Central, the local workforce development board serving Tacoma and Pierce County, petitioned the Board for waiver authority under Workforce Policy 5404 to directly hire a one-stop operator. The request was supported by all partners in the delivery of local WorkSource services. The Board was provided a pre-meeting video to brief them on the matter and to provide evidence of the system wide support for approval.

Mr. Eric Wolf updated the Board on recent guidance issued by the UsDOL clarifying that the Board could not issue a waiver allowing Workforce Central to immediately sole-source procure to provide one-stop operator services without first reopening a competitive procurement run by a third party.

The Board engaged in a discussion with Ms. Katie Condit of Workforce Central who provided detailed information regarding the RFP process they had engaged in, the expected duration of the waiver and next steps.

Motion 2021-246-02: Commissioner LeVine moved to approve the waiver request and allow Workforce Central to act as the one stop operator through the end of June 2021 which is the beginning of the new program year. Mr. Martinez seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Inclusive, Equitable, Economic Recovery Campaign

At the December Board meeting, staff presented a short overview of the synthesis document from the November 18 Mural exercise. Partners identified key aspects of a potential collective impact campaign, and then facilitated a discussion framing the campaign around a poverty-reduction goal. Members of the Board suggested that setting a static threshold above the federal poverty line as a goal for all Washington communities was not likely feasible, as very disparate living costs in different areas of the state make it difficult to create one meaningful, universal goal. Instead, members requested staff investigate the feasibility of using the Self-Sufficiency Standard and Calculator Tool developed by the University of Washington and updated every three years. In addition to this work the Board decided that executive sponsorship from Gov. Inslee was critical to the success of a broad, multi-agency, multi-stakeholder initiative and directed staff to work with cross-agency leads and other key workforce system stakeholders to develop a draft Executive Order for the Board to consider transmitting to

the Governor's Office that would empower all partners to move forward on a collective impact initiative focused on equitable economic recovery.

In response to the Board's request Ms. Lisa Menzar, Director of the Center for Women's Welfare and at the University of Washington's School of Social Work presented a comprehensive overview of the Self-Sufficiency Standard and Calculator (SSC) Tool. The Board engaged in an in-depth discussion surrounding the intended use of the SSC tool and how it would be applied to the initiative.

The Board discussed the data collected and how it differs from the Federal Poverty Level data. They also discussed the self-sufficiency level being set at the bare minimum needed to meet monthly expenses and does not include being able to set aside any kind of savings or safety net.

The Board discussed additional points of data to consider, such as access to basic necessities like childcare, healthcare, grocery stores, and transportation, as well as how current state supported subsidies factor into the overall calculation of self-sufficiency.

Ms. Eleni Papadakis clarified that the Board is looking at using the SSC Tool as a performance metric for the collective impact initiative and that the adoption of any metric would not in any way change the performance measures at a program level.

Mr. Gary Chandler having acknowledged his absence at the December Board meeting expressed concern over the application of the SSC Tool impacting eligibility for state assistance and other potential impacts of changing performance measurement at a program level. As an additional point of clarification Ms. Papadakis reminded the Board that they are not being asked to consider using the SSC tool to define success at a program level but as a way to measure the success of the Board's collective impact in reaching their stated goal to move all Washingtonians to family sustaining wages by the year 2025. And also, that the decision today is whether or not to explore this metric with the agencies to understand what the impact of usage might be.

Failing to reach a consensus about whether the SSC Tool was the right method to measure the success of their initiative the following motion was made:

Motion 2021-246-03: Mr. Mark Martinez moved to ask staff to continue to test and explore adoption of the self-sufficiency calculator as a method for measuring the Board's collective impact and goals. Ms. Suzie LeVine seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

After being assured that any performance metric adopted would be used solely to measure the success of their collective impact initiative and would not affect agencies at a program level, Ms. Kairie Pierce and Mr. Gary Chandler requested staff come back to the next meeting with information on how proposed performance metrics if adopted would impact agencies at a program level.

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Updating WA Eligible Training Provider List Policy

PRESENTERS: Dave Wallace

BOARD MEETING DATE: 3/10/21

DISCUSSION TIME NEEDED: N/A – Pre-meeting video

ISSUE/SITUATION: Be concise - 1 or 2 sentences that get to the heart of the situation, problem or opportunity being addressed	<p>Updating the state's Eligible Training Provider (ETP) List policy has been an urgent need due to changes and adjustments necessary to be compliant with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).</p> <p>The Eligible Training Provider List, located on the Workforce Board's public-facing CareerBridge.wa.gov site, includes programs that meet certain earnings, completion, and employment outcomes and are potentially eligible for federal (and some state) training dollars.</p> <p>Learn more about proposed policy updates in this short video: https://youtu.be/nW91U69ST3U</p>
BACKGROUND: Short history of how this recommendation came to be. What has been tried, to what result? What evidence exists to support this recommendation?	<p>A staff work group has been working on policy updates for more than two years. The updated policy has been put out for public notice, and has received a fair amount of feedback.</p> <p>The updates include needed clarifications, fixes where loopholes existed, new policies to be WIOA compliant, as well as new target thresholds for programs to be eligible to be on the list.</p> <p>These thresholds include participant earnings, completion rate, and employment rate, to reflect the current environment.</p>
RECOMMENDATION AND NEXT STEPS: What specific result do you want from the Board? Is this recommendation for discussion or action? If for discussion, will action be required at a later date? What next steps are expected after this discussion?	<p>The Board is <i>not</i> scheduled to vote on this for the March meeting. The idea is to get the information out now and answer any questions Board members might have before voting on the updated policy at the next meeting (presumably June).</p>

Executive Director's Report
Workforce Board Meeting, March 10, 2021—Meeting 247

1. **NGA Workforce Innovation Network (WIN) grant helps advance board's collective impact initiative**—The National Governors Association (NGA), with funds from Cognizant U.S. Foundation has established a learning community of states addressing the workforce challenges of economic recovery. The goal of this initiative is the rapid re-employment of dislocated workers most impacted by the pandemic, especially low-wage workers from the retail and hospital sectors, other low-wage workers, people of color, people with disabilities, rural areas, and other marginalized communities. The Workforce Innovation Network (WIN) program will also periodically put out funding to states through a competitive process to augment or accelerate state efforts. The first funding competition was held in early February to bring together multi-agency state teams to develop economic recovery implementation strategies.

WA is one of 13 awardees in this first round. We used the work of the Board on the development of the recovery collective impact initiative to frame the project, with a focus on identifying a way to measure impact towards collective goals, and the alignment of services across program and funding silos. Attached is a cover letter from Gov. Inslee that describes project objectives, and the alignment of the Board's efforts with his economic recovery goals.

2. **NGA Offers Virtual Spring Workforce Symposium, March 25-26**—Board members are welcome and encouraged to participate in this event designed for private sector Workforce Board members and state administrators. The symposium will bring together state workforce leaders who work to achieve their Governor's strategic vision and goals through the implementation of policy, programs, and initiatives. Sessions and plenaries will highlight projected post-pandemic opportunities and challenges, and will align with the NGA's **State Roadmap for Workforce Recovery** (<https://bit.ly/3qc1qaE>), which was created in consultation with all fifty states. There will also be opportunities to connect with peers and with officials from the Biden-Harris Administration. If you would like to participate in all or a portion of the symposium, please let Erica know and she will get you registered. Erica.wollen@wtb.wa.gov.
3. **U.S. Department of Labor monitoring review** -- The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration conducted an Enhanced Desk Monitoring Review of Washington State Employment Security Department's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I and Title III, including Wagner-Peyser grants. The purpose of the review was to determine if the WIOA Title I and III governance provisions are operating in compliance with all applicable federal laws, regulations, policies, and other grants management requirements and to identify opportunities to provide technical assistance. ESD and its partner organizations, including the 12 Workforce Development Councils and the Workforce Board were found to be largely compliant with most aspects of WIOA.

Two administrative requirements needing to be addressed will come before the Workforce Board in a future meeting. Board staff will work with ESD staff and WIOA system partners to develop draft policies on cost-sharing to support the WorkSource Center infrastructure, and on how sanctions might be applied when negotiated performance targets are not met. The draft policies will be presented to the Board for discussion, along with information on the stakeholder engagement process, at a summer or fall board meeting. From that point, the draft policy will

have a 30-day public comment period. It is expected that the Board will likely take final action on the policies at the next scheduled meeting.

4. **Request for Workforce Board testimony in Connecticut General Assembly**—Workforce Board staff responded to a request from the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Workforce Strategy to provide testimony in support of S.B. 881, An Act Concerning Workforce Development (<https://bit.ly/3b9zjVq>). The bill was requested by Gov. Ned Lamont to implement the CT state workforce development strategic plan that would replicate and build on some of the work of WA's system and the Workforce Board. They specifically asked us to provide information about Career Bridge and its impact on students and jobseekers, our work on credential transparency, and the passage of a bill in our legislature last year to add a field for occupational titles of workers on unemployment insurance quarterly reports from employers. Our testimony can be found at <https://bit.ly/3qcos14>.
5. **National Dialogue on use of private, on-line learning platforms**—we have been participating in a number of national and multi-state discussions on how to utilize on-line learning platforms (i.e., Coursera, LinkedIn Learning, EdX, etc.) to expand our capacity to address the education and training needs of dislocated workers. The Workforce Board convened a workgroup to explore this topic during the development of its economic recovery plan. The recommendations from that workgroup focused on augmenting and enhancing our postsecondary educational institutions, not supplanting them or creating duplication. The group also recommended development of a learner-centered, career-focused navigation system that clearly maps the education and training pathways available in Washington. Board staff highlight these recommendations at the national level, and as a result are now collaborating with a handful of like-minded states to develop recommendations for US Department of Labor rule-making and congressional WIOA reauthorization deliberations that have begun.

Tab 2

Briefing on Economic Security for All (EcSA) Pilots, Expansion, and Collective Impact Recommendations

PRESENTERS: Eric Wolf
DISCUSSION TIME NEEDED: 15 mins

BOARD MEETING DATE: 3/10/21

ISSUE/SITUATION: Be concise - 1 or 2 sentences that get to the heart of the situation, problem or opportunity being addressed	<p>Governor Inslee seeded the development of four collective impact pilot initiatives aimed specifically at building novel partnerships between the workforce system and local communities across the state, using federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) statewide activity funding in late 2019. These four pilot programs, Economic Security for All (EcSA), have an explicit focus and metrics based on poverty reduction. In January 2021, Governor Inslee announced a second-round expansion of the EcSA program to include all 12 local areas of the state, accompanied by an additional investment of statewide activity funds of \$5.5 million across two program years.</p> <p>Board members will receive a background briefing on the EcSA pilots and how the program has retooled to respond to the challenges presented during the pandemic. Three program representatives will be available to offer specific reflections and recommendations to the Board on how their local collective impact partnerships enabled them to retool and achieve an impact in their communities.</p>
BACKGROUND: Short history of how this recommendation came to be. What has been tried, to what result? What evidence exists to support this recommendation?	<p>In summer 2019, Gov. Jay Inslee announced \$5.8 million in grants today to fight poverty in Washington state. The grants, awarded from the Governor's federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Statewide Activities fund, were competitively awarded to four local Workforce Development Areas (WDAs) who developed local collective impact initiatives and plans focused on lifting families to above 200 percent of federal poverty level (FPL).</p> <p>The "Economic Security for All" (EcSA) grant awarded money to organizations to systematically approach the problem of poverty and design measurable poverty reduction systems. Partners chose to measure success on two key statistics: the number of families receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) who move all the way up to income over 200 percent of the FPL, and net poverty reduction for their entire community by March 2022.</p> <p>The grants required a systemic approach from the start, embedding a collective impact structure into its DNA. First, the funds must drive change in existing programs and funding streams, so that local programs work together seamlessly to reduce poverty in their communities. Next, it requires communities to be high-poverty, geographically defined communities, such as counties, cities, towns, or tribal reservations, sized such that the investment can be expected to generate a noticeable and measurable reduction in poverty. The grant stipulates that at least one local community partner who has expertise serving individuals in poverty and the local Department of Social and Health Services Community Service Office must help design and lead the work.</p> <p>In late 2019, four grant recipient pilot projects were announced, administered by Workforce Southwest WA (Clark/Cowlitz/Wahkiakum), Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Council, Spokane Workforce Council, and Workforce Central</p>

	<p>(Tacoma/Pierce). A pre-meeting briefing video was created by ESD Development and Expansion Manager John Traugott to provide more information about individual grantees and ongoing implementation of the four pilot programs.</p> <p>Watch the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ej2gwQHKaJg</p> <p>In January 2021, the Governor announced a second-round expansion of EcSA grants, with a total of \$5.5 million of WIOA statewide activities funds. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2.5 million in Program Year 2020 funds, and • \$3 million in Program Year 2021 funding, lasting through March 31, 2024.
<p>RECOMMENDATION AND NEXT STEPS: What specific result do you want from the Board? Is this recommendation for discussion or action? If for discussion, will action be required at a later date? What next steps are expected after this discussion?</p>	<p>Board members have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the EcSA pilots as partners begin to convene and consider how to open EcSA to all 12 local areas statewide.</p> <p>Moreover, the EcSA program representatives have been asked to provide a reflection and recommendations on how they have specifically built and leveraged their local collective impact partnerships to achieve impact among vulnerable communities, particularly during the COVID pandemic.</p>

Tab 3

Postsecondary Financial Aid for Dislocated Workers

PRESENTERS: Mike Meotti, WSAC & Will Durden, SBCTC
DISCUSSION TIME NEEDED: 15 mins

BOARD MEETING DATE: 3/10/21

ISSUE/SITUATION: Be concise - 1 or 2 sentences that get to the heart of the situation, problem or opportunity being addressed	<p>This briefing opportunity offers the Board a chance to explore key state financial aid opportunities available to support dislocated workers, with a focus on the Washington College Grant and how it can help dislocated workers reskill for new careers, including through registered apprenticeship. The Washington College Grant provides 100 percent tuition funding at eligible institutions for eligible students with income up to 55 percent of the state's median family income.</p> <p>More details on the Washington College Grant: https://wsac.wa.gov/wcg</p> <p>Additionally, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges will present on how Washington has obtained an innovative waiver that allows Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds to be used to support I-BEST participants seeking a high school credential and postsecondary training, creating an "ability to benefit" pathway that enables participants to receive federal financial aid. This aid makes it more likely for students to attend full-time and complete college faster.</p>
BACKGROUND: Short history of how this recommendation came to be. What has been tried, to what result? What evidence exists to support this recommendation?	<p>Your Board packet contains an issue brief created by SBCTC that outlines how adult dislocated workers without a high school credential can leverage both state and federal financial aid options to support their training.</p> <p>View the issue brief online at https://www.sbctc.edu/resources/documents/colleges-staff/programs-services/student-services/ability-to-benefit-issue-brief.pdf.</p>
RECOMMENDATION AND NEXT STEPS: What specific result do you want from the Board? Is this recommendation for discussion or action? If for discussion, will action be required at a later date? What next steps are expected after this discussion?	<p>This presentation is intended to familiarize the Board with both recent and potential upcoming policy actions designed to create more navigable pathways to reskill and return dislocated workers to work with state and federal financial aid support. Staff can work with partners to obtain additional information as desired before the next meeting.</p>

Tab 4

Supporting an Inclusive, Equitable Workforce Economic Recovery Campaign – Defining our Impact Metric and Recent NGA Partnership Developments

PRESENTERS: Eric Wolf

BOARD MEETING DATE: 3/10/21

DISCUSSION TIME NEEDED: 1 hour & 10 Minutes

<p>ISSUE/SITUATION: Be concise - 1 or 2 sentences that get to the heart of the situation, problem or opportunity being addressed</p>	<p>The Board will work together to finalize their vision for a collective impact initiative towards inclusive, equitable economic recovery. They will learn about a recent National Governors Association (NGA) grant received by the state that can help support further study and implementation planning around a collective impact metric and related tools, such as Washington’s Self Sufficiency Calculator (thecalculator.org).</p> <p>Board members will be asked to determine whether “self-sufficiency” is the unit of measure they wish to systemically examine in their collective impact initiative to ensure that no communities are left behind in economic recovery, or if there are other units of measure that partners should explore with the NGA to build a measure of collective impact around.</p>
<p>BACKGROUND: Short history of how this recommendation came to be. What has been tried, to what result? What evidence exists to support this recommendation?</p>	<p>Our public systems do not have sufficient resources within current structures to drive equitable and inclusive economic recovery across the state. The Board can convene partners and help to mobilize resources—across program and funding silos, that can leverage new resources to achieve much greater impact for Washington’s workers, businesses and communities. While the world is fighting the pandemic and is steeped in the issues of the “here and now,” the Board’s unique role and tri-partite (business, labor, government) structure can help inspire and advance a vision for Washington’s prosperous future—a future in which all Washingtonians can equitably move ahead.</p> <p>The core theme of the state’s Workforce Economic Recovery Plan was to learn from the lessons of the Great Recession and avoid an uneven and inequitable economic recovery, one that left some parts of the state thriving, but others languishing in continued economic distress. It is for this reason that this project is focused on finding the right metric or metrics to know if the most economically vulnerable; those in the bottom two economic quintiles, are finding pathways to family-sustaining employment. To that end, Board members suggested staff investigate the feasibility of using the Self-Sufficiency Standard and Calculator Tool codeveloped by the University of Washington and the Seattle-King County Workforce Development Council, and updated every three years.</p> <p><u>Self-Sufficiency Calculator Standards</u></p> <p>The Self-Sufficiency Standard defines the income working families in Washington need to meet their basic necessities without private or public assistance. Basic minimum needs include: housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, miscellaneous expenses (clothing, telephone, household items), and taxes (minus federal and state tax credits). The Standard is calculated for 719 different family types (originally 70) for each county or area in a state. In the case of large counties in Washington, the Standard is calculated by subregions, proving a more granular snapshot of the living costs associated with south King County as opposed to the King County eastside, for example. The family types for which a Standard is calculated</p>

	<p>range from one adult with no children, to one adult with one infant, one adult with one preschooler, and so forth, up to two-adult families with six teenagers.</p> <p><u>NGA Workforce Innovation Network Opportunity – New Since Jan. Board Meeting</u></p> <p>Shortly after the January Board meeting, the Governor’s Office became aware of a competitive funding opportunity through the National Governors Association (NGA) to support states on creating economic recovery projects that align with state governors’ goals to reconnect dislocated workers to the labor force quickly. The NGA Workforce Innovation Network grant provides targeted technical assistance, support to fuel potential literature reviews and a deeper dive on the work other states have undertaken to measure self-sufficiency, and third-party facilitation to help our partners identify implementation challenges and reach agreement on a work plan for defining the collective impact initiative’s backbone structure and implementation plan. Moreover, selected teams collaborate with other states to share economic recovery best-practices in a multi-state cohort. Selected states receive \$100,000 in flexible grant funding to broadly support the economic recovery goals of their governor, with the money to be expended mid-March through mid-September.</p> <p>Washington submitted an application for the funding, which has been included in your Board packet, and was selected as one of the recipient states. Washington’s application contains a letter of support from Governor Inslee articulating how the Board’s collective impact initiative aligns with and advances his economic recovery goals, and sets four major objectives for the state’s use of project funds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Research and identify self-sufficiency standard resources from around the country, including from states that have already begun implementing and tracking progress using such a tool. 2) Facilitate the creation of an implementation plan and cross-agency memoranda of understanding, as appropriate. 3) Focus on engaging our system’s partners in the business and labor community to ensure broad community consultation and buy-in to the vision and goals. 4) Expand or create new pathways to high demand career pathways, with a focus on economic security for economically vulnerable and marginalized communities.
<p>RECOMMENDATION AND NEXT STEPS: What specific result do you want from the Board? Is this recommendation for discussion or action?</p>	<p>Board members will receive an overview and update of the NGA Workforce Innovation Network grant with a focus on how the project will influence the creation of the collective impact initiative and partner planning around implementation.</p> <p>Partners have been asked to prepare for this meeting to speak to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whether self-sufficiency as a metric makes sense for their system and as a

<p>If for discussion, will action be required at a later date? What next steps are expected after this discussion?</p>	<p>helpful tool for analyzing impact on those they serve;</p> <p>2. Preliminary thoughts on the policy or practice changes that might be needed to institutionalize the tracking of self-sufficiency data from participants.</p> <p>Whether the Board determines self-sufficiency is the unit of measure they wish to continue exploring to quantify their collective impact at the system level or they determine further consideration of other units of measure is warranted, members should also be prepared to discuss how they and their stakeholders might wish to be engaged and participate on the NGA project as it facilitates further gathering of background information and begins the process of implementation planning.</p>
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Tab 5

Workforce System Legislative Update

PRESENTER NAME: Nova Gattman

BOARD MEETING DATE: 3/10/21

DISCUSSION TIME ALLOTTED: 30 min

ISSUE/SITUATION: Be concise - 1 or 2 sentences that get to the heart of the situation, problem or opportunity being addressed.	THE ISSUE/OPPORTUNITY IS: Board staff will provide an update on the legislative session as it relates to the state's strategic plan for workforce development – <i>Talent and Prosperity for All</i> (TAP).
TAP STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Which TAP strategic priority or priorities does this recommendation support? Can you tie to specific goals and objectives in TAP? Briefly describe these connections. If the connection is unclear, describe why this is of consequence to the Workforce Board and/or workforce system.	THIS IS IMPORTANT TO THE WORKFORCE SYSTEM BECAUSE: A coordinated and effective approach to the Board's statutory role to provide advocacy for the workforce system requires a thorough understanding of legislative initiatives and changes relating to the workforce system.
BACKGROUND: Short history of how this recommendation came to be. What has been tried, to what result? What evidence exists to support this recommendation?	Information about the agency's legislative activities are located at: https://www.wtb.wa.gov/about-us/workforce-board-legislative-tracker/
RECOMMENDATION AND NEXT STEPS: What specific result do you want from the Board? Is this recommendation for discussion or action? If for discussion, will action be required at a later date? What next steps are expected after this discussion?	THE RECOMMENDATION AND/OR REQUESTED ACTION IS: Information and discussion only. Board members may request additional information on bills or budget items that relate to workforce development.