

WOVE Legislative Update for Career and Technical Education

Legislative Session Week 17 – 2015 1st Special Session
May 8, 2015

WOVE...Representing the Career and Technical Education field through advocacy activities, which promotes the value of CTE and the policies that are needed to support CTE practitioners, advance the field, and improve student learning.
To subscribe to the *WOVE Legislative Update* or to view past issues, [please click here](#).

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CAN THEY JUST COME TOGETHER?

So, what's so special about Special Session? Based on what is happening on the hill currently it looks like it means only selected people are here working in closed meetings between the four corners of the two chambers on the budget.

The differences between the house and senate budgets are great, and as each caucus in each chamber (thus the four corners) defend and determine what they are willing to compromise on during the process.

HOW FAR IS THE SEPARATION?

They continue to work on the various proposals that emerged last week to change how employee compensation and benefits are negotiated and funded (Can you say cost savings to the state?), create new revenue streams for K-12 education, and reduce the level of local levies. Even though the different Senate measures haven't passed their chamber, the House Appropriations Committee scheduled a work session this past week on the Senate proposals. Links are below:

- [SB 6109](#) by Senator Dammeier and others.
- [SB 6104](#) by Senator Rolfes and others.
- [SB 6103](#) by Senators Hargrove and Ranker.
- [Proposal](#) by Representative Hunter.
 - [HB 2239](#) - Concerning implementation of a plan for fulfilling Article IX obligations.

AND WHAT ABOUT CTE FUNDING?

Leadership in the four corners knows of our request and have the budget language for the **CTE MSOC Correction**. They need to continue to hear from voters from around the state in order ensure we have success in the final budget.

CTE MSOC Correction - Effects of the amendments are:

- Essential CTE MSOC funding for \$38.7M to provide for technology, equipment, curriculum, professional development and supplies, based on how much more CTE programs spend in specific areas as compared to general education.
- Adds \$2M in new funding to expand Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) programs from 47 to 97 in the first fiscal biennium.
- Provides \$75K to WSIPP to conduct an outcome evaluation of Career and Technical Education in Washington State.

While legislative leaders are still in Olympia working on how to move forward during special session, the majority of legislators are still back home in their districts waiting to check-in with their leadership to know when they need to return. This would be a great time to connect with them back home and share the importance of maintaining Career and Technical Education programs in your school district! (See the picture on our website of Congressman Rick Larsen visiting Burlington-Edison High School www.wa-acte.org)

Things you can do while they are home:

- Take them out for coffee and have a conversation with them.
- Invite them in to see your program and share what you are doing.
- Invite them to a school function you have happening...it's not too late.
 - Science Night
 - Awards celebrations for your student CTSOs
 - Be creative, but make contact and share!

For more that you can do to advocate for your program, refer to the "CTE Advocacy Update – Week 17," which will arrive in your personal email box if we have it. If you haven't already signed up, **send a personal email to tim@wa-acte.org to sign up for the "CTE Advocacy Updates."**

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Each session of the legislature is having a greater impact on *Career and Technical Education*. It is extremely important that *Career and Technical Education* administrators and educators stay informed on issues and bills affecting *Career and Technical Education*. The WOVE Office offers a subscription via an informative and timely *Legislative Update*. The purpose is to keep you informed of the issues, bills, and committees impacting *Career and Technical Education* in the state of Washington and at the federal level. As you are aware, the *Legislative Update* is your link to current news from Olympia of importance to *Career and Technical Education*. And the *Legislative Update* lets you know of appropriate actions that you can take to affect the outcome of pending legislation. It is crucial that we all work together for a successful legislative session. We need you to be a part of the team, be informed, and ready to respond to issues in order to improve *Career and Technical Education*. The costs of the *Legislative Update* will be used, in part, to pay for expenses that are involved in producing an update on a weekly basis and legislative support. Complete the form to subscribe to the *Legislative Update*. Thanks for all your support. *Career and Technical Education* administrators and educators are crucial to our legislative efforts, and we want to keep you as well informed as possible on key matters that are so crucial to the future of *Career and Technical Education*. The subscription price is \$250 and will only be sent by email, but please provide all the information requested below:

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