WOVE Legislative Update for Career and Technical Education

2025 Legislative Session | January 23, 2025

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The 2025 legislative session is moving at a pace expected in a budget year. We have now completed two weeks of committee hearings, votes, and meetings behind us. To illustrate the pace of session, so far 472 Senate Bills and 604 House Bills as well as hundreds of resolutions, memorials, and Gubernatorial appointments have been introduced.

The Senate Education committee meets on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings while the House Education committee meets Monday and Tuesday afternoons as well as Thursday mornings. You can view the entire session committee schedule here: Committee Schedules, Agendas, and Documents. You can always follow along with committee hearings at home or in your office by going to https://tvw.org/.

So far 24 policy bills have been heard in the Senate K-12 Committee with two of them having an executive (voting) session. In the House they have heard just a handful of bills and have instead spent time in the early days of the session going over agency reports, workgroups, and study coalition reports. We expect bill hearings to increase at a rapid pace as we move towards the policy committee cutoff deadline of February 21. You can view the entire session "cutoff" calendar by going here.

Many of the bills this year will require state funding and OSPI is still requesting an increase to baseline spending for this biennium, as the state tries to cut roughly \$10 Billion. Longtime Olympia beat writer Jerry Cornfield was able to sit down with Superintendent Reykdal this week for a wide ranging interview, which you can read about here Reykdal says Washington risks lawsuit if school funding isn't hiked • Washington State Standard.

The WA-ACTE legislative huddle meets Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. this session to go over the legislation we are tracking and to discuss strategy going forward with key legislation that impacts our members.

Another development this week happened when our goal of including 6th graders in CTE enhancement funding took a leap forward via Senate Republican Leader John Braun authoring the companion bill to Rep. Shavers. The new bill is SB 5358. Stay tuned for more information on these funding bills.

This past week the WA-ACTE legislative team met with several legislators including Senator Nobles who has sponsored this session's MSOC increase bill, <u>SB 5192</u>. You can view that as well as the other legislation we are tracking in the bill status report and see the upcoming hearings in the sections below.

Bill Status

Upcoming Committee Meetings

2025 Session Cutoff Calendar

February 21	Policy Committee Cutoff: Last day to read in committee reports in house of origin, except House fiscal committee and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation
	committees.
February 28	Fiscal Committee Cutoff: Last day to read in committee reports from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees in house of origin.
March 12	House of Origin Cutoff: Last day to consider bills in house of origin (5 p.m.)
April 2	Policy Committee Cutoff – Opposite House: Last day to read in committee reports from opposite house, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
April 8	Fiscal Committee Cutoff – Opposite House: Last day to read in opposite house committee reports from House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
April 16	Opposite House Cutoff: Last day to consider opposite house bills (5 p.m.) (except initiatives and alternatives to initiatives, matters necessary to implement budgets, matters that affect state revenue, amendments, differences, and business related to the interim or closing the session).
April 27	Sine Die: Last day allowed for regular session under the state constitution.



<u>Celebrate CTE Month!</u> Career and Technical Education Month® is a public awareness campaign, hosted by ACTE and sponsored by National Association of Home Builders, that takes place each February to celebrate CTE, the accomplishments of CTE programs, and the importance of CTE for all students of all ages. We encourage you to use these <u>resources</u> to help us generate positive awareness of CTE!



Federal Legislation:

- ACTE Advocacy Webpage
- CTE Policy Watch Blog
- Take Action
- ACTE Policy Agenda
- Advocacy Resources

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.