WOVE Legislative Update for Career and Technical Education

2025 Legislative Session | January 31, 2025

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WA-ACTE Website | Washington State Legislature Website

It was Career and Technical Student Organization week at the capital as hundreds of CTSO students shared the campus with lawmakers pitching their programs and the future of their work. This is an annual tradition where the groups come together to present a unified message to lawmakers about their CTE programs. We appreciate the CTSOs and their leaders for being an active part in advocating for Career and Technical Education.

Bill Highlights

<u>SB 5358 – 6th Grade CTE</u> – On Thursday morning Executive Director Tim Knue testified in Senate K-12 on the 6th grade inclusion bill sponsored by Senator John Braun. This is a bill we have supported from the beginning and will continue to support along with its companion, <u>HB 1280</u>, in the House by Rep. Clyde Shavers. The Senate side of this bill seems to be moving with more urgency as House Appropriations is yet to schedule a public hearing. Stay tuned as we continue to work with OSPI on this bill through the session.

<u>SB 5192</u> – Concerning school district materials, supplies, and operating costs.

This session's MSOC bill has cleared its first hurdle as it was voted out of committee on Thursday. This is an across-the-board increase for general education models, but also makes a change to enrollment count for CTE. Our concerns with this bill are around the rolling three-year average and the potential impact that could have to new programs or programs experiencing growth and can't capture that growth in the near-term. We would like an option to choose the better of a rolling average or real numbers and hold programs harmless as enrollment grows. Please review the bill to discover potential impacts to your program.

<u>HB 1273</u> – At the weekly leg huddle our team discussed concerns with this bill and the lack of direct connection to the high school CTE building contact in this pilot program expansion. The WA-ACTE legislative team met with advocates of this bill last fall and voiced our concerns. The House Education committee will hear this bill next week and WA-ACTE has an appointment scheduled with the sponsor, Rep. Dave Paul, to discuss our concerns and consider our changes.

If you have searched around on the <u>legislative website</u> this year you will notice things have changed. As you follow along with the session you can stay up-to-date on the <u>committee meeting schedule</u> and search <u>bills by sponsor</u> or <u>bills by topic</u>. These easy-to-use tools get you comfortable with the process and have a vault of valuable information. There is also a <u>new dashboard</u> with all things legislative to help you navigate to needed information.

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.

February is CTE Month!



<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.