



WACTE WINTER CONFERENCE

# WACTE Legislative Update

January 25, 2023

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# Legislative Update

- Back in person
  - Most hearings hybrid
  - Fewer people on the Capitol Campus
  - It's Day 17 of 105 (16%)
  - Bills due out of committee Feb. 17  
= first cutoff
  - Revenue stable, not fantastic
  - Security heightened – no getting to member offices without an appointment
  - Members having both in-person and zoom meetings (sometimes MS Teams) – sometimes can do hybrid meetings
  - Metal detectors to watch floor sessions from 4th floor gallery
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# Legislative Update

- Education is NOT the marquee issue

Big issues include:

- Reproductive Rights
  - Behavioral Health
  - Gun Violence
  - Homelessness
  - Drugs
  - Law Enforcement
  - Workforce
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# Legislative Update

- HB 1565  
"Supporting and strengthening the professional education workforce."  
(Ortiz-Self)
    - Residency Program (OSPI/PESB)
    - Online hiring portal (OSPI)
    - Mentoring / Induction Standards (OSPI)
  - Data System Improvements
  - Data Collection
  - Teacher Exchange Program
  - EPP / Workforce Improvement report / recommendations (PESB)
  - BEST Improvements
  - Workforce Projections
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# Proposed Residency Program

- District or Group of Districts must partner with an approved EPP (OSPI model agreement)
  - Coursework co-defined by district and EPP
  - Residents may not be primarily in charge of classroom
  - Priority = districts with most limited certificates
  - Advisory Council to study program
  - Resident Pay = 1st year para-educator
  - Mentor pay \$2,500
  - Grants to districts (subject to appropriation)
  - Conditional Scholarships up to \$8,000 based on need
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# SB 5327 Paying Interns

- Law currently exempts any “individual engaged in the activities of an educational, charitable, religious, state or local governmental body or agency, or nonprofit organization where the employer-employee relationship does not in fact exist or where the services are rendered to such organizations gratuitously.
  - Bill says “any state or local governmental body or agency, or educational, charitable, or nonprofit organization receiving public funds who provides an internship must pay to the intern wages at a rate of not less than the amount established in RCW 49.46.020(1) for the hours of the internship.
  - Not clear if student teachers are “interns” for purposes of the bill.
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# Finding Legislation

## **leg.wa.gov**

- Schedules & Agendas
  - Bill Information
  - Legislator Contact Info
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Questions?