

Legislative Update

Week 8: March 1-9

House of Origin Cutoff

March 11 at 5 pm is the deadline to pass bills out of the House of Origin.

Vets Residency

Vets residency definition proposals [E2SHB 1825](#) (Kilduff) and [SSB 5355](#) (Bailey) both passed out of the House of Origin. An amendment offered by Representative Zeiger was added on the House floor, clarifying that a student needs to be eligible for educational assistance benefits for veterans in order to qualify for resident student status.

Dual Credit

The dual-credit proposal requested by the Office of Financial Management and sponsored by Representative Reykdal, [2SHB 1546](#), was pulled to the floor calendar on March 9.

Tuition

[SHB 1696](#), requested by the Office of Financial Management and sponsored by Representative Haler, passed the House. The bill:

- Returns tuition-setting authority for resident undergraduate students at public baccalaureate institutions to the Legislature to set a cap in the operating budget.
- Removes statutory authority for differential tuition.
- Provides that any institution that exercised tuition-setting authority above certain levels must continue financial aid mitigation.
- Adds additional income brackets to the annual reports required by four-year institutions that raise tuition beyond the levels assumed in the operating budget.
- *Repeals* certain provisions as follows:
 - The requirement for OFM to report annually the total per-student funding level and undergraduate tuition that each represent the sixtieth percentile of funding and tuition for similar institutions of higher education in the Global Challenge states.
 - The requirement for public baccalaureate institutions to negotiate institutional performance plans with the OFM.
 - The requirement that colleges and universities must collaborate with student associations to make every effort to communicate the American Opportunity Tax Credit and other credits to students and report on the effectiveness of these methods.

Please see our [Week 9 Schedule](#) for upcoming Floor sessions and a few committee meetings.

More bills are included in the following bill tracker.

Bill ID	Bill Description	Bill Status	Hearing	Sponsor	Agency Position
Affordability, Tuition, & Higher Ed Planning					
SHB 1238	Concerning affordable tuition planning.	S Higher Ed		Pollet	Support w/ amend
SHB 1696	Modifying provisions related to tuition setting authority at public institutions of higher education.	S Higher Ed		Haler	No position
SSB 5954	Reducing tuition.	S 2nd Reading		Braun	
Budget					
SHB 1105	Making 2015 supplemental operating appropriations.	C 3 L 15		Hunter	No position
SB 5928	Relating to education.	S Ways & Means		Dammeier	Placeholder bill
Dual Credit					
SHB 1031	Expanding participation in college in the high school programs.	S EL/K-12		Johnson	Support
2SHB 1546	Concerning dual credit opportunities provided by Washington state's public institutions of higher education.	H 2nd Reading		Reykdal	Support w/ amend
Education Funding					
SSB 5063	Prioritizing state revenue growth for education.	S Rules 2		Hill	No position
High School Assessments & Graduation					
SB 5122	Concerning precollege placement measures.	H Hi Ed		Kohl-Welles	No position
Higher Ed Costs & Efficiencies					
HB 1961	Decodifying, expiring, and making nonsubstantive changes to community and technical college provisions.	S Higher Ed		Zeiger	No position
ESSB 5133	Concerning a study of higher education cost drivers.	H Hi Ed		Bailey	No position
SB 5977	Decodifying, expiring, and making nonsubstantive changes to community and technical college provisions.	H Hi Ed		Bailey	No position
Inmate Postsecondary Ed					
HB 1704	Enhancing public safety and reducing recidivism through postsecondary education.	H 2nd Reading		Pettigrew	Support
Medical School Issue					
2SHB 1485	Concerning family medicine residencies in health professional shortage areas.	H 2nd Reading		Haler	No position
SHB 1559	Concerning higher education programs at WSU and UW.	H 2nd Reading		Riccelli	No position
SSB 5487	Concerning higher education programs at WSU and UW.	S 2nd Reading		Baumgartner	No position

Bill ID	Bill Description	Bill Status	Hearing	Sponsor	Agency Position
Online Education Delivery Models					
SHB 1439	Establishing an online alternative credit model at Central Washington University.	S Higher Ed		Sawyer	Support
STEM					
SHB 1445	Using computer sciences to satisfy world language college admission requirements.	H 2nd Reading		Reykdal	No position
SHB 1813	Expanding computer science education.	S EL/K-12		Hansen	Support
Student Support					
2SHB 1999	Coordinating services and programs for foster youth in order to improve educational outcomes.	S EL/K-12		Carlyle	Support
SSB 5328	Disseminating financial aid information.	S 2nd Reading		Kohl-Welles	No position
Veterans					
SHB 1052	Requiring institutions of higher education to make an early registration process available to spouses and domestic partners of active members of the military.	S Higher Ed		Hayes	Track
SHB 1644	Concerning veteran survivor tuition waiver eligibility.	S Higher Ed		Gregory	Support
2SHB 1825	Modifying the definition of resident student to comply with federal requirements established by the veterans access, choice, and accountability act of 2014.	H Passed 3rd		Kilduff	Support
SSB 5355	Modifying the definition of resident student to comply with federal requirements established by the veterans access, choice, and accountability act of 2014.	H Hi Ed		Bailey	Support
SSB 5561	Concerning veteran survivor tuition waiver eligibility.	S 2nd Reading		Bailey	Support
State Need Grant & College Bound					
ESHB 1236	Eliminating the parent or guardian approval requirement for the college bound scholarship pledge.	S Higher Ed		Ortiz-Self	No position - provide comments
2SHB 2041	Creating a pilot project on performance-based scholarships in the state need grant program.	H 2nd Reading		Hansen	Support
SSB 5547	Requiring a minimum grade point average or equivalent to renew a state need grant.	S 2nd Reading		Bailey	No position
SB 5638	Changing state need grant eligibility provisions.	H Hi Ed		Hasegawa	Support
2SSB 5851	Concerning recommendations of the college bound scholarship program work group.	H Hi Ed		Froct	Support

Bill ID	Bill Description	Bill Status	Hearing	Sponsor	Agency Position
Other Financial Aid					
SHB 1570	Creating flexibility for the educator retooling conditional scholarship program.	S EL/K-12		Gregory	Support
SHB 1783	Expanding dual language and bilingual instruction for early learners through secondary students.	S EL/K-12		Ortiz-Self	Needs discussion
SB 5312	Creating flexibility for the educator retooling conditional scholarship program.	H Education		Litzow	Support
SB 5318	Creating the wildlife college student loan program.	H Hi Ed		Parlette	Support
SB 5746	Including Everett Community College as an aerospace training or educational program.	H Hi Ed		Bailey	No position
Others of Interest					
E2SHB 1541	Implementing strategies to close the educational opportunity gap, based on the recommendations of the educational opportunity gap oversight and accountability committee.	S EL/K-12		Santos	No position
HB 1820	Requiring the department of social and health services to request all necessary exemptions and waivers from the federal government to allow students to use electronic benefit transfer cards at institutions of higher education.	S HumSer/MnHlth		Reykdal	Support
2SHB 2063	Creating an investment program for individuals with disabilities.	H Rules R		Kilduff	No position
2SSB 5179	Concerning paraeducators.	S 2nd Reading		Hill	Track
SSB 5202	Regarding the financial education public-private partnership.	H Education		Mullet	Track
SB 5351	Relating to education.	S EL/K-12		Litzow	Placeholder bill
SB 5352	Relating to education.	S EL/K-12		Litzow	Placeholder bill
SSB 5719	Creating a task force on campus sexual violence prevention.	H Hi Ed		Bailey	No position