WEIAOB
Workforce Education Investment Accountability and Oversight Board

WEIAOB 2027 Legislative Advisory Committee Update: October 22, 2026

Introduction

On July 23, 2026, the Board created a 2027 Legislative Advisory Committee (LAC) to:

- Review recent appropriations from WEIA.
- Prepare a decision package and agency request legislation to submit via WSAC on behalf of the Board, if necessary.
- Write the Board's 2026 legislative report.
- Develop draft recommendations for the 2027 legislative session.

After soliciting volunteers, Co-chairs Broom and Rep. Paul appointed the following Board members to serve on the LAC:

- Jane Broom (Co-chair)
- Rep. Dave Paul (Co-chair)
- Ruben Flores
- Nate Humphrey
- Mollie Kuwahara
- Bill Lyne
- Dr. Terri Standish-Kuon
- Maddy Thompson

Summary of Work Completed: August 28-October 22

Over the course of two meetings, LAC members started discussing goals for the 2027 legislative session and reviewing the Board's legislative report. A decision package and agency request legislation were also submitted (via WSAC) to amend the Board's statute (RCW 28B.77.310). Key topics and questions for LAC members are summarized below:

Topic	Key Questions
Budget	• How can the Board improve and refine its understanding of appropriations from WEIA prior to the 2027 session? • How can the Board help protect WEIA during the 2027-29 biennium?

	• Were the Board's 2026 legislative recommendations effective? • Should the Board issue broad and/or more specific recommendations for the 2027 session?
Legislation	• Should the Board amend its own statute (RCW 28B.77.310)? • Should the Board take positions on other legislation (related to WEIA, higher education, etc.)? • How can other legislation be used as a platform to discuss WEIA?
General/Other	• How can the Board improve and refine its 2026 legislative report? • How should the Board work with high-tech trade associations on its 2026 legislative report? *(required by 2026 supplemental operating budget proviso)* • How does the Board want to communicate with the Legislature and Gov. Ferguson's office during the 2027 session?

Implementation of 2026 Supplemental Operating Budget Proviso

The enacted 2026 supplemental operating budget (ESSB 5998, Sec. 609(11), p. 518, lines 17-21) included a proviso impacting the Board's report:

> *"Within existing resources, the workforce education investment accountability and oversight board shall work with high-tech trade associations to develop recommendations for its 2026 report to the legislature for expanding industry-aligned, high-demand degree programs."*

This proviso was submitted by Life Science Washington (LSW), an independent, nonprofit trade association serving the life sciences industry in Washington state. LAC members are communicating with LSW to learn more about their recommendations for the report.

Summary of Work Ahead: October 23-December 15

LAC members will meet on October 29, November 18, and December 15 to work on the following tasks:

- Writing and submitting the Board's 2026 legislative report.
- Improving summaries of current appropriations from WEIA.
- Preparing talking points about WEIA and the Board's bill to amend RCW 28B.77.310.
- Developing 2027 legislative recommendations for review and final approval during the Board's January 2027 meeting.

Questions, comments, or concerns about the LAC may be sent to Joel Anderson, JoelA@wsac.wa.gov.