



WEA PRIORITY BILLS 2015

as of 1/30/2015

- Bill #:** [HB 1538](#)
Subject: Restoring cost-of-living increases for educational employees.
Sponsor: Sells
Companion: [SB 5469](#) (Hasegawa)
Description: Raises state salary allocations for K-12 and Community and Technical College staff covered by Initiative 732 to the salary levels that would have been allocated if the COLAs had not been suspended over the last six years. The higher salary levels are phased in over 4 years.
- Bill #:** [HB 1616](#)
Subject: Establishing competitive wages for beginning teacher salaries.
Sponsor: Riccelli
Companion: [SB 5546](#) (Lias)
Description: Increases state allocations and school districts' minimum pay requirements for beginning educators to the comparable wage established by the compensation technical work group as adjusted for inflation.
- Bill #:** [HB 1614](#)
Subject: Establishing comparable and professional wages for K-12 employees.
Sponsor: Reykdal
Companion: [SB 5544](#) (McAuliffe)
Description: Phases in the compensation technical working group's recommendations for comparable, professional, market-based salaries for all K-12 staff and a revised compensation system for certificated instructional staff.

Bill #: [HB 1615](#)
Subject: Concerning postretirement employment.
Sponsor: Appleton
Companion: [SB 5545](#) (McAuliffe)
Description: Removes the specific restrictions on post-retirement employment for Plan 2 and Plan 3 members who retire using the 2008 early retirement factors. With this change, these retirees would have the same return to work rules as other Plan 2 and 3 retirees who are allowed to work 867 hours in a year before pension benefits are suspended.

Bill #: [HB 1542](#)
Subject: Providing retirement benefits at earlier ages in the plans 2 and 3 of the public employees' retirement system, the teachers' retirement system, and the school employees' retirement system.
Sponsor: S. Hunt
Companion: [SB 5473](#) (Chase)
Description: Implements the "Rule of 85" which allows any member who is at least age fifty-five and has completed at least five service credit years and for whom the sum of the number of years of the member's age and the number of years of the member's service credit equals eighty-five or more to be eligible to retire without a reduction in retirement pay.

Bill #: [HB 1592](#)
Subject: Concerning tuition waivers for state and educational employees.
Sponsor: S. Hunt
Companion: [SB 5559](#) (Billig)
Description: Allows waivers of tuition and services and activities fees for K-12 classified staff when used for coursework relevant to the work assignment.

Bill #: [HB 1295](#)
Subject: Concerning breakfast after the bell programs.
Sponsor: Hudgins
Companion: [SB 5437](#) (Litzow)
Description: Requires each high-needs school to offer breakfast after the bell to each student and provide adequate time for students to eat.

Bill #: [HB 1363](#)
Subject: Eliminating the requirement to obtain a certificate of academic achievement or certificate of individual achievement to graduate from high school.
Sponsor: S. Hunt
Companion: [SB 5327](#) (McCoy)
Description: Eliminates the use of standardized tests as a graduation requirement.

Bill #: [HB 1484](#)
Subject: Enacting an excise tax on capital gains to improve the fairness of Washington's tax system and provide funding for the education legacy trust account.
Sponsor: Jinkins
Companion:
Description: Provides funding for the education legacy trust account. Imposes a tax on individuals for the privilege of: (1) Selling or exchanging long-term capital assets; or (2) Receiving Washington capital gains.

Bill #: [HB 1314](#)
Subject: Implementing a carbon pollution market program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
Sponsor: Fitzgibbon
Companion: [SB 5283](#) (Ranker)
Description: Requires the department of ecology to implement a carbon pollution market program for emissions from covered entities by creating and distributing allowances that are tradable regionally, nationally, and internationally.

Bill #: [HB 1743](#)
Subject: Concerning the acceptance of additional high school equivalency tests.
Sponsor: Lytton
Companion: [SB 5675](#) (Roach)
Description: Requires the state board for community and technical colleges to accept at least one high school equivalency test option that is low cost to the student; does not require computer proficiency; and is appropriate for students who have been in the workforce, need a high school diploma for employment reasons, have been incarcerated or in the military, have been removed from any academic environment for four years or more, or are not planning to pursue a college education.

Bill #: [HB 1863](#)

Subject: Modifying collective bargaining law related to providing additional compensation for academic employees at community and technical colleges.

Sponsor: Rekydal

Companion:

Description: Requires community and technical colleges to pay bargained increment steps out of local college funds capped at 1.2% of full and part-time faculty salary base. Use of turnover savings is unchanged in the bill.

Bill #: [HB 1893](#)

Subject: Increasing transparency in community and technical colleges by requiring certain budget detail to be available online.

Sponsor: Sells

Companion:

Description: Requires community and technical colleges to disclose amounts and use of all non-state allocated funding at each college.