

2016 Bill Tracking

A selection of bills we followed this legislative session

E3SHB 1295 Breakfast after the Bell

Beginning in the 2017-18 school year, schools with 70 percent or more students eligible for free or reduced meals must offer breakfast after the bell to each student and provide adequate time for students to eat. One-time start-up allocation grants of \$6,000 will be made available to each high-needs school implementing a breakfast after the bell program. E3SHB 1295 allows schools to determine the breakfast after the bell service model that best suits its students (e.g., grab and go, where easy-to-eat breakfast foods are available for students; second chance breakfast, where breakfast foods are available during recess; a nutrition break; or breakfast in the classroom). It encourages all public schools to offer breakfast after the bell even if not required to do so. The bill passed the House during the 2015 and 2016 legislative sessions. In 2016 it was heard in the Senate policy and fiscal committees, but the Senate fiscal committee never took action on the bill. During special session, HB 3009 was introduced. This bill would have expanded the definition of "instructional hours" to include the period of time during which students are provided access to morning food programs, as long as they were also engaged in educational activity. HB 3009 never received a hearing.

E2SHB 2061 Authorizing County Legislative Authorities to Approve Certain Group B Water Systems

E2SHB 2061 authorizes some county legislative authorities to approve Group B public water systems with nine or fewer connections based on the quality of the water the system delivers rather than on the quality of the raw groundwater source. Systems approved under this bill are not subject to State Board of Health (SBOH) Group B water rules. The bill applies to four counties: Okanogan, Ferry, Stevens, and Pend Oreille. This authority is terminated in 2021. Governor Vetoed.

HB 2313/ SB 6157 The Age of Individuals at which Sale or Distribution of Tobacco and Vapor Products may be Made

HB 2313 prohibits selling or giving tobacco products or vapor products to a person under the age of 21. The bill was heard in the House policy committee but was not in the House fiscal committee. In the Senate, SB 6157 received a hearing in the policy committee but did not make it out of committee.

E2SHB 2793 Suicide Education

E2SHB 2793 establishes a Safe Homes Task Force to develop suicide awareness and prevention education messages and training. The taskforce will also implement advocacy efforts with key stakeholders to pair suicide prevention training with distribution of devices for safe storage of lethal means. The bill creates a Safe Homes Project to certify firearms dealers and firearms ranges that meet specified requirements as Safe Homes Partners. It also requires licensed pharmacists to complete a one-time training on suicide assessment, treatment, and management. Governor Signed. Partial Veto re: Sections on Safe Homes Project.

SB 5143 Availability of Childhood Immunization Resources for Expecting Parents

SB 5143 requires the Department of Health to develop and make available resources for expecting parents regarding childhood immunizations. The resources are intended to be provided to expecting parents by their health care providers to encourage discussion on childhood immunizations and postnatal care. Governor Signed.

2ESB 5251 Transferring Public Water System Financial Assistance Activities to the Department of Health

2ESB 5251 transfers the financial administration of the Safe Water Assistance Account from the Public Works Board and the Department of Commerce to the Department of Health. Governor Signed.

SB 5458 Health District Banking

SB 5458 allows health districts to act as custodians of district funds, keep records of receipts and disbursements, and draw, honor, and pay warrants or checks. Prior to exercising this authority, a district first must receive consent from the county legislative authority, county treasurer, county auditor, and the district's board of health. Governor Vetoed. Veto Override.

SB 6171 Civil Penalties for Knowing Attendance by a Member of a Governing Body at a Meeting Held in Violation of the Open Public Meetings Act

SB 6171 increases the penalty for a public official who knowingly attends a meeting held in violation of the Open Public Meetings Act. The penalty is \$500 for the first violation, and \$1,000 for each successive violation. Governor Signed.

SB 6245 Visual Screening in Schools

SB 6245 requires every board of school directors to provide for and require visual screening that includes both distance and near vision screening. Governor Signed.

ESSB 6328 Youth Vapor Product Substance Use Prevention, and Vapor Product Regulation, without Permitting a Tax on the Sale or Production of Vapor Products

The bill creates a comprehensive regulatory scheme governing commerce in vapor products that establishes statutory provisions pertaining to: (a) licensing and fee requirements for vapor products distributors, retailers, and Internet sellers; (b) prohibition against the purchase, possession, and use by minors; (c) product labeling with information regarding product safety and nicotine content; (d) sampling of products at retail establishments; (e) Internet sales; (f) use of coupons and other product promotions; (g) public use of vapor products in indoor and outdoor settings. The bill preempts vapor product regulatory measures adopted by local governments. Local governments may regulate outdoor use of vapor products where children congregate, and may regulate the use of vapor products in indoor places except for tasting/ sampling in retail outlets. The bill was passed the legislature during the last two days of special session. Delivered to the Governor.

SB 6398 Cultural Foods

SB 6398 requires the Board to consider scientific data regarding time-temperature safety standards for Asian rice-based noodles and Korean rice cakes. The bill defines these terms. Governor Vetoed. Veto Override.

ESB 6620 School Safety

ESB 6620 requires the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP) to complete an evaluation of how Washington and other states have addressed the funding of school safety and security programs. The report is due by December 1, 2017. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the School Safety Advisory Committee must hold annual school safety summits to focus on establishing and monitoring the progress of a statewide plan for funding cost-effective methods for school safety that meet local needs. Other focus areas may include planning and implementation of school safety efforts, training of school safety professionals, and integrating mental health and security measures.

The bill allows Educational Service Districts (ESD) to implement regional school safety and security programs, including a network of school safety coordinators focused on prevention planning, intervention, mitigation crisis response, and community recovery regarding emergency incidents in schools. By September 1, 2017, OSPI must create and maintain an online social and emotional training module for educators, administrators, and other school district staff. Governor Signed.

2016 Supplemental Budget

Foundational Public Health Services

The Department of Health and local public health jurisdictions must provide a proposal outlining a plan for implementing foundational public health services statewide to modernize, streamline, and fund a twenty-first century public health system in Washington. It includes a review of fees that support the work of public health, and the identification of fees that are not currently supplying adequate revenue to maintain compliance or enforcement. The first report is due to the Legislature December 1, 2016. Subsequent reports must be submitted biennially.

Rulemaking Backlog - \$28,000 (SBOH)

Funding is provided to address the rulemaking backlog, which resulted from the Legislature's four-year rulemaking moratorium. These funds are intended to cover Assistant Attorney General costs.

Public Health Reporting for Schools - \$511,000

This funding invests in an immunization validation tool in the State's Immunization Information System (IIS) and rolls out the IIS School Module statewide. The immunization validation tool is an IIS interface that will electronically determine if a child meets all immunization requirements for school entry using data from the child's immunization records. The School Module, a tool within the IIS, will allow schools to easily and accurately determine whether a student is in compliance with school immunization requirements.

Vapor Products - \$1,681,000

Funding is provided for ESSB 6328 to provide for the regulation, enforcement, education and intervention strategies, and licensing of vapor products.

Suicide Education - \$100,000

Funding for E2SHB 2793 is provided to establish a Safe Home Task Force to develop suicide awareness and prevention education messages and training and create a Safe Homes Project to certify firearms dealers and firearms ranges that meet specific requirements.

Maternal Mortality Review - \$230,000

Funding for E2SSB 6534 is provided to establish a maternal mortality review panel to conduct comprehensive multidisciplinary reviews of maternal death in Washington.

Prescription Monitoring Program - \$26,000

Funding is provided for SHB 2730 to provide for rulemaking to allow access to the Prescription Monitoring Program by prescribers of legend drugs, personnel of a health care facility or entity, and certain provider groups without individually registering.

Local Government Infrastructure Investment Strategy - (funding to OFM)

The Office of Financial Management (OFM) is to convene a workgroup including local governments, relevant state agencies (Department of Health is one of those agencies), and legislators. The workgroup is to develop a local government infrastructure investment strategy which includes identifying existing resources, resource gaps, and assess potential new investment and revenue tools for local infrastructure systems, including drinking water, wastewater, storm water, and community facilities.