

Bills of Significant Interest to the UW
Last Updated March 8, 2007

2SSB 5806/ HB 1882 – Implementing Washington Learns recommendations

Sponsor: Sen. Mark Schoesler (R-Ritzville); Rep. Deb Wallace (D-Vancouver)

Status: 2SSB 5806 in Senate Rules eligible for 2nd Reading. SHB 1882 referred to the House Appropriations Committee.

Summary: Implements the recommendations of the Governor's Washington Learns Initiative

UW Position: Support

SB 5384/SHB 1398 – Expanding UW and WSU local borrowing authority

Sponsor(s): Sen. Karen Fraser (D-Olympia); Rep. Bill Fromhold (D-Vancouver)

Status: SB 5384 passed the Senate 46-0. SHB 1398 passed House of Representatives 93-1 and referred to Senate Ways & Means Committee.

Summary: Authorizes UW and WSU to issue bonds or other forms of debt for any university purpose to be paid by locally controlled fees and revenues.

UW Position: Support.

SHB 1506 – Changing alternative public works provisions

Sponsor: Rep. Kathy Haigh (D-Shelton)

Status: SHB 1506 awaiting House floor action.

Summary: Reauthorizes statutes related to the general contractor construction management program.

UW Position: Support.

SHB 2164 – Excludes areas within campus master plans from residential targeted areas eligible for a special 10-year property tax exemption program

Sponsor: Rep. Hans Dunshee (D-Snohomish)

Status: Passed House Finance Committee on March 5.

Summary: Excludes areas within campus master plans from residential targeted areas eligible for a special 10-year property tax exemption program.

UW Position: Support.

SHB 1784/SB 5766 – Eliminating limitations on the investment of certain state moneys

Sponsor: Rep. Phyllis Kenney (D-Seattle); Sen. Karen Fraser (D-Olympia)

Status: SHB 1784 passed the House 92-2. SB 5766 awaiting Senate floor action.

Summary: The measure (and a corresponding constitutional amendment) would permit the State Investment Board to invest the proceeds of higher education permanent trusts in stock investments.

UW Position: Support.

SHB 2361– Changing collective bargaining eligibility requirements for certain employees of higher education institutions and related boards.

Sponsor: Rep. Steve Conway (D-Tacoma)

Status: SHB 2361 passed to House Rules Committee.

Summary: Expands the number of higher education employees eligible to be represented by a public employee union.

UW Position: Neutral

SHB 1913/SSB 5772 – Certifying employee organizations for collective bargaining

Sponsor: Rep. Steve Conway (D-Tacoma); Sen. Jeanne Kohl-Welles (D-Seattle)

Status: SHB 1913 passed to House Rules Committee. SSB 5772 passed to Senate Rules Committee.

Summary: Modifies laws pertaining to cross checks of applications for certification of organizations as exclusive collective bargaining representatives and changes procedures for certification of such organizations.

UW Position: Oppose

SSB 6083 – Providing access to medical information for physicians (similar provisions are also included in 2SHB 2098)

Sponsor: Sen. Cheryl Phlug (R-Issaquah)

Status: Senate Rules Committee

Summary: Imposes a fee of \$25 for physicians and other health care providers to pay for the costs of providing online access to medical information from UW libraries

UW Position: Support

HB 2289 – State agency use of information technology.

Sponsor: Rep. Mark Ericks (D-Bothell)

Status: Passed House Appropriations Committee March 5.

Summary: Directs the Department of Information Services to conduct a study to streamline technology.

UW Position: Neutral

SHB 1036 – Purchase of renewable energy by public entities.

Sponsor: Rep. Jeff Morris (D-Anacortes)

Status: Passed House Appropriations Committee March 3.

Summary: Establishes renewable energy targets for state agencies but delays impact for two years.

UW Position: Concerns about future costs to purchase renewable energy.

2SSB 5155/SHB 1131 – Creating the passport to college promise program

Sponsor(s): Sen. Derek Kilmer (D-Gig Harbor); Rep. Hans Dunshee (D-Snohomish)

Status: 2SSB 5155 referred to Senate Rules Committee. SHB 1131 passed House 81-16 and referred to Senate Higher Education Committee.

Summary: Creates the passport to college promise program to help foster care children prepare for and attend higher education.

UW Position: Support with language changes to be offered by the Council of Presidents.

SSB 5002 – Changing tuition waivers for families of fallen veterans and National Guard

Sponsor: Sen. Mike Hewitt (R-Walla Walla)

Status: SB 5002 passed Senate and referred to House Higher Education Committee.

Summary: Requires higher education institutions to waive all tuition and fees for the children and spouses of eligible veterans or National Guard members killed, permanently disabled or missing in action or prisoners of war.

UW Position: Concerns about future costs and "mandated" statutory waiver.

SSB 5101 – Tuition waivers for teachers

Sponsor: Sen. Steve Hobbs (D-Lake Stevens)

Status: Passed Senate 43-0 on March 6 and referred to House Higher Education Committee.

Summary: Adds teachers seeking continuing education units to the list of permissive higher education waivers.

UW Position: Neutral

SSB 5442 – Providing tuition waivers for eligible veteran or National Guard medal recipients

Sponsor: Sen. Steve Hobbs (D-Lake Stevens)

Status: Referred to Senate Rules Committee.

Summary: Establishes permissive tuition waivers for eligible medal recipients, children and spouses of eligible veterans killed or permanently disabled while on active duty.

UW Position: Neutral

SHB 1394 – Authorizing incentive grants to support medical research and products to improve services to persons with developmental disabilities

Sponsor: Rep. Brendan Williams (D-Olympia)

Status: Referred to House Rules Committee

Summary: Authorizes incentive grants to support medical research and products to improve services to persons with developmental disabilities.

UW Position: Support.

2SHB 1779 – GET math and science scholarships

Sponsor: Rep. Deb Wallace (D-Vancouver)

Status: Passed House Appropriations Committee March 1 and referred to House Rules.

Summary: Establishes a get ready for math and science college scholarship program.

UW Position: Support