WAADAC Legislative Report
April 13, 2025
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With the passing of the Tuesday, April 8 deadline for bills to be voted out of fiscal committees, the legislative process has now entered its next phase. Both the House and Senate have shifted their focus to floor debates, caucus, and conference committee negotiations as they work through the last two weeks of the 2025 regular legislative session. The next deadline of consequence is the Opposite Floor Cutoff on April 16 by which bills must be voted out of the opposite chamber.

Although the broader legislature remains focused on voting on policy bills through April 16, budget negotiations are ongoing behind the scenes. Fiscal leaders are grappling with how to reconcile their funding priorities with concerns raised by Governor Ferguson last week, especially around proposed revenue measures. The central challenge is finding common ground between legislative goals and the governor's push for reduced spending and less new revenue.

Final Steps for a Bill: Concurrence, Conference, Enrollment & Signatures…If a bill has been amended by the second house, the first house must decide whether it will concur in the amendments. If the first house agrees, leadership places those bills on the concurrence calendar (House) or concurring calendar (Senate). If the first house concurs in the amendments, the bill has passed the Legislature.

If the first house disagrees with the second house, it can ask the second house to recede from the amendments. If the second house recedes, the bill has passed the Legislature. If the two houses cannot resolve their differences, one of them can ask for a conference committee. Members from each house meet to discuss the differences. If they agree on what is to be done, the conference committee makes a report. Both houses must adopt the conference committee report for the bill to pass the Legislature, no floor amendments are allowed. If one house does not adopt the conference committee report (whether by vote or inaction), the bill has not passed.

Once a bill has finally passed the Legislature, it is enrolled. A certificate proclaiming that it has passed is attached and, if necessary, the amendments from the second house or conference committee are incorporated into the body of the bill. The bill is signed by the Speaker of the House, the Chief Clerk of the House, the President of the Senate, and the Secretary of the Senate and is sent to the Governor for his action.

Bills that are delivered to the Governor more than five days before the Legislature adjourns have five days to be acted on. Bills that are delivered fewer than five days before the Legislature adjourns have 20 days to be acted on by the governor. Both are counted as calendar days, not business days. Sundays are not counted, but Saturdays and state holidays are counted. Legislative sponsors can invite members of the public to bill signings.

WAADAC Bills of Interest

HB 1427 expands access to and training for **peer support specialists**. It has passed the Senate Ways & Means Committee and the Rules Committee. It's now eligible to be voted on by the Senate.

HB 1432 updates Washington's **mental health parity** law. It has passed the Senate Ways & Means Committee and the Rules Committee. It's now eligible to be voted on by the Senate.

HB 1574 expands **protections for a person seeking medical assistance for someone experiencing a drug-related overdose** or who is experiencing a drug-related overdose and needs medical assistance. It is now in the Senate Rules Committee.

HB 1686, the bill creating a **health care entity registry,** has passed the Senate Ways & Means Committee and the Rules Committee. It is now eligible for a vote by the Senate.

HB 1813, concerning the **reprocurement of medical assistance services**, passed the Senate Ways & Means Committee with an amendment to delay by six months the requirement that MCOs establish, continue, or expand delegation arrangements with behavioral health administrative services organizations for crisis services for Medicaid enrollees by July 1, 2026, rather than January 1, 2026. It's now in the Senate Rules Committee.

SB 5361, the bill to **delay the use of the ASAM 4 criteria**, treatment criteria for addictive, substance related, passed the Appropriations Committee. It's now in the House Rules Committee.

Upcoming Events

Finance (House) - HHR A and Virtual JLOB - 4/18 @ 8:00am

• HB 2049 - Exec Session - Investing in the state's paramount duty to fund K-12 education and build strong and safe communities.

Important Dates:
Wednesday, April 16 - Opposite House Floor Cutoff
Sunday, April 27 - Sine Die

High Priority Bills

Bill Details		Status	Sponsor	Position
2SHB 1427	**Peer support specialists** Concerning certified peer support specialists.	S 2nd Reading	Davis	

E2SHB 1432 (SB 5477)	**Mental health services** Improving access to appropriate mental health and substance use disorder services.	S 2nd Reading	Simmons
SB 5361 (HB 1469)	**ASAM 4 treatment criteria** Delaying the use of the ASAM 4 criteria, treatment criteria for addictive, substance related, and co-occurring conditions.	H Rules R	Dhingra

Monitoring Bills

Bill Details		Status	Sponsor	Position
SHB 1198 (ESSB 5167)	**Operating budget** Making 2025-2027 fiscal biennium operating appropriations and 2023-2025 fiscal biennium second supplemental operating appropriations.	H Rules R	Ormsby	
HB 1234 (SB 5449)	**Counselors, etc. committee** Concerning the mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers advisory committee.	C 20 L 25	Simmons	
ESHB 1296	**Public education system** Promoting a safe and supportive public education system.	S Passed 3rd	Stonier	
SHB 1308 (SB 5345)	**Access to personnel records** Concerning access to personnel records.	S Passed 3rd	Reed	
HB 1320	**Business & occupation tax** Modifying business and occupation tax rates to fund programs and services to benefit Washingtonians.	H Finance	Street	
EHB 1382	**All payers claim database** Modernizing the all payers claim database.	S Rules 2	Tharinger	
SHB 1392 (SB 5372)	**Medicaid access program** Creating the medicaid access program.	S 2nd Reading	Macri	
EHB 1574	**Substance use/care, services** Protecting access to life-saving care and substance use services.	S Rules 2	Macri	
E2SHB 1686 (SB 5561)	**Health care entity registry** Creating a health care entity registry.	S 2nd Reading	Bronoske	
ESHB 1718	**Health care prof. well-being** Concerning well-being programs for certain health care professionals.	H Spkr Signed	Thai	
SHB 1811	**Crisis co-response** Enhancing crisis response services through co-response integration and support.	S Rules 2	Salahuddin	

E2SHB 1813	**Medical assist reprocurement** Concerning the reprocurement of medical assistance services, including the realignment of behavioral health crisis services for medicaid enrollees.	S Rules 2	Macri
HB 2038 (SB 5799)	**Youth behavioral health acc.** Establishing the youth behavioral health account and funding the account through the imposition of a business and occupation additional tax on the operation of social media platforms.	H Finance	Callan
HB 2045	**Business and occupation tax** Investing in Washington families by restructuring the business and occupation tax on high grossing businesses and financial institutions.	H Finance	Fitzgibbon
HB 2046	**Intangible assets tax** Creating fairness in Washington's tax by imposing a tax on select financial intangible assets.	H Finance	Berg
HB 2049	**K-12 education funding** Investing in the state's paramount duty to fund K-12 education and build strong and safe communities.	H Finance	Bergquist
HB 2072	**Opioid impact fee** Sustaining and expanding behavioral health services by levying an opioid impact fee on opioid manufacturers.	H Approps	Davis
E2SSB 5083 (SHB 1123)	**Health carrier reimbursement** Ensuring access to primary care, behavioral health, and affordable hospital services.	H Rules R	Robinson
ESSB 5167 (SHB 1198)	**Operating budget** Making 2025-2027 fiscal biennium operating appropriations and 2023-2025 fiscal biennium second supplemental operating appropriations.	S Conf appt	Robinson
SSB 5388	**DOC behavioral health cert.** Concerning department of corrections behavioral health certification.	H Passed 3rd	Dhingra
SSB 5568	**State health plan** Updating and modernizing the Washington state health plan.	H Rules R	Cleveland
SB 5794	**Tax preferences** Adopting recommendations from the tax preference performance review process, eliminating obsolete tax preferences, clarifying legislative intent, and addressing changes in constitutional law.	S Ways & Means	Salomon
SB 5795	**Sales and use tax rate** Reducing the state sales and use tax rate.	S Ways & Means	Krishnadasan
SB 5796	**Payroll expense tax** Enacting an excise tax on large employers on the amount of payroll expenses above the social security wage threshold to fund programs and services to benefit Washingtonians.	S Ways & Means	Saldana
SB 5797	**Intangible assets tax**	S Ways & Means	Frame

Enacting a tax on stocks, bonds, and other financial intangible assets for the benefit of public schools.

SB 5798	**Property tax** Concerning property tax reform.	S Ways & Means	Pedersen
SB 5799 (HB 2038)	**Youth behavioral health acc.** Establishing the youth behavioral health account and funding the account through the imposition of a business and occupation additional tax on the operation of social media platforms.	S Ways & Means	Wilson

Dead Bills

Bill Details		Status	Sponsor	Position
SHB 1123 (E2SSB 5083)	**Health carrier reimbursement** Ensuring access to primary care, behavioral health, and affordable hospital services.	H Rules R	Macri	
HB 1124 (SSB 5112)	**Prescribing psychologists** Establishing a prescribing psychologist certification in Washington state.	H HC/Wellness	Simmons	
SHB 1155 (SB 5437)	**Noncompetition agreements** Prohibiting noncompetition agreements and clarifying nonsolicitation agreements.	H Rules C	Berry	
HB 1199 (SSB 5331)	**Insurance code violations** Strengthening consumer protection through increased insurer accountability for violations of the insurance code.	H ConsPro&Bus	Taylor	
HB 1225	**Budgeting process** Reforming the Washington state budgeting process through requiring prioritized spending on essential state functions, placing limitations on state spending and revenue proposals, and requiring accountability for every dollar spent within the state budget.	H Approps	Couture	
HB 1259	**Behavioral health/schools** Concerning supervision requirements for behavioral health professionals in elementary and secondary public schools.	H Postsec Ed & W	Shavers	Support
HB 1262 (SB 5228)	**Health disparities council** Updating the governor's interagency coordinating council on health disparities.	H Rules C	Santos	
HB 1413	**Opioid reversal purchasing** Prohibiting government purchases of opioid overdose reversal medications from certain entities.	H HC/Wellness	Reeves	
E2SHB 1422	**Drug take-back program** Modifying the drug take-back program.	S Ways & Means	Peterson	
HB 1425	**Pharmacogenomic testing** Requiring coverage of pharmacogenomic testing for psychotropic medications.	H HC/Wellness	Davis	

HB 1433 (SB 5201)	**Psychedelic substances** Concerning access to psychedelic substances.	H HC/Wellness	Macri
HB 1445 (SB 5233)	**Washington health trust** Developing the Washington health trust.	H HC/Wellness	Parshley
HB 1451	**SVP civil commitment** Concerning civil commitment of sexually violent predators.	H Community Safe	Griffey
HB 1469 (SB 5361)	**ASAM 4 treatment criteria** Delaying the use of the ASAM 4 criteria, treatment criteria for addictive, substance related, and co-occurring conditions.	H HC/Wellness	Macri
HB 1496 (SSB 5254)	**Health care information** Strengthening patients' rights regarding their health care information.	H HC/Wellness	Berry
HB 1502	**Behavioral health teaching** Establishing a behavioral health teaching clinic designation and enhancement rate.	H HC/Wellness	Rule
HB 1507	**Health care nondisclosure** Limiting health care nondisclosure agreements.	H Civil R & Judi	Scott
HB 1520 (SB 5513)	**Pharmacist scope of practice** Expanding pharmacists' scope of practice to improve access to health care and the management of chronic diseases.	H HC/Wellness	Thai
HB 1547 (SB 5126)	**Student mental health net.** Establishing a statewide network for student mental and behavioral health.	H Education	Santos
SHB 1566 (SSB 5395)	**Prior authorization/health** Making improvements to transparency and accountability in the prior authorization determination process.	H Approps	Rule
HB 1581	**988 line tax** Increasing the statewide 988 behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention line tax.	H Finance	Macri
E2SHB 1589 (SB 5588)	**Health carriers & providers** Concerning the relationships between health carriers and contracting providers.	S Health & Long-T	Bronoske
SHB 1634	**Behavioral health/schools** Providing school districts and public schools with assistance to coordinate comprehensive behavioral health supports for students.	H Approps	Thai
HB 1663 (SSB 5369)	**Youth mental health/schools** Enhancing youth mental health and well-being through advanced training and expansion of the workforce in schools.	H Education	Rule

HB 1675 (2SSB 5387)	**Corp. practice of medicine** Concerning the corporate practice of medicine.	H HC/Wellness	Thai
HB 1787	**Substance use/commitment** Updating the involuntary treatment commitment standards for individuals suffering from a substance use disorder.	H Civil R & Judi	Griffey
HB 1809	**Behavioral health response** Professionalizing first responders and co-responders through training and reimbursement for behavioral health emergency response.	H HC/Wellness	Nance
HB 1933	**Overdose information** Providing universal access to overdose information to law enforcement and emergency services providers.	H HC/Wellness	Manjarrez
HB 1957	**Health plan rate approval** Providing consistency in the rate approval process for individual and small group market health plans.	H HC/Wellness	Schmick
HB 1968	**Controlled sub. endangerment** Concerning endangerment with a controlled substance.	H Community Safe	Rule
SHB 1996	**Behavioral health diversion** Authorizing a qualified county to impose a tax for the funding of behavioral health diversion from the criminal justice system.	H Rules R	Farivar
HB 2001	**Sunsetting state entities** Sunsetting all nonconstitutionally mandated state agencies, commissions, boards, task forces, work groups, and councils every 10 years absent affirmative reestablishment by the legislature.	H State Govt & Tr	Dufault
SSB 5031	**Confinement health coord.** Concerning health care coordination regarding confined individuals.	S Ways & Means	Wilson
SSB 5112 (HB 1124)	**Prescribing psychologists** Establishing a prescribing psychologist certification in Washington state.	S Rules X	Bateman
SB 5126 (HB 1547)	**Student mental health net.** Establishing a statewide network for student mental and behavioral health.	S EL/K-12	Nobles
SB 5201 (HB 1433)	**Psychedelic substances** Concerning access to psychedelic substances.	S Labor & Comm	Salomon
SB 5204	**Ibogaine-assisted therapy** Concerning ibogaine-assisted therapy.	S Health & Long-	Salomon
SB 5213	**Fentanyl possession** Penalizing the possession of fentanyl.	S Law & Justice	McCune

SB 5228 (HB 1262)	**Health disparities council** Updating the governor's interagency coordinating council on health disparities.	S Health & Long-	Riccelli
SSB 5229	**Opioid overdose/civil commit** Facilitating civil commitment for treatment for a person requiring revival by opioid overdose reversal medication.	S Ways & Means	Wagoner
SB 5233 (HB 1445)	**Washington health trust** Developing the Washington health trust.	S Health & Long-	Hasegawa
SB 5242	**Behavioral health resources** Establishing an interactive screening program to improve access to behavioral health resources for health care providers.	S Health & Long-	Orwall
SSB 5254 (HB 1496)	**Health care information** Strengthening patients' rights regarding their health care information.	S Ways & Means	Orwall
SSB 5290	**Controlled subs. dismissal** Allowing persons who complete substance abuse programs to seek dismissal of certain controlled substance related charges.	S Rules X	Salomon
SSB 5324 (SHB 1706)	**Prior auth. APIs/health** Aligning the implementation of application programming interfaces for prior authorization with federal guidelines.	S Rules X	Cleveland
SSB 5331 (HB 1199)	**Insurance code violations** Strengthening consumer protection through increased insurer accountability for violations of the insurance code.	H ConsPro&Bus	Cortes
SB 5345 (SHB 1308)	**Access to personnel records** Concerning access to personnel records.	S Labor & Comm	Saldana
SSB 5369 (HB 1663)	**Youth mental health/schools** Enhancing youth mental health and well-being through advanced training and expansion of the workforce in schools.	S Ways & Means	Orwall
SB 5372 (SHB 1392)	**Medicaid access program** Creating the medicaid access program.	S Health & Long-	Riccelli
2SSB 5387 (HB 1675)	**Corp practice of health care** Concerning the corporate practice of health care.	S Rules X	Robinson
SSB 5395 (SHB 1566)	**Prior authorization/health** Making improvements to transparency and accountability in the prior authorization determination process.	S Ways & Means	Orwall
SB 5424	**UW health sciences campus** Establishing a health sciences campus of the University of Washington.	S Higher Ed & Wo	Braun

SB 5437 (SHB 1155)	**Noncompetition agreements** Prohibiting noncompetition agreements and clarifying nonsolicitation agreements.	S Labor & Comm	Stanford
SB 5449 (HB 1234)	**Counselors, etc. committee** Concerning the mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers advisory committee.	S Health & Long-	Slatter
SB 5452	**Psychiatric pharmacists** Allowing board-certified psychiatric pharmacists to be licensed as agency-affiliated counselors.	S Health & Long-	Slatter
SB 5477 (E2SHB 1432)	**Mental health services** Improving access to appropriate mental health and substance use disorder services.	S Health & Long-T	Bateman
SB 5481	**Behavioral health/schools** Providing access to behavioral health services to children using licensed clinicians colocated within the school.	S Health & Long-T	Wilson
SB 5513 (HB 1520)	**Pharmacist scope of practice** Expanding pharmacists' scope of practice to improve access to health care and the management of chronic diseases.	S Health & Long-	Slatter
SB 5561 (E2SHB 1686)	**Health care entity registry** Creating a health care entity registry.	S Health & Long-	Cleveland
SB 5588 (E2SHB 1589)	**Health carriers & providers** Concerning the relationships between health carriers and contracting providers.	S Health & Long-T	Cleveland
SB 5666	**Mental health internships** Establishing a public school-based mental health internship grant program.	S Higher Ed & Wo	Slatter
SSB 5683	**Health carrier payment times** Concerning health carrier transparency of payment timeliness of claims submitted by health care providers and health care facilities.	S Ways & Means	Slatter
SB 5762	**988 line tax** Increasing the statewide 988 behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention line tax.	S Ways & Means	Orwall
SB 5765	**Psychiatric pharmacists** Concerning psychiatric pharmacists.	S Health & Long-	Slatter