

Washington State Department of Health  
Washington State Board of Nursing (WABON)  
Legislative Panel  
Bill Report: March 6, 2024

Possible Panel Positions:

Support	Support Concept	Neutral	Concerns	Oppose
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2024 Legislative Session Cutoff Calendar:

House of Origin	
January 8	First day of regular session
January 31	Must pass Policy Committee
February 5	Must pass Fiscal Committee
February 13	Must pass house of origin
Opposite House	
February 21	Must pass Policy Committee
February 26	Must pass Fiscal Committee
March 1	Must pass opposite house
End of Session	
March 7	Concurrence, Dispute, Conference Committee
March 7	Sine die (last day of regular session)

WABON Request Legislation

Bill	Prime Sponsor(s)	Title	Brief Description	Status	WABON Action
<a href="#">HB 2416</a>	Rep. Graham & Riccelli	Advance Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Title Protection	<p>Providing APRN title protection and aligning with best practice language across the country.</p> <p><b>SUB:</b> Directs the Code Reviser's Office (CRO) to prepare bill language correcting references in the Revised Code of Washington from advanced registered nurse practitioner to advanced practice registered nurse and include this bill language in the CRO's 2025 technical corrections bill.</p>	<p>Passed the House (2/12): 97 yeas, 0 nays</p> <p><b>Scheduled for second reading in the Senate on 3/1/24</b></p>	<p>Testified (1/24)</p> <p>ED Outreach (2/1 – 2/8)</p> <p>Testified (2/16)</p> <p>ED Outreach (2/21 – Present)</p>

House Bills

Bill	Prime Sponsor(s)	Title	Brief Description	Status	Position	WABON Action
<a href="#">ESHB 1608</a>	Rep. Bronoske & Simmons	Expanding access to anaphylaxis medications in schools	Require the Secretary of Health or designee to issue a statewide standing order prescribing epinephrine and epinephrine autoinjectors to any school district or school for use by a school nurse for any student or individual experiencing anaphylaxis on school property. Authorizes school districts and private schools to maintain a supply of epinephrine and autoinjectors.	Passed the House (1/25): 93 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the Senate (2/29): 46 yeas, 0 nays	Support Concept	Letter of Support to House (1/25)  Letter of Support to H Rules (2/1)  Letter of Support to EL&K-12 (2/15)
<a href="#">SHB 1889</a>	Rep. Walen	Allowing persons to receive professional licenses and certifications regardless of immigration or citizenship status	This bill allows persons to receive professional licenses and certifications regardless of immigration or citizenship status.  <b>SUB:</b> Excludes interstate licensure compacts.	Passed the House (2/9): 66 yeas, 31 nays  Passed the Senate (2/27): 41 yeas, 8 nays	Support Concept	Tech. amendments requested (accepted)
<a href="#">HB 1954</a>	Rep. Riccelli and Bateman	Reproductive health care services or gender affirming treatment	This bill harmonizes statutory language relating to lawful participation in reproductive health care services or gender affirming treatment.	Passed the House (1/25): 56 yeas, 37 nays  Passed the Senate (2/22): 30 yeas, 19 nays	Support Concept	
<a href="#">HB 2355</a>	Rep. Nance & Ybarra	Relating to establishing a primary certification process for magnetic resonance imaging technologists	Establishes a primary certification process for magnetic resonance imaging technologists.	Passed the House (2/9): 97 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the Senate (2/27): 49 yeas, 0 nays	Support Concept	Letter of Support Concept to HC&W (1/25)

Senate Bills

Bill	Prime Sponsor(s)	Title	Brief Description	Status	Position	WABON Action
<a href="#">SB 5184</a>	Sen. Rivers	Concerning licensure of anesthesiologist assistants	<p>The bill creates a new regulated health profession: anesthesiologist assistant (AA).</p> <p><b>SUB:</b> Limits the scope of practice for AAs; clarifies supervision requirements; and eliminates issuance of a temporary license.</p>	<p>Passed the Senate (2/7): 37 yeas, 12 nays</p> <p>Passed the House (2/29): 82 yeas, 14 nays</p>	Concerns	<p>Letter of Concerns to H&amp;LTC (1/10)</p> <p>Testified (1/12) Testified (2/14)</p>
<a href="#">ESSB 5481</a>	Sen. Cleveland and Pedersen <i>Legislation requested by Uniform Law Commission</i>	Concerning the uniform telemedicine act	<p>A health care practitioner may provide telehealth services to a patient located in WA if services are consistent with the health care practitioner's scope of practice, applicable practice standards, and requirements and limitations of federal &amp; WA law.</p> <p><b>SUB:</b> Replaces references to "telemedicine" with "telehealth." Allows a practitioner to establish a relationship with a patient through telehealth.</p>	<p>Passed the Senate (1/24): 49 yeas, 0 nays</p> <p>Passed the House (3/1): 94 yeas, 0 nays</p>	Neutral	
<a href="#">SSB 5802</a>	Sen. Muzzall by request of DSHS	Flexibility in calculation of nursing rates	<p>This bill amends several sections to allow for the implementation of CMS Patient Driven Payment Model in skilled nursing facilities.</p> <p><b>SUB:</b> Makes case mix adjustments using the methodology developed by DSHS subject to appropriation; and technical language edits.</p>	<p>Passed the Senate (2/8): 49 yeas, 0 nays</p> <p>Passed the House (3/1): 95 yeas, 0 nays</p>	Support Concept	Letter of Support Concept to W&M (2/2)
<a href="#">SSB 5804</a>	Sen. Kuderer	Concerning opioid overdose reversal medication in high schools	<p>All public schools must obtain and maintain at least one set of opioid overdose reversal medication.</p> <p><b>SUB:</b> Opioid overdose reversal medication must be included in each first aid kit maintained on the property; and include at least one location of medication on the school's emergency map.</p>	<p>Passed the Senate (2/1): 49 yeas, 0 nays</p> <p>Passed the House (2/27): 95 yeas, 0 nays</p>	Support Concept	<p>Letter of Support Concept to EL&amp;K-12 (1/26)</p> <p>Letter of Support Concept to Education (2/15)</p>

Bill	Prime Sponsor(s)	Title	Brief Description	Status	Position	WABON Action
<a href="#">SB 5821</a>	Sen. Muzzall	Establishing a uniform standard for creating an established relationship for the purposes of coverage of audio-only telemedicine services	Establishes a uniform standard for creating an established relationship for the purposes of coverage of audio only telemedicine services by expanding the time in which a healthcare provider has seen the patient and removing the expiration of provisions allowing for the use of real-time interactive appointments using both audio and video.	Passed the Senate (2/7): 49 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the House (2/28): 79 yeas, 16 nays	Support Concept	Letter of Concerns to H&LTC (1/11)  Letter of Concerns to Senate Leadership (2/1)  Letter of Support Concept to HC&W (2/15)
<a href="#">2SSB 5937</a>	Sen. Dhingra	Relating to supporting crime victims and witnesses	This bill establishes the position of a Statewide Forensic Nurse Coordination Program in the DOH Prevention and Community Health division. The program will provide technical assistance, identify and address barriers faced by hospitals regarding SANE programs, assess and maintain standards for forensic nurse training, and provide organizational and capacity building support to SANE programs.	Passed the Senate (2/12): 49 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the House (2/28): 94 yeas, 0 nays	Support Concept	Letter of Support Concept to L&J (1/26)  Letter of Support Concept to CSJ&R (2/15)
<a href="#">SSB 5940</a>	Sen. Van De Wege	Relating to creating a medical assistant-EMT certification	Establishes a certification for existing EMTs or paramedics to work in hospitals without additional training. Delegation from health care practitioners.	Passed the Senate (2/7): 49 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the House (2/29): 96 yeas, 0 nays	Support Concept	Letter of Concerns to H&LTC (1/17)
<a href="#">ESSB 5983</a>	Sen. Liias & Rivers	Implementing recommendations from the 2022 sexually transmitted infection and hep B virus legislative advisory group for the treatment of syphilis	This bill would allow a health care provider to provide expedited partner therapy (EPT) if: 1) A patient has a confirmed lab test result or direct observation of clinical signs; or 2) assessment of clinical data by a health care provider confirming the person has, or is likely to have, an STI.  <b>SUB:</b> Corrects the referenced DOH statute.	Passed the Senate(2/7): 49 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the House (2/27): 95 yeas, 0 nays	Support Concept	Letter of Support Concept to H&LTC (1/26)  Letter of Support Concept to HC&W (2/15)

Bill	Prime Sponsor(s)	Title	Brief Description	Status	Position	WABON Action
<a href="#">ESB 6151</a>	Sen. Randall, Wilson, Nobles, Trudeau, Kuderer, & Dhingra	Relating to the provision of an ultrasound	Limits the provision of ultrasounds or similar medical imagining procedures to health care providers, or a person acting under the supervision of a health care provider holding an active license under RCW 18.130.040 and acting within their scope of practice.  <b>SUB:</b> Replaces reference to “health care professional” with “health care provider.” Removes the specification that emergency medical personnel may provide an ultrasound as necessary in the course of their employment.	Passed the Senate (2/7): 29 yeas, 20 nays  Passed the House (2/27): 94 yeas, 0 nays	Neutral	
<a href="#">ESSB 6286</a>	Sen. Rivers & Cleveland	Addressing the anesthesia workforce shortage	1) Establishes a grant process to be administered by the Board of Nursing to incentivize CRNAs to precept nurse anesthesia residents. Funds will be distributed equally among the total qualified preceptors that dedicate at least 80 hours per year to precepting nurse anesthesia residents. 2) Directs the UW CWS, in collaboration with WABON, WMC, and DOH, to conduct a study on the workforce shortages for anesthesia care in Washington.  <b>SUB:</b> Amends parameters of the workforce study; replaces the Health Workforce Council with the UW’s Center for Workforce Studies to conduct the study; and specifies the intent to encourage an ongoing supply and improve the pipeline of CRNAs.	Passed the Senate (2/7): 44 yeas, 4 nays  Passed the House (2/29): 96 yeas, 0 nays	Support Concept	Letter of Support Concept to H&LTC (1/25)  Letter of Support Concept to W&M (2/1)  Letter of Support Concept to HC&W (2/15)

Monitor List

Bill	Prime Sponsor(s)	Title	Brief Description	Status
<a href="#">HB 2014</a>	Rep. Volz	Relating to definition of veteran	This bill aligns the state and federal definition of veteran and qualifying discharges for benefits. <i>Legislation requested by the state Attorney General.</i>	Passed the House (2/10): 97 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the Senate (3/1): 49 yeas, 0 nays
<a href="#">HB 2041</a>	Rep. Riccelli & Schmick	Physician assistant collaborative practice	This bill intends to authorize physician assistants to enter into collaborative practice with physicians to provide team-based care and enhance access to health care.	Passed the House (2/9): 91 yeas, 6 nays  Passed the Senate (2/27): 49 yeas, 0 nays
<a href="#">SHB 2061</a>	Rep. Bronoske	Relating to defining an employee of a health care facility for purposes of mandatory overtime provisions	This bill broadens the definition of an “employee” for purposes of mandatory overtime provisions. Removes specific mention of LPNs, RNs, and NA-Cs from the enumerated list and folds them into the expanded definition.	Passed the House (2/8): 97 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the Senate (2/27): 49 yeas, 0 nays
<a href="#">SHB 2102</a>	Rep. Berry	Establishing requirements for the disclosure of health care information for qualifying persons to receive PMFLA	This bill would require health care providers to disclose health care info to the Employment Security Department for the purposes of qualifying a patient for paid family medical leave.	Passed the House (2/8): 97 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the Senate (3/1): 49 yeas, 0 nays
<a href="#">SSB 5588</a>	Sen. Nobles	Concerning the mental health sentencing alternative	This bill clarifies the mental health sentencing alternative in relation to defendants undergoing treatment and supervision in another state.	Passed the Senate (1/24): 30 yeas, 19 nays  <b>Placed on second reading</b>
<a href="#">2SSB 5825</a>	Sen. Pedersen & Padden	Concerning guardianship and conservatorship	This bill would allow the Office of Public Guardianship and Conservatorship to implement a streamlined process of contracting with entities to provide public guardianship services to persons who are in an acute care or psychiatric hospitals and are medically ready for discharge.	Passed the Senate (2/7): 48 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the House (2/29): 96 yeas, 0 nays

Bill	Prime Sponsor(s)	Title	Brief Description	Status
<a href="#">HB 2295</a>	Rep. Bateman & Hutchins	Concerning hospital at-home services	This bill would establish a regulatory structure for licensed acute care hospitals to provide hospital at-home services. Requires the Department of Health to adopt rules by December 31, 2025, to add hospital at-home services to those services that may be provided by an acute care hospital licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW.	Passed the House (2/12): 97 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the Senate (2/22): 49 yeas, 0 nays
<a href="#">SB 6178</a>	Sen. Randall, Torres, & Nobles	Aligning the legend drug act to reflect the prescriptive authority for licensed midwives	Updates the legend drug act to reflect the appropriate prescriptive authority of licensed midwives.	Passed the Senate (2/6): 49 yeas, 0 nays  Passed the House (2/27): 95 yeas, 0 nays