

AAUW-WA LOBBY DAY BILLS 2020

Priorities: H2184, S6253, S6128, H1527, H2320, and H2327.

Others of interest: S6162, H6034, S6205, S6169, S6073, S6158

Continuing from last year: HJR 4203, H1998.

HB 2184 and SB 5395. Rep. Stonier and Sen. Wilson. Comprehensive sex education, including consent education mandated in all public school districts. Parents may opt out for their children.

SB 6128 Sen. Randall. Addressing racial disparity in healthcare outcomes for low-income pregnant persons by extending Medicaid from 60 days to 12 months postpartum.

H1527 Renames the Working Families Tax Exemption (a sales and use tax remittance program for low income individuals) program the Working Families Tax Credit, expands eligibility for the Working Families Tax Credit, and expands the benefits of the Working Families Tax Credit. Eligibility is expanded to include individuals between the ages of 19-69 with no children, caregivers of elderly or disabled relatives, students enrolled in an House Bill Analysis - 2 - HB 1527 institution of higher education who are eligible for the state need grant, and workers who file federal taxes using an individual taxpayer identification number.

H2327 Mandates a survey to gauge the sexual climate on Washington campuses and to document institutional responses to complaints. It also bars non-disclosure agreements with employees who commit documented sexual assaults or harassment and uses preponderance of evidence standard in such cases. In no case, will the names of accusers be made publicly available. It also requires applicants for jobs at universities to sign an agreement authorizing the release of any information regarding findings of sexual assault or harassment at previous jobs.

SB6162 Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner training for victims of strangulation. The office of crime victims advocacy shall develop best practices that local communities may use on a voluntary basis to create more access to forensic nurse examiners in cases of nonfatal strangulation assault. This will ensure better and more timely health care and allow law enforcement to bring more serious charges in these cases.

H2320 Mandates annual training for employees in hotels on how to recognize and report cases of human trafficking.

H6034 Extends the time for victims of pregnancy discrimination to report from six months to one year.

S6205 Protects home health care workers from harassment and violence by mandating employers to develop policies, resources, and training for workers on how to prevent, report, and respond to abuse at work.

S6129 Requires student health care plans to include abortion coverage if the plan also covers maternity care

S6158 Creates a task force to develop model protocols for hospitals and clinics who treat victims of sexual violence. It requires them to provide coordinated community response that includes access to services, legal advocacy, and to use the best practices for trauma informed care. The task force is to research best practices and to base policies on the results.

S6169 The state is to provide a registry of qualified trainers in the prevention of harassment based on gender, gender expression, and sexual orientation.

S6253 Makes changes to the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP), including phasing in expanded eligibility and changing when this program becomes a state-funded entitlement. Appropriations are provided as follows: \$16.6 million for increasing ECEAP slot rates by 12 percent; \$3 million for implementing and expanding Birth to Three ECEAP; \$10 million for implementing the career and wage ladder; \$8 million for additional home visiting slots; and \$5 million for implementing dual language learning.

H1998 Creates a task force on sexual violence on campuses

HJR 4203 School bonds to be passed with a simple majority, not 60%.