



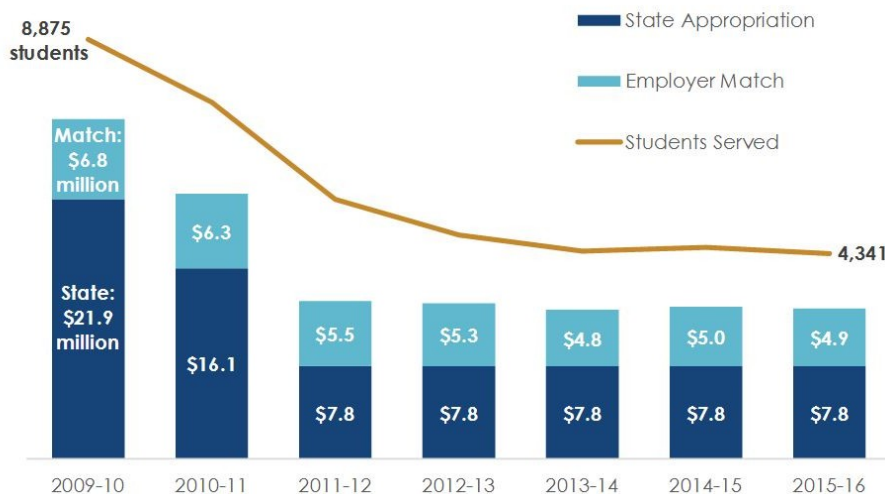
Bill Spotlight: [HB 1800](#), the Washington Voting Rights Act [WVRA]

Bernal Baca, AFT-WA Lobbyist, writes in the March 10th *Legisletter* that “HB 1800 is quite possibly one of the most important bills that has moved on to the Senate.” The House voted it out of their chamber with a narrow margin on party lines: yeas 51, nays 46. This is the fifth consecutive year the bill has attempted the journey; last fall, EWU faculty highlighted the WVRA in the TEACH-IN on Diversity and Voting Rights.

HB 1800 attempts to correct a lack of ethnic and minority representation inherent to the state’s at-large voting systems. For example, the combined Latino population for ten counties in Central and Eastern Washington exceeds 33% of the total population; yet Latinos hold only 4% of elected offices (78 out of 1,891) in those counties; there, 92% of the election systems are at-large and only 1% are single-member districts. Learn more about [the intent of the WVRA here](#).

CFR supports WSAC’s continued efforts to restore funding and invest in State Work Study

HISTORICAL FUNDING & SERVICE LEVELS



(Graphic courtesy of Washington Student Achievement Council)

Upcoming Legislative Deadlines and Cut-Off Calendar

Wednesday March 29th	Last day to read in committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read them into the record on the floor) from opposite house, except House fiscal committees and Senate Ways & Means and Transportation committees.
Tuesday April 4th	Last day to read in opposite house committee reports (pass bills out of committee and read then into the record on the floor) from House fiscal committees and Senate W&M and Transportation committees.
Wednesday April 12th*	Last day to consider (pass) opposite house bills (5p.m.) (except initiatives and alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session).
Sunday April 23rd	Last day allowed for regular session under state constitution.

*After the 94th day, only initiatives, alternatives to initiatives, budgets and matters necessary to implement budgets, matters that affect state revenue, messages pertaining to amendments, differences between the houses, and matters incident to the interim and closing of the session may be considered.

 **cfr** council of faculty representatives
Serving Washington State Public Higher Education Since 1971

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dateline Olympia

Below is a sampling of Higher Ed-related bills that CFR is continuing to track. All have "survived" the March 8th cut off date after receiving a majority vote in their house of origin. They now make their way to a relevant committee in the opposite chamber.

Bill # Title, Sponsor	Description	Status
HB 1107 Renaming branch Campuses, Haler	Eliminating the term "branch" as an identifying factor for extensions of the public institutions of higher education.	Now in Senate Higher Ed
ESHB 1109 Victims of sexual assault, Orwall	Supporting victims of sexual assault.	Now in Senate Law & Justice
SHB 1413 Mental health record Disclosures, Cody	Specifying to whom information and records related to mental health services may be disclosed for the purposes of care coordination and treatment.	Now in Senate Human Services and Mental Health
SHB 1433 Tuition/activities fees, Stambaugh	Decoupling services and activities fees from tuition.	Now in Senate Higher Ed
HB 1437 Board of regents/faculty, Pollet	Adding a faculty member to the board of regents at the research universities.	Now in Senate Higher Ed
E2SHB 1439* Higher ed student protection, Pollet	Regulating the institutions of higher education, including for profit institutions and private vocational schools, to protect students from unfair business practices.	Now in Senate Higher Ed
E2SHB 1440 Student loan bill of rights, Stonier	Establishing a student loan bill of rights.	Now in Senate Higher Ed
HB 1499 Student loan Disbursement, Pollet	Creating protections and fairness for students in the student loan disbursement process.	Now in Senate Higher Ed
E2SHB 1561 Open educational resources, Frame	Concerning the development of an open educational resources program at the public 4-year institutions	Now in Senate Higher Ed
SHB 2037 Higher ed. Disability work group, Frame	Reauthorizing the work group concerned with removing obstacles for higher education students with disabilities.	Now in Senate Higher Ed
SSB 5064 Student freedom of expression (school newspapers, journalism), Fain	Concerning freedom of expression rights of students at public schools and institutions of higher education.	Now in House Education
SSB 5100 Financial literacy Seminars, Bailey	Requiring LIVE financial literacy seminars for students at institutions of higher education.	Referred to House Higher Ed
SSB 5764 Higher education Records, Wellman	Concerning the confidentiality of higher education records for assault survivors.	Now in House Higher Ed

E = engrossed ("A legislative proposal that has been prepared in a final form for its submission to a vote of the lawmaking body after it has undergone discussion and been approved by the appropriate committees."*) For example, E2SHB 1439 (above) has been Engrossed and is the Second Substitute version of the House Bill (in contrast to the original bill).

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