

## **Legislative Update Washington State Society of Anesthesiologists**

## Week Nine - 2024 Legislative Session

The Legislature passed another cutoff last week, and any bill that has not passed its opposite chamber is now technically dead for the year. Senate Bill 5184, which authorizes licensure for certified anesthesiologist assistants (CAAs), was approved by the House on Thursday. The House amended the bill to ensure physicians licensed through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact are able to supervise CAAs. The vote was 82 -14. The bill now returns to the Senate for a concurrence vote. Senate Bill 6286, which proposes to support the CRNA workforce, was approved unanimously by the House and now heads to the Governor's desk for his signature.

Three of the initiatives to the Legislature have been approved by their respective committees and are expected to quickly move through the legislative process and be signed by the Governor. As a reminder, those proposals are:

- <u>Initiative 2113</u> proposes to roll back restrictions on police pursuits and allow law enforcement to chase suspects if they believe there is reasonable suspicion a person has violated the law. It would also allow pursuits if a person poses a threat to the safety of others.
- <u>Initiative 2111</u> proposes to ban the state and local jurisdictions from taxing personal income.
- <u>Initiative 2081</u> proposes to give parents the right to examine their child's textbooks and curriculum; receive their child's school records, including medical and disciplinary records, within 10 days; and receive notification when medical services are offered or arranged, among other things.

The Legislature's passage of these initiatives means they will not appear on the ballot in November with the other three initiatives to repeal the Climate Commitment Act, repeal the capital gains tax, and make voluntary the payroll tax that funds the state's long term care program. Those will be decided by voters in November.

The House Health Care & Wellness Committee held a work session on network adequacy. The Committee received a briefing from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, and the materials can be found <a href="here">here.</a>

The Committee Chair stated that this topic will be one of the Committee's priorities for the upcoming interim.

The 2024 Legislative Session is scheduled to adjourn on March  $7\,\mathrm{th}$ .

Bill Details		<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
	PFML benefits/health info.	S Passed 3rd	Berry
SHB 2102 (SB 6177)	Establishing requirements for the disclosure of health care information for qualifying persons to receive paid family and medical leave benefits.		
	Requires physicians to complete PFML paperwork within 5 days and prohibits the charging of fees to do so.		
SHB 2104 (ESSB 5950)	Operating budget, supp.	H Rules R	Ormsby
	Making 2023-2025 fiscal biennium supplemental operating appropriations.		
SB 5184 (HB 1038)	Anesthesiologist assistants	H Passed 3rd	Rivers
	Concerning licensure of anesthesiologist assis	stants.	
	Creates licensure for certified anesthesiologist assistants in Washington.		
2SSB 5660	Mental health adv directives	H Passed 3rd	Boehnke
	Establishing a mental health advance directive effective implementation work group.		
ESSB 5950 (SHB 2104)	Operating budget, supp.	H Passed 3rd	Robinson
	Making 2023-2025 fiscal biennium supplemental operating appropriations.		
ESSB 6286 (HB 2462)	Nurse anesthetist workforce	H Passed 3rd	Rivers
	Addressing the anesthesia workforce shortage by reducing barriers and expanding educational opportunities to increase the supply of certified registered nurse anesthetists in Washington.		