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The ideology of the separation and balance of power is the fundamental basis of the U.S. government that has formed executive, legislative, and judicial branches to check and balance with each other. Legislative branch is given the power to make laws for the according political entities. In the State of Washington, there are 49 legislative districts in which two representatives and one senator are elected in each district to form the state legislature. Under the bicameral system, a lower Washington State House of Representatives and an upper Washington State Senate are two chambers that work jointly to exercise the given right to make laws.

The elected representatives and senators are legislators who assemble together in Olympia, Washington each legislative session every year. In odd-numbered years, a long legislative session will last 105 days, and a short session will last 60 days in even-numbered years. Such regular sessions are started on the second Monday in every January. In 2019, the legislative session started on 14th of January and the cutoff day will be 28th of April. When more time is required for completing the work, the state governor can call on a 30-day special session anytime in the year by issuing a proclamation. Or two chambers would have to win a 2/3 vote to call a 30-day special session. In most cases, legislators use special session to discuss about the operating budget.

A new law has to go through many processes to be effective. Firstly, legislators prefill bills for introduction before session starts. When session starts, the bills will be handed to the floor and leaderships of the floor will make referrals for specific committee to read. There are three committee meetings a bill has to be read, a work session that arranges what will be discussed in

the meeting, the goes the public hearing where third parties will make testimony on the bill, executive sessions are then held for the committee to decide how this bill is going to be introduced. After the three meetings, the bill is handed to the Rule Committee where leaderships from both parties would discuss about it. A bill report is made in this session and prepared to get a second reading and a third reading after that. Later, when both houses decide concurrence to the bill, the bill gets passed. It will finally become effective on the stated date after the governor has agreed and signed.

#1. Senate Bill 5477

I. Introduction

1. Overview

Title: An act relating to requiring institutions of higher education to waive application fees for low-income students.

Brief Description: Requiring institutions of higher education to waive application fees for low-income students.

Sponsors: Senators Dhingra, Hasegawa, Kuderer, Keiser, Hunt, Saldaña, Darneille and Nguyen.

Brief History: Committee Activity: Higher Education & Workforce Development: 1/29/19, 1/31/19 [DPSWM]. Ways & Means: 2/14/19.

2. Background

All institutions in Washington State provide application fee waivers to low-income students; however, different standards of low-income level require different application processes to waive the fees might confuse students when applying. The current college application fees at public colleges and universities in the Washington State cost around \$50 to \$80 is considered as a financial burden that discourages low-income students to apply. This bill asks institutions of

higher education to introduce clear application fee waiver policy on the admission website so low-income students are encouraged to apply.

The prime sponsors of SB 5477 are Senators Manka Dhingra (D), Bob Hasegawa (D), and Patty Kuderer. Senator Manka Dhingra (D) is the majority deputy leader from the 45th legislative district. Senator Bob Hasegawa (D), the majority caucus vice chair and he is from the 11th legislative district. Patty Kuderer as the chair in Committee of Housing Stability and Affordability, she is familiar with low-income household standards and corresponded social benefits that apply to them. All sponsors are from democratic party.

II. Policy Analysis

1. Content of the Bill

In order to encourage low-income students to apply for higher education institutions, this bill promotes regulations in both higher education institutions and students. At institutional level, colleges and universities must develop their process through posting application fee waiver policy on the website in fall 2019. Being qualified to apply for the fee waiver, eligible student must be a Washington resident, a 12th grade student or at the age between 18 and 21 who has not graduated from high school yet, who applies for pursuing the first bachelor's degree, and qualifies for free or reduced-price lunch. Regulations at both institutional level and individual level encourage institutions to take societal responsibility and accurately help low-income students to pursue higher education.

2. Precedent

State of Washington could take Colorado's actions into consideration. State of Colorado carried out the Free Application Day to waive all in-state students application fees. While being aware of the fact that by the year 2020, 75 per cent of jobs in Colorado State require post-

secondary education. However, only 56 per cent of high school graduates are enrolled in Colorado State's post-secondary education institutions since 2016. Government therefore took actions to promote through education. To increase the rate of enrollment in higher education and at the same time protect equitable education environment, not only low-income students but all in-state students can apply to college for free. On October 30th, 2018, there were 34 public colleges and universities and some private schools allowed to grant automatic application waiver to all in-state students. Additionally, application materials must be submitted between 12:01 A.M. and 11:59 A.M. on that day.

Although limited time was given the results of enrollment had shown profound impacts. According to Colorado State Department of Higher Education, "22,294 admissions applications submitted on Colorado Free Application Day, an increase of more than 1,000 percent from Oct. 30th, 2017", "about half of the applications (10,700) were submitted by students of color", "a third (7,440) were submitted by first generation students". Students who missed the Free Application Day could also contact the admission office of the institutions about applying for application fee waiver.

3. Importance

Many low-income students might hesitate to apply to college due to its expensive application fee. Colleges that do not have the waiver information listed could have discouraged those students to apply. They might lose important opportunities to raise their socio-economic status through college education and increase the gap between classes and hence deepens the conflicts among races and classes. This bill that asks colleges to post waiver information and subsidizing lunch fees sends signals to the low-income students that

they're included in the higher education system and have the resources and supports from both government and institutions.

Marginalized students from low-income households can also have access to higher education. Being aware of that those who are eligible for free or reduced price meals do not need to be the U.S. citizens. If this bill gets passed, schools take one more step to take in more students of color from low-income households who are not necessarily the U.S. citizens but Washington residents. Even more marginalized groups are extended.

A list of Who Qualifies for Free or Reduced Meals is posted for consideration:

- Households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Foster children under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court
- Children participating in their school's Head Start program
- Homeless, migrant or runaway children
- Households that meet the income eligibility guidelines listed above
- Children in households participating in Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) may be eligible, too

Contact your local school district for information on applying.

Source: Clark Howard Staff from KIRO 7 News

If this bill is accepted, social benefits and education opportunities could expand even more to create an inclusive environment.

4. Pros and Cons

Becca Kenna-Schenk, Western Washington University; Noor Abdulhameed, Lake Washington High School; Dion Babst, Lake Washington High School; Gurneen Gill, Lake Washington High School are students who testified to support this bill. This bill directly

benefits low-income students to have much easier access to receive higher education. It simplifies fee waiver policy to extend application to even more students who need help. In this bill report, no cons are mentioned. However, there are some concerns.

Firstly, a sense of unfairness would be increased when unqualified students who also have financial burden cannot be waived. Many households have heavy financial burdens but are not eligible for enrolling in low-income benefits would think the bill is not fair. Although it has a wide range of people within marginalized groups will be included in the program. Free or reduced meal recipients cannot represent all students who need help. Thus, it requires further definitions of qualified students who can benefit from getting application fees waived.

III. Impacts

1. Stakeholders

People who benefit from the bill are low-income students and their families, students of color, marginalized students, undocumented students, and also legislators. Having easier access to receive higher education, low-income students and their families could have better chance to improve their well-being. Many students of color, marginalized students, and undocumented students are not U.S. citizens and therefore are unattached from welfare system, job opportunities and so on. This bill could have reinforced them to apply for college which later will help them thrive in life through receiving higher education in the future. Legislators also benefit from this bill because an increase in number of votes will come from these types of students which potentially help them winning future campaigns.

Schools Institutions have to bear heavier financial burden to implement the bill. First of all, school hires application specialists to review each applicant's materials. When the bill gets passed, the number of unprivileged student applicants will increase regardless of whether or

not they are qualified to be accepted. Thus, school must hire more admission specialists to assess or the admission specialists in higher education institutions must spend more time on assessing application materials. Besides, more unprivileged students to be accepted will reduce the number of other students to be accepted which directly reduce school's revenue. If so, school would lose the opportunity to develop its teaching and learning quality because of a heavy financial burden.

2. Fiscal Notes

Several schools will be affected by this bill:

- Washington State University's estimated operating expenditure is \$136,050. WSU considers the application fees to be waived will not have significant impact on school's revenue. However, additional staff will be hired if the number of applicants increase significantly.
- Eastern Washington University's estimated operating expenditure in fiscal year 2019-20 is \$136,050. A few more staff need to be hired to check applicants' verification and help to assess additional applications. An information technology specialist needs to be recruited for upgrading school's current admission system.
- Central Washington University's is \$26,800. One half-time application processor's job is in need.

3. 4-E Analysis

<i>Efficiency</i>	<i>Effectiveness</i>	<i>Equity</i>	<i>Ethics</i>
This bill is efficient because Many schools do not consider the foregone revenue is	This bill would be effective in fall 2019.	1. More low-income students, students of color, and other marginalized students will receive the benefits.	Provide help to these types of students who need.

a significant burden. The only financial burden is a few half-time jobs like application processors and IT specialists need to fill.		2. Promote students' easier access to receive higher education.	
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IV. Reflection

Although all institutions in Washington state provide fee waiver to low-income students who apply to higher education institutions. However, due to the variability of the standards and processes, marginalized students are left out of getting help. Asking colleges to post waiver policy on their admission websites, many unprivileged students could have known they are qualified to apply for free. This bill does not just apply to U.S. citizens but also add marginalized students to receive such benefits.

Online Sources

1. <https://www.kiro7.com/consumer/clark-howard/free-or-reduced>
2. <http://www.ciccollegeappmonth.org/colorado-free-application-day>
3. <http://www.dailycamera.com/cu-news>

#2. Engrossed Senate Bill 5755

I. Introduction

1. Overview

Title: An act relating to veteran and national guard tuition waivers.

Brief Description: Concerning veteran and national guard tuition waivers.

Sponsors: Senators Randall, Hobbs and Wilson, C..

Brief History: Committee Activity: Higher Education & Workforce Development: 2/07/19, 2/14/19 [DPWM, w/oRec]. Ways & Means: 2/25/19, 2/27/19 [DP, DNP, w/oRec]. Floor Activity: Passed Senate: 3/05/19, 44-1.

2. Background

The current Washington Military Tuition Waiver requires higher education institutions to waive partial or all tuitions for eligible veterans and National Guard members. Under the limitations, up to 200 college credits could be waived. If the eligible veteran or National Guard member became totally disabled in an active service or is a prisoner of war or lost life, his or her child, spouse, and partner could receive a college tuition waiver as gold star families. This bill advocates to increase the college credits to be waived from 200 to 250 for the gold star families. Additionally, this bill asks to expand the definition of eligible veteran and National Guard member to include those military members who received general discharge under honorable conditions in which reasons of separation can be the gender or sexuality of the veteran.

The bill's three sponsors are Senator Emily Randall (D), Senator Steve Hobbs (D), and Senator Claire Wilson. Senator Randal comes from the 26th Legislative District. Within three committees she attends to, she is the vice chair of the Committee of Higher Education & Workforce Development (Vice Chair). Senator Steve Hobbs (D) comes from the 44th Legislative

District. Senator Claire Wilson (D) is the Majority Assistant Whip from the 30th Legislative District. Within three committees she attends to, Senator Wilson is the vice chair of Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee.

II. Policy Analysis

1. Content of the Bill

The state of Washington grants authority to public higher education institutions to waive various tuition and fees for eligible veterans, National Guard members, and their dependents. The total fees to be waived is required to not exceed a percentage of the institutions' estimated gross operating fee revenue. At the family level, the disability or disappearance (died, hold a POW or MIA status) of a veteran increase the loss of a family from all aspects therefore the government is taking actions to help. Their mandatory tuition and fee waiver are expanded from 200 to 250 college credits. There are requirements for dependents to be eligible to receive the education benefits:

- Children of the eligible veteran must be between the age of 17 and 26 who are domiciled in Washington state.
- The spouse or partner of an eligible veteran must also live in Washington state who has not remarried or joined another partnership; tuition waiver is valid for 10 years after veteran's death or claimed status of POW or MIA.

Eligible veterans who can benefit from tuition and fee waiver are expanded to include those who receive honorable discharge to those who receive general discharge under honorable conditions. The requirements are as following:

- Honorable Discharge: good or excellent rating for service time and eligible for all veteran benefits, including the GI Bill.

- General Discharge, Under Honorable Conditions: satisfactory rating, eligible for most veteran and military benefits, including education assistance, but not for the GI Bill.

2. Precedent

Each state has its own tuition and fee waiver policies and the requirements may vary.

Florida Free College Tuition for Veteran

- Free Undergraduate Tuitions at State Universities and Colleges: Eligible veterans are Florida residents who are recipients of the Purple Heart or higher combat decorations.
- Waive Out-of-State Tuition Fees: Eligible veterans are those who receive honorable discharge, live in Florida and who are enrolled in Florida public, post-secondary institutions.

This program is also called as the “Congressman C.W. Bill Young Tuition Waiver Program”, it also provides eligible spouses and children (Florida residents) to use GI Bill benefits in public or post-secondary institutions.

Montana Free College Tuition for Veterans

- Free Tuition at State Schools: Eligible veterans must be honorably discharged, awarded a Campaign or Expeditionary medal, and had provided military service in a war zone.
- War Orphan’s Waiver: qualifying military dependents must be younger than 25, “whose parent(s) served on active duty during World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam, the Iraq or Afghanistan conflicts.” The veterans must be Montana residents and had been killed during actions or died in combat or diseases or totally disabled.

Utah Free College Tuition for Veterans

- State of Utah Purple Heart Tuition Waiver: Eligible veterans are the Purple Heart recipients. This benefit applies to both undergraduate and graduate educations.

- Utah Veterans Tuition Gap Program: This program started from 2014 which grants last year tuition for eligible veteran.

Comparing to other states, veteran and dependents' education assistance in Washington is more beneficiary and the ESB 5755 is further granting assistance to more veteran populations.

3. Importance

As an engrossed bill, 5755 is pre-existed and is waiting for an approval of amendments in both the Senate and House at the current stage. Increasing tuition fee waiver credits from 200 to 250 for golden star family members and expanding the eligibility of education assistance from honorable discharge to general discharge under honorable conditions would allow more veterans to enroll in higher education institutions. It is significant for veterans that their military services are acknowledged by the society. The current veteran benefit about education assistance in Washington state to waive 200 credits is not enough to cover a full 4-year college education. If the bill is accepted, higher education of children, spouses, and partners from golden star families is further guaranteed. It is also important to equally recognize the contributions of the veterans who receive a general discharge under honorable conditions. This bill helps to secure these veterans' future pathway to receive higher education and secures a promising life after their services.

4. Pros and Cons

Senator Emily Randall who is the prime sponsor of the bill and Ruben Flores from the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges are people who testify at the Higher Education & Workforce Development committee hearing. Being recognized of the veterans' contributions to the military is satisfied. To expend the education assistance access, optional or mandatory

waivers to veterans are also satisfying. With the help the ESB 5755 grants, veterans are relieved in financial burdens that could have occurred at their military services.

No one holds opposite opinions; however, monetary costs should be a concern. Both amendments will cause an increase in number of veterans to be included in the bill. In order to do so, less revenues higher education institutions can earn and higher general fund that government has to expend. Estimations of additional students who are eligible to apply remains ambiguous which increases difficulty for financing work.

III. Impacts

Stakeholders

People who directly benefit from this bill are children, spouses, and partners from the golden families, and also veterans who have received general charge under honorable conditions. Having much cheaper access to receive higher education, golden star families could have better chance to improve their well-being at their loss of family members. This benefit also helps more veteran populations to receive easier and cheaper access to receive higher education. U.S. military also benefits from the bill in which the number of service members will increase due to the attractive opportunities to receive higher education after services.

Public state-fund universities, community colleges, and the state government might face a heavier financial burden. When the bill is passed, more veterans and golden star families are eligible to apply for mandatory and optional tuition waiver. Therefore, the number of students who pay the tuition must decrease which could reduce schools' revenues. Correspondently, an increase in the number of applicants will cause a heavier load of work of the application processors. Additional jobs are required to fill in. State government that provides financing has to allocate more money to fulfill the extensive benefits.

2. Fiscal Notes

The estimated cash receipts will go to University of Washington (\$421,400), Washington State University (\$594,920), Eastern Washington University (\$164,826), Central Washington University (\$536,174), Western Washington University (\$285,260), and Community and Technical College System (\$750,000) in 2019-21, 2021-23, and 2023-25. Each school estimates the additional number of students according to the percentage, 7.5 percent of veterans who received general discharge under honorable conditions. However, questions that increase difficulty to make estimation are, unknown how many additional students might be enrolled in under the conditions, unknown how many students need more than 200 credits, and unknown the money value of full-time or part-time classes the students attend.

3. 4-E Analysis

<i>Efficiency</i>	<i>Effectiveness</i>	<i>Equity</i>	<i>Ethics</i>
Total amount of \$2,752,580 spent in each time slot (2019-21, 2021-23, and 2023-25) is not a significant burden.	Money will be spent in 2019-21, 2021-23, and 2023-25 which is considered effective.	1. Benefits will be expended to veterans who receive general discharge under honorable conditions. 2. Military contributions are further valued.	1. Provide extra benefits to children, spouses, and partners from golden star families. 2. Provide help to more service members.

IV. Reflection

In real life, many high school students choose to serve the military for the opportunities of getting higher education for free. Under the current Washington state legislature, living veterans that can enjoy the education assistance are those who receive honorable discharge. If the bill gets passed, around 7.5 percent more veterans in Washington state can get free or affordable access to continue their education.

Online Source

1. <https://militarybenefits.info/states-offer-free-tuition-veterans/>

#3. Senate Bill 5201

I. Introduction

1. Overview

Title: An act relating to authorizing marijuana retailers to sell certain products and merchandise.

Brief Description: Authorizing marijuana retailers to sell certain products and merchandise.

Sponsors: Senators Palumbo, Rivers and Mullet.

Brief History: Committee Activity: Labor & Commerce: 1/31/19.

2. Background

Under the current regulations of the Liquor and Cannabis Board, stiltedly limited products that are endorsed to sell in retail to eligible customers within limited merchandising due to health concerns. One of the organic compounds that is found in cannabis plant is called CBD, a type of cannabinoids in which one of the elements, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is considered as controlled substance. However, proven otherwise. Controlled substance is unlocked, and the bill asks for approval for licensed marijuana retail outlets to cannabidiol products and marijuana merchandise. It also asks the Liquor and Cannabis Board to establish standards to regulate marijuana retail outlets.

There are only three sponsors for SB 520, they are Senator Guy Palumbo (D), Senator Ann Rivers (R), and Senator Mark Mullet (D). Senator Guy Palumbo is the prime sponsor of the bill who is the chair of the Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee from the 1st legislative district. Secondly, Senator Ann Rivers (R) is the Republican Whip from the 18th

legislative district. She is also a member of Health & Long-Term Care Committee who has credibility to prove no or minimum harmful effects CBD substance could bring to human bodies that the current State law has strictly prevented. The third sponsor is Senator Mark Mullet (D). He is the majority whip who comes from the 5th legislative district. As a chair of the Financial Institutions, Economic Development & Trade committee, he can support this bill through proving its beneficiary economic impacts. In addition, as a committee member in Early Learning & K-12 Education, he has the credibility to convince the little impacts that advertising of marijuana merchandise could bring to minors if the bill gets passed.

II. Policy Analysis

1. Bill Content

SB 5201 has a companion bill, HB 1238. This bill makes changes about selling, merchandising and regulating cannabidiol products in two levels, retail outlets can put more products on the market and accordingly the Liquor and Cannabis Board needs to establish new rules to regulate business sectors. Based on the bill, it “authorizes licensed marijuana retail outlets to sell marijuana merchandise, cannabidiol products, and other products not intended for consumption.” The marijuana merchandise is limited to sell wearable apparels such as t-shirts, caps, wrist bands, and so on and the purpose of it has to relate to promoting the retail outlets or advertising their product lines. The content that’s printed on the wearable apparels are regulated too. Firstly, the name of retail outlets, logos of the company, and retail outlets relevant symbols can be shown. Secondly, retail outlets can also merchandise for their product lines with the same type of promoting items under the same content requirements.

Licensed retail outlets are allowed to sell CBD products as well. The CBD products must be acquired from licensed marijuana producers and processors. Also, products can come from the

manufacturers that sell and advertise their products outside of the parameter of the Liquor and Cannabis Board's regulations. Other regulations must be concerned. First of all, CBD somehow contains TCL which is an element that causes psychoactive and euphoric effects; THC level has to be less than 0.3 percent when the product is weighted under dry conditions. Secondly, product test must be conducted by a licensed testing laboratory.

Although this bill has loosened regulations towards marijuana retail outlets, the Liquor and Cannabis Board will need to establish marketing standards to protect minors. Current legal age of purchasing cannabidiol products is 21, thus retail outlets are prevented to encourage minors to use marijuana. The LCB has further work to design new standards for retail outlets to merchandise their stores and product lines legally and safely.

2. Precedent

Although the State of Washington is strictly regulating Cannabis industry while maintaining its competitiveness in the worldwide market, whether Washington State has gone enough to open cannabis market or gone too far; the chosen cannabis advertising regulations from the listed states are for references.

Alaska

- Less than three signs are allowed to use, signs contain only business names, each sign cannot exceed 4,800 square inches.
- Curative and therapeutic effects cannot be stated on marijuana products.
- Coupons cannot be used as promotional items.
- Promotional activities such as games and competitions are not allowed.
- Products have to mention warnings to pregnant women and women who are breast feeding.

Washington State regulates that only two signs are allowed to use with size less than 1,600 square inches but signs can involve strict images and logos. No pregnant women or breast-feeding women are mentioned in Washington State's cannabis regulations.

California

- Advertising and marketing are allowed in forms of broadcast, cable, radio, print and digital communications. Displayed only in those medias that at least 71.6 percent audience are those who are 21 years of age or older according to reliable data.
- Direct and individualized communications are allowed when advertising and marketing, but recipients must confirm an age of over 21. This confirmation requires a disclosure of birth date.

In the current Washington State cannabis advertising regulations, no similar clauses are stated.

Oregon

- Advertising and marketing cannot be presented in newspaper, letters, billboards, radio and otherwise.

Washington State allows cannabis advertising on billboards with strict standards.

3. Importance

Since marijuana had been legalized in the State of Washington, strict rules and regulations had confined retail outlets to sell certain types of products, advertise or market for the stores or product lines. Therefore, cannabis retail outlets are having hard time to develop their performance as legal merchants. To allow selling CBD products, advertising and marketing by using wearable apparels as promotional items could help retail outlets to continue opening

the market and thus increase their retail revenues. In order to prevent potential negative impacts that the advertising might bring to minors, the Liquor and Cannabis Board is asked to establish rules and regulations. This bill helps to maximize the economic benefits in cannabis industry and also minimize the potential harms it could bring to the society.

4. Pros and Cons

People who testify to support SB 5201 are Senator Guy Palumbo who is also the prime sponsor, Brooke Davies from the Washington CannaBusiness Association, Jim Mullen from the Herbery, Eric Gaston and Logan Bowers from Core Cannabis. From business perspective, selling wearable merchandising will increase revenues and enable cannabis retail outlets' competencies in the market. Such business activities will not cause harms to minors. Since the state has already legalized marijuana, business activities like merchandising should be granted equally as other industries have. In the same way, many non-licensed holders are allowed to sell CBD products which the selling authority should be extended to the licensed marijuana retail outlets as well. Receiving support from SB 5201, more products can be sold, and revenues will be increased.

On the opposite side, Seth Dawson from the Washington Association for Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention came to testify. In his opinion, business activities like advertising and marketing might not target on children, yet minors will have various opportunities to be influenced anyway. Minors have limited consciousness are easily tempted to either use alcohol or cannabis. Approving further merchandising will cause youths to recognize cannabidiol products more frequently thus sending directional message that could harm them.

III. Impacts

Stakeholders

Businesses within cannabis industry will directly benefit from this bill because of the huge profits it could have brought. As long as CBD products are approved, a variety of new items will be put on market to attract customers that can increase the revenues. Patients and doctors also receive benefits since more retail outlets and product lines can be known as a result of advertising and merchandising. More alternative products will be introduced to patients and doctors for medical purposes as well.

On the opposite side, potential dangers to minors will add workload to law enforcement, and other regulation agencies. Firstly, minors have more chance to know about cannabidiol products can lead to underage dose as same as underage drinking problem. A more friendly bill to cannabis industry could bring huge profits to tax revenues but at the same time the government has to invest more on Law enforcement and regulation agencies.

2. Fiscal Notes

Two Liquor and Cannabis Board enforcement officers are to be hired due to the foreseeing complaints from the society and further education efforts related. According to the estimated expenditures, \$23,173 will be spent in each fiscal year.

3. 4-E Analysis

<i>Efficiency</i>	<i>Effectiveness</i>	<i>Equity</i>	<i>Ethics</i>
Comparing to the huge economic benefits cannabis industry will make, \$23,173 of 2 LCB enforcement officers' salaries is considered as a insignificant cost.	It's effective because businesses across cannabis industry will receive a growth in revenues.	To cannabis businesses this bill is equitable because more business activities are allowed in this industry.	Authorities given to develop merchandise and sell CBD products have potential harmful effects to minors.

IV. Reflection

Loosening merchandising regulations in cannabis industry might potentially cause harmful effects on youths; however, strict regulations that are imposed on licensed retail outlets with legal operations also reduce their business performances. It is a controversial problem that involves both efficiency and ethics. Short-term profits or long-term corrections are choices the state government need to concern about when making decisions.

Online Source

1. <https://www.leafly.com/news/industry/>

#4. Senate Bill 5376

I. Introduction

1. Overview

Title: An act relating to the management and oversight of personal data.

Brief Description: Protecting consumer data.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Carlyle, Palumbo, Wellman, Mullet, Pedersen, Billig, Hunt, Liias, Rolfes, Saldaña, Hasegawa and Keiser).

Brief History: Committee Activity: Environment, Energy & Technology: 1/22/19, 2/14/19 [DPS-WM]. Ways & Means: 2/27/19, 2/28/19 [DP2S, w/oRec]. Floor Activity: Passed Senate: 3/06/19, 46-1.

2. Background

Under current state law, a few provisions are to protect people's intangible properties and personal privacy. Firstly, the Pubic Records Act prevents personal information from being

disclosed if the disclosure request is highly offensive to any reasonable man or is irrelevant to public concern. Secondly, the Consumer Protection Act supervises and punishes deceptive practice or unfair methods during commerce and trade that could cause an intrusion of personal data and privacy. The Office of Privacy and Data Protection within Consolidated Technology Services provides information about personal data and privacy policies to state agencies. As technology evolves, personal data becomes virtual version of people's physical bodies that requires comprehensive protection to avoid infringement. Facial recognition technology with its widely applications in commerce and law enforcements is under concerns that ask for more regulations.

The top three sponsors of the bill are Senator Reuven Carlyle (D), Senator Guy Palumbo (D), and Senator Lisa Wellman (D). Senator Reuven Carlyle (D) is the chair of the Environment, Energy & Technology Committee from the 36th legislative district. Consumer data protection is under his expertise. Senator Guy Palumbo (D) from the 1st legislative district who is the vice chair of the Environment, Energy & Technology Committee. Both chairs are strongly support this bill. The third sponsor is Senator Lisa Wellman (D) from the 41st legislative district. She is a member of the Environment, Energy & Technology Committee. All three prime sponsors are dedicated to technology-related issues as colleagues in the same committee and the other sponsors are all from democratic party. The companion bill is labeled as HB 1854.

II. Policy Analysis

1. Bill Content

Controllers and processors must comply to strict regulations when they request for personal data. According to the bill, in order to run “access, correction, deletion, restriction of processing, data portability, and objection for targeted advertising” controllers have to ask for consumer

confirmations. If the processing activities might increase the risks of personal data and personal privacy, consent must be given to continue data processing. In addition to that, consumers have easy access to withdraw at any time from the processing activities. Consumers must be given privacy notice that includes what kind of information is disclosed for processing and giving to third parties. All processing activities should follow the contractual obligations that are monitored.

Facial recognition technology that's attached to personal privacy concerns is regulated in this bill as well. If the facial recognition is utilized for profiling, meaningful human review must be given before the profiling is given legal effects. Consumer consents are also required when facial recognition technology is applied in a physically public space. With regard to privacy concerns, state and local governments are not allowed to use facial recognition technology for surveillance unless law enforcement grants authority or under the situation of emergency or under court order.

2. Precedent

In recent years, citizens gradually recognized the importance of personal information as the security risks have increased. There are 24 states have established laws to protect private information and data privacy across the nation. The followings are examples of privacy laws that's established to regulate private sectors.

California Consumer Privacy Act

California residents have the rights to:

- know what kind of personal information has been collected.
- Right to know where the personal information is disclosed or sold to.
- Right to prohibit private sectors to sell their informational data.

- Right to access their own personal information.
- Right to obtain equal services and price when practice their right of privacy.

Businesses that fail to make compliance to CCPA could be fined up to \$2,500 for each unintentional violation and \$7,500 for intentional violations. In addition to the new civil code, consumers must be provided with information about the status of their personal information in straightforward language. When consumers request a deletion of their personal data, the third parties which bought them must delete their personal data as well. For children who are under 13 years of age, controllers and processors must request parental consent in order to process their personal data. Most importantly, a “Do Not Sell My Personal Information” link must be attached to the website page, so the California consumers have easy access to exercise their right of privacy.

E.U. General Data Protection Regulation

European member-state residents have rights to

- Ask companies what information have been sold. This rule applies to technology companies, grocery stores, banks, and other organizations that store data.
- Complain to the national data protection regulator about suspicious misuse or collecting. The agency must make investigation.
- File class-action lawsuits against the companies that breach data protection law.

Moreover, private sectors must clarify what data will be collected and how the data will be processed. Options of what kind of data information are not allowed to collect shall be provided to customers as well. In addition, companies are prohibited to provide terms and conditions in legalese. Businesses that are failed to comply will encounter penalties up to 4 percent of its

annual global turnover. Other violations might encounter up to 2 percent penalties for other violations.

3. Importance

The growing dependency people have on online services and business companies increase the risks of leaking personal information. Due to lack of regulations private sectors make huge profits by trading users' personal information. The significant effects come from two aspects. First of all, protecting personal data is an exercise of one's fundamental right. As people's personal belongings, personal data and information are virtual form of one's personal belongings that require legal protections. Secondly, trading personal information and data could increase security risks. Businesses will trade the information with third parties where protection competencies are decreased that could lead to leakage, identity fraud, and other damages. Thus, it's necessary to establish strict regulations to protect personal data.

4. Pros and Cons

People who testify to support SB 5376 are the prime sponsor, Senator Reuven Carlyle, Julie Brill, vice president and the deputy general counsel from Microsoft, and Alex Alben, the chief officer from Office of Privacy. Both European Union and California State has strengthened abilities of the consumers to control their personal information. More regulations should be imposed on Washington State's businesses as well to remain competitiveness in both national and international markets. This bill is taking CCPA, GDPR (mentioned above), and federal laws as references for making the strongest privacy act in the country so that privacy is protected to the largest extent and businesses are monitored under just regulations.

People who testify to oppose SB 5376 are James McMahan, the policy director at Washington Association Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, Cliff Webster, Consumer Data Industry Association.

They have questions with regard of the vague explanations about financial exemptions, Fair Credit Reporting Act exemptions. Detailed definitions about facial recognition technology are also required for clarity. The other opposing reason is this bill prohibits law enforcement to use cameras in public spaces will make a hard time to enact investigations.

III. Impacts

1. Stakeholders

Residents of Washington State will directly benefit from SE 5376 since more rights are given to protect their personal data. Individuals can protect important information such as address, date of birth, health information, bank accounts as other tangible assets. This bill promises an extension of people's fundamental rights. Private sectors that make changes accordingly can remain competencies in both national and international markets and therefore make profits.

However, companies that depend on selling personal information will reduce its value due to strict regulations. Comparing to the past, less useful information companies can extract from consumers which would cause reduction in profits. Law enforcements that receive stricter regulations might prolong the investigation time when convenience of facial recognition technology is taken away.

2. Fiscal Notes

The estimated operating expenditures, \$57,000 are granted in 2019-2021 for paying a ¼ FTE contract attorney to manage rule-making issues. In 2021-23 and 2023-2025, \$724,000 will be spent on each time-period, specifically for hiring at least ½ FTE assistant attorney general and ½ FTE paralegal. Other than salaries, investigations and litigations related fees are added too.

3. 4-E Analysis

<i>Effectiveness</i>	<i>Efficiency</i>	<i>Equity</i>	<i>Ethics</i>
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This bill is expected to be effective in July 2021. The wide effects made in short amount of time is considered effective.	Expenditures on hiring more staff to optimize the bill is effective spending since thousands of consumers' information will therefore be protected.	Washington State to take steps in regulating processing personal data will set examples for data protection regulations nationwide. Businesses out of state will also enter a fairer trade market with equitable practice.	Personal data and personal privacy should be weighted as equal as individual's tangible assets.
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IV. Reflection

California Consumer Protection Act and Europe's General Data Protection Regulation both set good examples to impose stricter regulations on businesses when they acquire personal data. It is an important protection for consumers to exercise their fundamental rights, to control their intangible assets. At the same time, freedom is extended to data management in which consumers are given rights to obtain data from controllers and processors. Data protection differs one another in each state and each country. Having many big companies set headquarters in Washington State, regulations should be established along with the international standards so they can remain competitiveness in international markets.

Online Sources

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2. <https://www.law.com/njlawjournal/2018/12/01/the-california-consumer-privacy-act>
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#5. House Bill 1654

I. Introduction

1. Overview

Title: An act relating to the procurement and use of facial recognition technology by government entities in Washington state and privacy rights relating to facial recognition technology.

Brief Description: Concerning the procurement and use of facial recognition technology by government entities in Washington state and privacy rights relating to facial recognition technology.

Sponsors: Representatives Ryu, Shea, Morris, Valdez, Kloba, Fitzgibbon, Appleton, Frame and Tarleton.

Brief History: Committee Activity: Innovation, Technology & Economic Development: 2/6/19, 2/22/19 [DPS]; Appropriations: 2/26/19, 2/28/19 [DP2S(w/o sub ITED)].

2. Background

Facial recognition technology gathers personal information that is considered as biometric information which contains highly personal physiological appearances and characteristics of human behaviors. The current facial recognition technology applications are for identifying a person by matching the image with the ones stored in database, for identity verification, behavioral and physiological characteristics estimation, and detection. Errors are detected in its applications such as making false match.

A wide range of applications are operated by business sectors mainly for marketing purposes and state agencies for security purposes. The current State Biometric Data Laws has imposed

regulations on biometric data in considerations of personal information protection; yet, the law does not apply to the state agency use of facial recognition technologies.

The top sponsors of HB 1654 are Representatives Cindy Ryu, Matt Shea, and Jeff Morris. Representative Cindy Ryu (D) comes from the 32nd legislative district, a member of Consumer Protection Committee. Representative Matt Shea (R) is a member of Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee from the 4th legislative district. He can provide convincing advice to support the importance of personal information protection and prevent power abuse. Among other sponsors of this bill, he is the only sponsor from Republican Party. Representative Jeff Morris (D) who is a member of Innovation, Technology, & Economic Development Committee whose insights about information technology help advocates the necessary protection of personal information from the government use of facial recognition technology. He is from the 40th legislative district. HB 1654 has a companion bill, SB 5528.

II. Policy Analysis

1. Bill Content

HB 1654 asks that both state and local government agencies are prohibited to use facial recognition technology to conduct surveillance in public spaces if there is no probable cause. This bill is established to solve the concerns that government use of facial recognition technology for security purposes contradicts both U.S. and Washington State constitutional rights. In more details, the fourth amendment right protects individuals from unreasonable searches and seizures. Facial recognition technology that includes search is considered unconstitutional. So does the application contains the unconstitutionality that's stated in The Washington State Constitution that "No person shall be disturbed in his private affairs, or his

home invaded, without authority of law." It is for protection of individual exercising fundamental rights; the bill is therefore drafted.

Regulations of facial recognition technology are also established to enact on its use during criminal investigations. The state's law enforcements are prohibited to use evidence that's provided by facial recognition technology as the only source of evidence during criminal investigation. This rule is established based on false functions of the technology. Two types of errors are presented in the bill. First one is false positive, wrong identification match is given in this case. The second one is false negative; no matching identification can be given even the tester's identification information is stored in database. In order to prevent false evidence that might cause from using facial recognition technology, extra evidence is therefore asked to use along with it during criminal investigation.

2. Precedent

At state-level, three states have established regulations on facial recognition technology. Confusions occur when the key words such as face geometry and photographs appear in legislatures so different levels of regulations are given to protect relevant personal information. In addition to that, since biometric information is a cutting-edge topic that takes years to make comprehensive regulations. Not many regulations are found to supervise government agencies.

California Consumer Privacy Act

Face is included in biometric information that is protected under the new California Consumer Privacy Act as a type of personal information. California government must subject to its law.

China's Golden Shield Project

For security purposes, millions of cameras are installed in public spaces across the nation. Smart glasses that contain facial recognition technologies will be distributed to law enforcement for policing purposes.

3. Importance

Government agencies have received convenience by using facial recognition technology to develop public security and improve criminal investigations, but they are under suspicion of power abuse. Regulations on law enforcement helps protect people's fundamental rights since facial recognition information is within the range of biometric information that's under legal protections. Technical defects of FCT could cause negative effects even though law enforcements can improve performance by using it. Therefore, it is partial for the bill to prohibit law enforcements that utilizes results of FCT as the only source of evidence during a criminal investigation. Besides, justification shall only be brought under legal procedures that is not opposed to individuals' personal rights.

4. Pros and Cons

People who support this bill are Representative Ryu, Jevan Hutson, Os Keyes, and Katherine Pratt, from University of Washington, Shankar Narayan, project director of American Civil Liberties Union of Washington, and Masih Fouladi from Council on American-Islamic Relations. First of all, technical defects are seriously taken concerns in this issue because judicial bias can be a result from its dysfunctionality therefore HB 1654 regulations should be allowed. Facial recognition technology has delivered wrong message when 28 members of Congress are detected as criminals. Besides, FRT once verified Muslims as criminals too. Secondly, HB 1654 that protects individuals' constitutional right (4th amendment right, prevent unreasonable search and seizure) is reasonable to apply in limiting law enforcements' power at public places.

James McMahan, the police director from Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, and Brad Tower, lobbyist from Community Bankers of Washington are people who oppose this bill. The new regulations will make law enforcements even more difficult to acquire evidence for criminal investigation. As to security, facial recognition technology can bring public security in a new level that residents are emerged in much safer communities in public places. This bill is deemed too excessive in regulating law enforcement activities which is not beneficiary to public security. Application of FRT in public place does not constitute intrusion of people's constitutional rights because current interpretation of the U.S. Constitution does not rule that privacy is reserved at personal level in public places.

III. Impacts

1. Stakeholders

Individuals are direct benefiterers of HB 1654 because exercising constitutional rights are extended to use in public places. When FRT is prohibited for public surveillance, potential threats are easily ignored at starting phase. People do have more rights but it's at cost of improving policing abilities. Innocent defenders also receive benefits because other evidence must be provided along with FRT's results so that judicial bias is dismissed when charges are given.

Law enforcements are under heavier pressure in terms of collecting legal and powerful evidence for criminal trials. Facial recognition technology plays a crucial part in fighting human trafficking. Both no application of FRT for public surveillance rule and the requirement of extra source make them hard to track or convict criminals. In a long term, criminal rate might rise.

2. Fiscal Notes

This bill will not have any fiscal impacts to the Attorney General Office because the workload is within their capacity. In more details, legal advice will be provided to DOL which the new rule might generate impacts on its use of facial recognition system. By providing this service, Licensing and Administrative Law division will not cause extra fiscal impacts. So does Torts division. However extra fees are involved in providing new services, but they are not attached to the state fund.

3. 4-E Analysis

<i>Effectiveness</i>	<i>Efficiency</i>	<i>Equity</i>	<i>Ethics</i>
Law enforcement cannot use the technological convenience to develop their performance and might prolong time to enforce law, so the bill is not quite effective.	Workloads are within AGO's capacity so there is no need to fill an extra job. Plus, extra fees are involved but are not attached to the state fund. Both conditions make this bill cost-efficient.	Regulations to restrict power abuse in law enforcements use of FRT and to extend people's privacy in public spaces.	Ethical issues might be in dilemma because extra protection is at the cost of indulging potential threats.

IV. Reflection

It is interesting to learn the conflict between privacy in personal space and privacy in public place. When proponents point out that this bill protects people's fourth amendment right, prevent unreasonable search and seizure; the opponent can make counter argument, privacy is not expected in a public space. Both arguments are based on constitution however they are against each one's argument. As a Chinese, I am used to law enforcement use of facial recognition technology across the country. Power abuse and protection of privacy in public place are two issues I would like to give more thoughts.

Online Sources

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2. <https://www.bayometric.com/biometric-identification-law-enforcement-agencies/>

#6. Senate Bill 5594

I. Introduction

1. Overview

Title: An act relating to supporting media literacy and digital citizenship.

Brief Description: Supporting media literacy and digital citizenship.

Sponsors: Senators Liias, Warnick, Wilson, C., Wellman, Kuderer, Nguyen, Saldaña and Zeiger.

Brief History: Committee Activity: Early Learning & K-12 Education: 2/20/19, 2/22/19 [DP-WM, w/oRec].

2. Background

In 2016, Washington State passed a legislation that asked Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to improve media literacy and digital citizenship across the state. Under federal laws, minors must learn internet safety and safe online behaviors through school's curriculums. In consideration of online bullying, inappropriate content, online fraud, and irrational online discourses will cause negative impacts on children. There are nine themes of digital citizenship are included in designated education, digital access, digital commerce (electronic buying and selling activities), digital communication, digital literacy, digital etiquette, digital law, digital rights and responsibilities, digital health and wellness (psychological issues, internet addiction), and digital security (self-protection).

The top three sponsors are Senator Marko Liaas (D), Senator Judy Warnick (D), and Claire Wilson. As the prime sponsor, Senator Senator Marko Liias (D) is the majority floor leader from the 21st legislative district. He holds member seats in both Environment, Energy, & Technology Committee and Higher Education & Workforce Development Committee. Knowledge about the trending needs in higher education and workplaces helps him to work on developing residents' media literacy in current digital environment. As the Republican Caucus vice chair and a member in Ways and Means from the 13th legislative district, Senator Judy Warnick (R) can provide budget information to support this bill. Senator Claire Wilson (D) as the majority assistant whip from the 30th legislative district is also a vice chair in Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee. She can provide suggestion to develop media literacy from current education experiences. Most of the sponsors are from Democratic Party.

II. Policy Analysis

1. Bill Content

In terms of developing media literacy and digital citizenship, the first part of the bill asks the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to establish a grant program. It requires leadership teams in each school district to design courses that involve media literacy and digital citizenship knowledge. This area of knowledge can be added into current curriculums such as health, social studies, or literature classes. Leadership teams can use resources from library information technology programs to develop courses. And the second part of the bill asks the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to conduct two conferences about developing media literacy and digital citizenship. Two conferences must be conducted in both Western and Eastern Washington State.

2. Precedent

Connecticut

- Safe use of social media is included in health and safety curricula.
- Public school students are provided computer programming classes.

New Jersey

- Safe and ethical use of social media is taught to students from grade 6 to grade 8.

California

- Media literacy is imposed in anti-sex-trafficking education law.

Minnesota

- Media literacy education is provided for K-12.

Comparing to other states, Washington State legislations about developing media literacy and digital citizenship are among the advanced ones. Application throughout primary and secondary education strengthens students' abilities of self-protection and self-discipline. In addition to that, further education about instructions of computer science is also provided in public school programs which enables students to equip technical skills for college and future career.

3. Importance

While children have easy access to internet, safety concerns are worried by parents. Parents may not have the full capacity to supervise materials on digital devices such as online bullying, online fraud, inappropriate contents, and internet addiction therefore education institutions are relied to teach children how to act safe conduct. As information changes in hours, children have to acquire critical thinking abilities so they can stay calmly when irrational ideas came out online. Other than for self-protection purposes, education is also for prevention purposes. For example, free speech as the constitutional right is wielded limitlessly online however, schools need to teach children the consequences of making free speech and responsibilities they might

need to take. Learning online etiquette is a way to prevent children from being the producers of inappropriate materials. With widespread education of media literacy and digital citizenship, a safer internet environment will be built and maintained.

4. Pros and Cons

Carolyn Logue from the Washington Library Association and many staff members from education system came to support this bill. Education institutions rely on utilizing internet to teach lessons and students are encouraged to use computers and internet to complete their homework assignments for practicing their research skills. However, the current internet environment which still lacks effective regulations can send wrong messages to youths. In order to prevent youths from being affected negatively, media literacy must be provided throughout education institutions from very young age. Online behaviors should be given appropriate education as equal as physical behaviors are. It's important for building a safer environment both online and offline. Perceptions about self-protection and self-discipline will remain the impacts throughout their lives.

III. Impacts

1. Stakeholders

Children who receive the education are defenders of online safe environment. Given education, children are capable of thinking critically about online information. Their mindset helps them filter out inappropriate materials that contain potentially harmful content. The ability of self-protection and self-discipline will create a much safer online environment. Parents would concern less about their children's online safe conduct. State's mandatory education of media literacy will provide comprehensive knowledge about internet safe conduct that fills the gap of what parents cannot fully cover. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and

leadership teams in each district would have to work hard for developing course materials and provide annual report based on policies and progresses.

2. Fiscal Notes

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction needs to establish grant programs for developing media literacy and digital citizenship. Grant programs are allowed to receive both public and private sources such as gifts and endorsement. For doing so, OSPI would spend about \$47,000 on hiring an ½ FTE administrative assistant to monitor the processes of the grant programs. As the second part of the bill claims, two regional conferences are conducted in both western and eastern Washington. Each conference will cost up to \$50,000 that include work related travelling, guest speaker contracts, rental costs, and so forth. Generally, there is no fiscal impacts generated by SB 5594.

3. 4-E Analysis

<i>Effectiveness</i>	<i>Efficiency</i>	<i>Equity</i>	<i>Ethics</i>
The benefits students acquire from getting this education will last in their entire time. Critical thinking skills, consciousness about self-protection and self-discipline make every one of them	This bill that generates zero fiscal impacts is effective in considering its wide effects on K-12 education institutions across the state.	Children from families that do not have insights on educating online safety issues will have chance to learn from school how to protect themselves from online bullying	Both preventing from and resisting to online bullying, online fraud, internet addiction, and other misbehaviors help to regulate online conduct. Children are given morality education.

better citizen in both online and offline spaces.		and other irrational discourses.	
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IV. Reflection

Media literacy and digital citizenship are extensions of definitions of literacy and citizenship. Because freedom of speech is protected as one's constitutional right, language violence, irrational discourses, and online bullying are left out to make their unstoppable impacts in online spaces. People who bear with the attacks range from school girls, celebrities, or anyone in the world. Thousands of people are therefore suffering depression at different levels or committing suicide due to afraid, hatred, or humiliation. The phenomenon are appearances of lacking appropriate education of media literacy and digital citizenship, lacking the knowledge about self-discipline, and lacking the sense of taking responsibility of one's own words. Although people cannot stop others from making their free speech, through education proper self-protection and self-discipline enable more younger generations to become better citizens in both online and offline spaces.

Online Sources

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