

Weekly Legislative Update: Local News and Democracy

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Bills Needing Action This Week

*Remember, only authorized members can speak for the League; the Issue Chairs will do that, so **please leave the "Organization" box blank.** A more powerful influence is many voices speaking for themselves rather than many voices speaking for the League.*

SB 5102 Concerning school library and technology programs, needs a senator to pull the bill out of Rules to begin the process again in the House. Consider contacting Sen. Claire Wilson, a Rules Committee member and one of the bill's sponsors, to encourage her this week to move the bill to a vote on the Senate floor.

⚠️ Contact Sen. Claire Wilson at claire.wilson@leg.wa.gov and ask her to move SB 5102 to a vote.

Bills Updates

*Bills in **green** are supported. Bills in **red** are opposed by the League. Bills in **black** the League is watching.*

After the second week of the 2024 session, two bills within the scope of the Local News and Democracy position remain in the Senate Rules Committee. **SB 5626** and **SB 5102** both won Senate approval during the 2023 session but were not voted on in the House, prompting their sponsors to reintroduce them in their present status, returning them to Senate Rules to begin the procedure again.

Regarding **SB 5626**, which would expand and enhance media literacy and digital citizenship: With the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction re-evaluating state Learning Standards, there is some thinking that non-legislative changes may suffice to accomplish the intent of the original bill. Stakeholders will be reviewing developments in the coming weeks.

SB 5102, which concerns school library and technology programs, needs a senator to pull the bill out of Rules to begin the process again in the House. Consider contacting **Sen. Claire Wilson**, a Rules Committee member and one of the bill's sponsors, to encourage her this week to move the bill to a vote on the Senate floor. She can be reached at claire.wilson@leg.wa.gov.

Supporters will be encouraged to advocate for **SB 5102** once it is back in the House.

How You Can Be Involved

- Respond to Action Alerts that are posted in the legislative newsletter.
- Contact **Dee Anne Finken** for further information about the LWVWA's Local News and Democracy position and work the committee is planning related to additional future legislation. The committee meets the third Tuesday of each month.