
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5504

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Warnick, Sheldon, Hasegawa, Hunt, Zeiger, Takko, Wagoner, Hawkins, Honeyford, Carlyle, Keiser, and Wilson, L.)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to state agency employee and postsecondary
2 student access to peer-reviewed journals; creating new sections; and
3 providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that state agencies
6 often do not have comprehensive electronic access to many peer-
7 reviewed journals. As a result, state employees often must purchase
8 specific manuscripts, outsource searches to other entities, or
9 physically visit a university library in order to access many peer-
10 reviewed journals. Locating a specific manuscript can take hours of
11 staff time and is neither an efficient nor a cost-effective use of
12 state resources. Other states have created statewide collectives for
13 providing access to peer-reviewed journals, resulting in both
14 increased access to peer-reviewed journals as well as significant
15 cost savings. In light of the benefits that other states have
16 experienced in connection with statewide subscriptions to peer-
17 reviewed journals, the legislature seeks to learn whether such a
18 subscription model would be beneficial in Washington.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The Washington state institute for
20 public policy shall conduct a study that identifies the extent to

1 which state employees, or students at postsecondary institutions as
2 defined in RCW 28B.10.016, or both, have access to peer-reviewed
3 journals in other states. When applicable, the Washington state
4 institute for public policy must identify the funding, organizational
5 structures, and policy mechanisms used in other states where relevant
6 public employees or students at postsecondary institutions have
7 comprehensive electronic access to peer-reviewed journals, and
8 potential barriers to similar access in Washington state. For the
9 purposes of this section, "peer-reviewed journal" means any academic,
10 scholarly, or scientific peer-reviewed journal.

11 (2) The study must be completed by December 1, 2021, and
12 submitted in accordance with RCW 43.01.036 to the standing committees
13 of the house of representatives and the senate with jurisdiction over
14 environmental or natural resource issues.

15 (3) This section expires June 30, 2022.

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