
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.)

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

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

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

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The Washington state institute for
19 public policy shall conduct a study that identifies the extent to
20 which state employees in other states have access to peer-reviewed

1 journals. When applicable, WSIPP will identify the funding,
2 organizational structures, and policy mechanisms used in other states
3 where relevant public employees have comprehensive electronic access
4 to peer-reviewed journals, and potential barriers to similar access
5 in Washington State. For the purposes of this study, "peer-reviewed
6 journal" means any academic, scholarly, or scientific peer-reviewed
7 journal.

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

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

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