

# **Legislative Report**

January 17, 2024

#### **Focus Areas:**

Focus areas for the 2025 Legislative session was discussed during the October 2024 public meeting. The commission is actively tracking and monitoring legislation that impacts 2SLGBTQIA+ Washingtonians.

- K − 12 Education
- Healthcare
- 2SLGBTQIA+ Senior Issues
- Justice

The commission has 4 tiers legislation is being put into.

### **High-Priority Legislation**

Legislation categorized as high priority includes bills that the Commission has been informed about and engaged with prior to the legislative session. These are initiatives where we are actively preparing talking points and planning to provide testimony for.

#### **Medium-Priority Legislation**

Medium-priority legislation encompasses bills that align with the Commission's priority areas but may not require immediate or direct involvement. These initiatives are monitored closely, and engagement is determined based on their potential impact and relevance to our mission.

#### **Low-Priority Legislation**

Low-priority legislation refers to bills being tracked and addressed primarily by the Youth Advisory Council. While these initiatives may not require direct involvement from the Commission, they provide valuable opportunities for youth engagement and advocacy within our priority areas.

#### **Anti-LGBTQ Legislation**

The Commission remains vigilant in tracking and responding to anti-LGBTQ legislation that poses a threat to the rights, safety, and well-being of LGBTQ individuals and communities.

## Groups we have meet with to discuss legislation:

- LGBTQ Caucus & LGBTQ Commission Legislative Advisors Director Keating has met
  with each Commission Legislative Advisory and all LGBTQ Caucus members individually.
  These meetings include explaining the Commission's current work and priorities, hearing
  legislators' priorities, and exploring new ways for the Commission to engage with the
  Legislature.
- **Pacific Lutheran University** Met to hear concerns regarding private institutions not being able to receive WA tuition growth factor & potential legislative remedy.
- Washington School District Association (WSDA): Director Keating met with WSDA Board President to discuss Title IX.
- Infertility Legislation Advocates: Staff met with individuals who have been working to pass legislation to cover infertility treatments in Washington.
- Meetings with Advocacy Groups and LGBTQ Caucus: Each year, the LGBTQ Caucus meets with advocacy groups around the state to gather input on legislation for the upcoming session. The Commission has attended the three meetings that have been conducted with this group to hear primary concerns from the community. Members of this group included Lavender Rights Project, QLaw, Queer Power Alliance, Advocates for Youth, Washington Education Association, Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates, Washington Ethnic Studies Now, Sexual Violence Law Center, Pro Choice Washington, Southwest Washington Equity Coalition, and others.