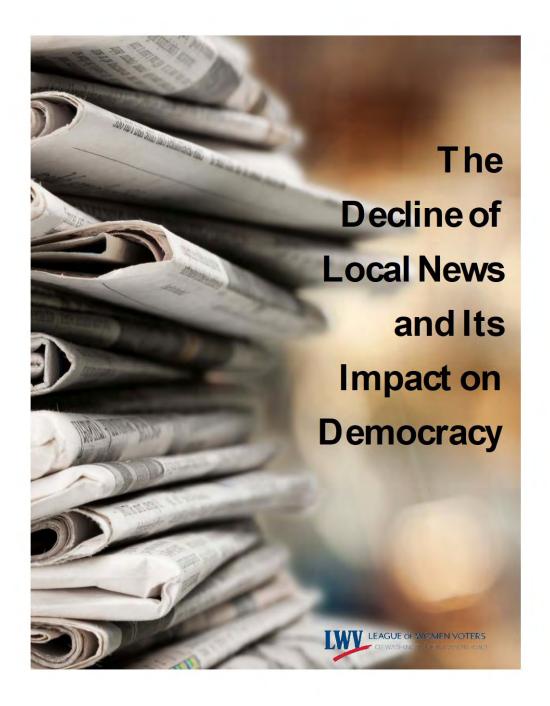
# Local News and Democracy

## LWV position (adopted 2023)

It is the responsibility of the government to provide support for conditions under which credible local journalism can survive and thrive.





## **Brier Dudley**

The Seattle Times

Editor, Free Press Initiative

### The bill

**SSB 5102** 

Key sponsor: Sen. Lisa Wellman

**SSB 5626** 

Key sponsor: Sen. Marko Liias

### What the bill would do

#### SSB 5102

Requires each district to have a policy that every student has access to school library information and technology programs (via a trained teacher/librarian)

Requires school boards to provide resources to operate such programs

#### **SSB 5626**

Requires an OSPI a program to expand media literacy and digital citizenship in *subject areas* 

Support a cadre of teachers to train other teachers to teach media literacy

### What else the bill would do

#### **SSB 5102**

Allows smaller districts to employ noncertificated staff if all reasonable efforts to hire certificated staff are unsuccessful

#### **SSB 5626**

Requires OSPI to create a grant program for curriculum development in media literacy and digital citizenship in *subject areas* 

### Status of the bill

#### **SSB 5102**

Passed in the Senate, 28-20-0-1

Hung up in House Appropriations

Back to the Senate in January

### **SSB 5626**

Passed in the Senate, 44-4-0-1

Hung up in House Appropriations

Back to the Senate in January

### Comments about the bill

#### **ESSB 5102**

Sponsor's LA: "Perhaps the Appropriations Committee just ran out of time. Not aware of any 'problems' with the bill."

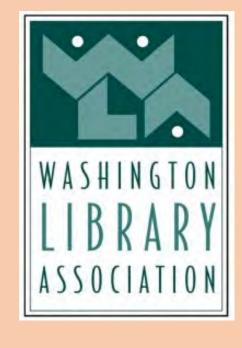
SW Washington lawmaker called it a good bill, but full funding of libraries should be the priority.

#### **ESSB 5626**

SW Washington lawmaker: "Kids have so much access to social media. They need the skills to be able to decipher what is trustworthy and what isn't."

## Key supporters:

### **SSB 5102**





## Local News and Democracy position:

LN-4: The League of Women Voters of Washington also believes media literacy and news education, including support for journalism students, is essential. These opportunities should be expanded in schools and throughout communities.



### Joanne Lisosky, Ph.D.

Professor emerita, PLU

Journalist, author of "War on Words: Who should Protect Journalists?"