



# Session Watch

Monday, February 27, 2023 (day 50 of the 120-day session)

The past week of legislative session has been focused on the fiscal committees, as the policy committee deadline came and went last Friday night. House Appropriations and Senate Ways & Means have been working to hear and pass policy bills that also require public dollars to implement. Friday, February 24 marked the day of fiscal committee cutoff for the first half of the session. The next step is bills that are in their house of origin must be passed off their respective floors by March 8<sup>th</sup>. This deadline looms particularly large this year given the amount of bills we have seen introduced.

On Thursday the Senate Ways & Means Committee was scheduled to hear 52 bills for executive session. Executive session is the official vote on the bill. Of those 52 bills, eleven of them received “No Action”, meaning they did not pass the committee on that day. Short of being voted out of committee before 11:59pm on Friday night, the remaining road for these bills will be the budget process through a legislative mechanism called “Necessary to Implement the Budget (NTIB)”.

### **What is NTIB?**

A bill that gets tagged Necessary to Implement Budget or “NTIB”, is when a bill’s funding has been included in the operating budget, but the bill’s policy has not yet passed the legislature to become law. For instance, if the budget included funding for Farmers Markets that stemmed from a policy change, but the bill to adjust the policy hadn’t passed yet, that bill would be tagged NTIB and not subject to the cut-off calendar. It would have the remainder of the session to get through the legislature because the budget bill could not be implemented without it. We will keep our eyes out for potential NTIB bills as they pertain to our legislation.

### **Relevant Bill Updates:**

**Riparian-** The Riparian saga of 2023 continues as dueling bills have been discussed along the way. The Governor’s more heavy-handed approach legislation has fallen to the policy cutoff calendar and will not be heard again this session. But that doesn’t mean its “dead”. Read further for explanation. The bill that is still alive is the bipartisan bill HB 1720. This is the collaboration between Agriculture, the Tribes, Democrats and Republicans. This voluntary grant program was heard in the House Capital Budget committee last week and subsequently scheduled for a vote. But when the committee broke for executive session, the bill was set aside with no vote and no schedule of further action. Because of the capital budget implications of this bill, it may or may not come up again this session if it missed the fiscal policy deadline on February 24<sup>th</sup>. We will see if any portion of this gets tagged as NTIB and becomes part of the conversation later in the session.

**Pesticide- HB 1019** – Representative Dent’s pesticide advisory board bill is still on schedule to clear the House of origin cut off. The bill rests safely in the Rules committee as of this writing and has until March 8<sup>th</sup> to make it off the floor.

**Transportation – SB 5251** is a the CDL transportation bill we have been engaged in. This bill reduces the fee charged by (DOL) for a skills examination for a commercial motor vehicle license and lowers the number of attempts to pass the examination for the payment of each fee from two to one. It also removes the requirement that an applicant for the renewal of a commercial driver's license apply in person at a licensing service office. This bill has made it clear of the cutoffs and awaits a floor vote in the Senate.

**Ag Overtime – SB 5476** – We have been paying attention this 12-week exemption policy for agriculture employers and were eager to participate should this bill get traction. Unfortunately, it appears that this legislation is “dead” for the session but will be up for consideration in the 2024 session.

**How to Testify on Bills this Year**

Start here: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/csiremote/>

Select **House** or **Senate**

Committee: **Choose the committee where your bill is being heard.**

Meetings: **Choose the date of the hearing**

Select the bill you want from the list.

**Select:**

- I would like to submit written testimony.
- I would like to testify live during the hearing.
- I would like my position noted for the legislative record.

You may check to see who else has signed in to testify.

On the next screen, fill in all the blanks and submit.

You will receive an email with a link for the hearing. At the appropriate time, join the meeting and wait to be admitted. When you are called to speak, introduce yourself and speak for 1-2 minutes.

To prepare, write down what you want to say. Read it aloud several times. Time yourself.

To find hearings not listed below, look here: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/committeeschedules/>

**Things to remember**

If you do not know who your legislators are, find out here: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder>. Find your legislators e-mail address here: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/MemberEmail/Default.aspx?Chamber=H> Legislator phone numbers and office addresses are available on the individual member pages. Links to the member pages can be found on the House site, the Senate site or on the Member Roster lists. If you would like to send a message to your legislators regarding a specific bill, you may use the Bill Comments form. Learn more here: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/>.

**Toll-Free Hotline –**

1-800-562-6000 allows you to leave a message for your legislators. When leaving a message with the Hotline, please be prepared to give your name and street address. During the Legislative session, the Hotline is open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Upcoming Events**

**Finance (House) - HHR A and Virtual JLOB - 3/3 @ 8:00am**

- [HB 1757](#) - Exec Session - Providing a sales and use tax remittance to qualified farmers. (Support/Medium)

**High Priority Bills**

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
<a href="#">SHB 1019</a>	Pesticide advisory board	Creating the pesticide advisory board.	H Rules R	Dent	Support
<a href="#">SHB 1720</a>	Riparian grant program	Concerning the protection and restoration of riparian areas through the establishment of a fully voluntary, regionally focused riparian grant program	H Cap Budget	Chapman	Support

		designed to improve the ecological functions of critical riparian management zones.			
<a href="#">SB 5251</a> (HB 1058)	Commercial driver's licenses	Streamlining the licensing process for a commercial driver's license by allowing the department to waive requirements for applicants that previously surrendered the license, allowing the license to be renewed online, and modifying the license test fees.	S Rules 2	Valdez	Support
<a href="#">SB 5476</a> (HB 1523)	Agricultural overtime	Authorizing agricultural employers to select 12 weeks a year to employ workers for up to 50 hours a week before overtime applies.	S Labor & Comm	King	Support

### Medium Priority Bills

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
<a href="#">HB 1058</a> (SB 5251)	Commercial driver's licenses	Streamlining the licensing process for a commercial driver's license by allowing the department to waive requirements for applicants that previously surrendered the license, allowing the license to be renewed online, and modifying the license test fees.	S Transportation	Paul	Support
<a href="#">SHB 1095</a> (SSB 5109)	Wage replacement	Creating a wage replacement program for certain Washington workers excluded from unemployment insurance.	H Approps	Walen	Neutral
<a href="#">SHB 1138</a>	Drought preparedness	Concerning drought preparedness.	H 2nd Reading	Chapman	Support
<a href="#">SHB 1143</a> (SB 5211)	Firearms/purchase & transfer	Concerning requirements for the purchase or transfer of firearms.	H Exec Action	Berry	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 1144</a> (SB 5232)	Firearms/purchase & transfer	Enhancing requirements for the purchase or transfer of firearms.	H Civil R & Judi	Berry	Oppose
<a href="#">SHB 1285</a>	Family farm permit transfers	Modifying the scope of locations to which a water right established as a family farm permit may be transferred.	H Rules R	Goehner	Concerns
<a href="#">SHB 1371</a> (SB 5494)	Freight railroad infra.	Providing incentives to improve freight railroad infrastructure.	H Rules R	Barkis	Support
<a href="#">HB 1421</a>	Voluntary stewardship prog.	Adding counties to the voluntary stewardship program.	H Rules R	Chambers	Support
<a href="#">SHB 1494</a> (SSB 5460)	Irrigation & rehab districts	Concerning collection of assessments for irrigation and rehabilitation districts.	H Rules R	Dent	Support

<a href="#">SHB 1500</a> (SB 5107)	Cottage food sales cap	Increasing the cap on gross sales for cottage food operations.	S Ag/Water/Natura	Eslick	Support
<a href="#">HB 1573</a> (SB 5277)	Dairy, etc. tax preferences	Extending tax preferences for dairy, fruit and vegetable, and seafood processors.	H Rules R	Rule	Support
<a href="#">HB 1603</a>	Agricultural products promo.	Creating a location-based promotion program for Washington food and agricultural products.	H Ag&Nr	Morgan	Support
<a href="#">SHB 1705</a> (SB 5645)	Stormwater facilities/county	Concerning stormwater control facilities and county jurisdiction.	H Rules R	Griffey	Support
<a href="#">HB 1736</a>	Vehicle odometer readings	Requiring the department of licensing to collect vehicle odometer readings at the time of original vehicle registration and registration renewal.	H Exec Action	Cortes	Oppose
<a href="#">HB 1740</a> (SB 5667)	Forestry riparian easements	Concerning eligibility, enrollment, and compensation of small forestland owners volunteering for participation in the forestry riparian easement program.	H Cap Budget	Orcutt	Support
<a href="#">2SHB 1746</a> (SB 5718)	State broadband map	Concerning a state broadband map.	H Rules R	Ryu	Support
<a href="#">HB 1757</a>	Farmers/sales tax remittance	Providing a sales and use tax remittance to qualified farmers.	H Finance	Corry	Support
<a href="#">HB 1832</a>	Vehicle per mile charge	Implementing a per mile charge on vehicle usage of public roadways.	H Transportation	Fey	Oppose
<a href="#">SSB 5109</a> (SHB 1095)	Wage replacement	Creating a wage replacement program for certain Washington workers excluded from unemployment insurance.	S Ways & Means	Saldana	Neutral
<a href="#">SSB 5143</a>	Pesticide registration comm.	Changing the name of and adding a member to the commission on pesticide registration.	S 2nd Reading	Torres	Support
<a href="#">SSB 5156</a>	Farm internship program	Expanding the farm internship program.	H Labor & Workpla	Torres	Support
<a href="#">SB 5211</a> (SHB 1143)	Firearms/purchase & transfer	Concerning requirements for the purchase or transfer of firearms.	S Law & Justice	Liias	Oppose

<a href="#">SB 5232</a> (HB 1144)	Firearms/purchase & transfer	Enhancing requirements for the purchase or transfer of firearms.	S Ways & Means	Salomon	Oppose
<a href="#">SB 5330</a>	Pesticide application	Concerning the Washington pesticide application act.	S 2nd Reading	Torres	Support
<a href="#">SB 5341</a>	WA food & ag. products	Creating a location-based branding and promotion program for Washington food and agricultural products.	S 2nd Reading	Muzzall	Support
<a href="#">SSB 5460</a> (SHB 1494)	Irrigation & rehab districts	Concerning collection of assessments for irrigation and rehabilitation districts.	S 2nd Reading	Warnick	Support
<a href="#">SB 5484</a>	Food/environmental steward.	Supporting Washington's food production system by providing technical assistance in support of improved voluntary environmental stewardship.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Shewmake	Support
<a href="#">SB 5494</a> (SHB 1371)	Freight railroad infra.	Providing incentives to improve freight railroad infrastructure.	S Business, Fin	Wilson	Support
<a href="#">SSB 5579</a>	Hydrofluorocarbons/supply	Expanding the department of ecology's authority to refrain from enforcing chapter 70A.60 RCW to mitigate the effects of supply chain problems or other similar disruptions.	S Ways & Means	Braun	Concerns
<a href="#">SB 5628</a>	Water right transfers	Preserving water rights for farmland and economic development.	S Ag/Water/Natura	Torres	Support
<a href="#">SB 5645</a> (SHB 1705)	Stormwater facilities/county	Concerning stormwater control facilities and county jurisdiction.	S Loc Gov, Land U	MacEwen	Support
<a href="#">SB 5667</a> (HB 1740)	Forestry riparian easements	Concerning eligibility, enrollment, and compensation of small forestland owners volunteering for participation in the forestry riparian easement program.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Muzzall	Support
<a href="#">SB 5718</a> (2SHB 1746)	State broadband map	Concerning a state broadband map.	S Environment, E	Wellman	Support

### Low Priority Bills

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
<a href="#">2SHB 1170</a> (SSB 5093)	Climate response strategy	Improving climate resilience through updates to the state's integrated climate response strategy.	H 2nd Reading	Street	Concerns

<a href="#">2SHB 1181</a> (SSB 5203)	Climate change/planning	Improving the state's response to climate change by updating the state's planning framework.	H Rules R	Duerr	Concerns
<a href="#">HB 1490</a>	Direct sales of milk	Concerning direct sales of milk.	H Ag&Nr	Orcutt	Support
<a href="#">HB 1604</a>	Custom farming/B&O tax	Providing a retroactive business and occupation tax exemption for custom farming.	H Finance	Corry	Support
<a href="#">HB 1645</a> (SB 5067)	County legislative meetings	Concerning meetings of county legislative authorities.	H Rules R	Barnard	Neutral
<a href="#">SB 5067</a> (HB 1645)	County legislative meetings	Concerning meetings of county legislative authorities.	H Local Govt	Dozier	Neutral
<a href="#">SSB 5093</a> (2SHB 1170)	Climate response strategy	Improving climate resilience through updates to the state's integrated climate response strategy.	S Rules 2	Rolfes	Neutral
<a href="#">SSB 5150</a>	Beef levied assessment	Concerning the beef commission's levied assessment.	S Rules 2	Shewmake	Support
<a href="#">SSB 5203</a> (2SHB 1181)	Climate change/planning	Improving the state's response to climate change by updating the state's planning framework.	S Ways & Means	Lovelett	Neutral
<a href="#">SB 5266</a> (HB 1215)	Riparian areas	Concerning the protection and restoration of riparian areas.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Shewmake	Concerns
<a href="#">SB 5277</a> (HB 1573)	Dairy, etc. tax preferences	Extending tax preferences for dairy, fruit and vegetable, and seafood processors.	S Ways & Means	Wilson	Support
<a href="#">SB 5457</a>	Small cities/GMA	Implementing growth management task force legislative recommendations regarding small cities.	S Rules 2	Short	Neutral
<a href="#">SB 5508</a>	Greenhouses	Promoting local agriculture through greenhouses.	S Ag/Water/Natura	Short	Support
<a href="#">SB 5622</a>	Municipal water supply	Concerning the transfer of alternate water rights and water rights for municipal water supply purposes.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Torres	Neutral

## Legislative Department

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