



Session Watch

Monday, January 22, 2024 (day 15 of the 60-day Session)

Week two of the session has come and gone while committees are working at a feverous pace as the “cutoff” calendar is much tighter in these short years. The first milestone of the session will come on January 31st which is the Policy Committee Cutoff. This is the last day for bills to be passed out of committee and sent either to the Rules committee or to a fiscal committee for bills that require public dollars. This is also the day that most bills for the legislative session “die”. Meaning they missed the required cutoff date and failed to advance this session.

Bill

Highlights

[SB 5784 - Concerning deer and elk damage to commercial _____ crops](#) -

Increases the annual compensation limit for commercial _____ crop _____ damage claims caused by deer or elk paid from the State General _____ Fund _____ from \$30,000 to \$300,000. Establishes a limit of \$30,000 for an appeal of a decision of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) _____ addressing _____ deer or elk damage to commercial crops. Increases the limit for an individual damage claim from \$10,000 to \$30,000. Creates a three-year pilot program at WDFW to collar and monitor elk in South Central Washington in an effort to prevent crop _____ and _____ property damage.

[SB 5939 - Protecting livestock from wolf predation.](#)

This proposal authorizes the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to establish a three-year pilot program that authorizes an owner of livestock to monitor the site of a wolf predation and take the first wolf that returns to the site. Under the pilot program, an owner, the owner's immediate family member, the agent of an owner, or the owner's documented employee may monitor the site of a wolf predation of

livestock and take the first wolf that returns to the site of the predation. Any wolf killed under the authority of this section must be reported to WDFW within 24 hours and the wolf carcass must be surrendered to WDFW. This bill has bipartisan support as it features sponsorship from two Democrats and two Republicans and was heard on January 18th in Senate Agriculture committee.

[SB 5972 - Concerning the use of neonicotinoid pesticides.](#)

This bill prohibits a person from using neonicotinoid pesticides on outdoor plants beginning in 2026, unless it is made by a licensed application or during the production of an agricultural commodity. The effect of this bill is to ban the backyard use of Neonicotinoid pesticide spray by the common, unlicensed applicator. This bill allows for the use of the pesticide by licensed applicators like agronomists and landscapers. This bill was passed out of House Agriculture committee on January 18th and sent to Ways & Means committee for further consideration.

[HB 2187 - Promoting access to water for family farms](#)

This piece of legislation permits the Department of Ecology to authorize a permanent or temporary appropriation of water that would have adverse impacts on instream flows only with appropriate mitigation, or where it is clear that overriding considerations of the public interest will be served. It also declares that family farms meeting specified criteria are in the public interest. This bill had a public hearing in House Agriculture on January 16th and now awaits a vote in committee.

[SB 5862- Concerning hunting and fishing licenses for nonresident college students.](#)

This is one of those bills on the lighter side but is fun to pass along to your friends and neighbors.

It directs the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to issue a fishing or hunting license to a student enrolled in an institution of higher education at the same cost as a Washington resident license. This encourages fishing and hunting in our state for temporary residence for those who are here for post-secondary education and living within the state.

Understanding Hyper Links

In each week's Session Watch, you will find items in blue that are also underlined. This gives you what's called a hyper-link for you to click on and discover more information about the information provided. To do this, hover your mouse on the blue lined item, hit the CTRL key and then click on the hyper-link where it will open a new web page to view the additional information.

Grange Legislative Day and Youth Legislative Experience

Join us February 5th at 8:00am for this year's Legislative Day. This should be another great year for Legislative Day! We will have a full day of meetings with legislators, hearings, capital tours, and maybe even some floor action. If you have never been, please think about joining us. If you have been before, you know there is always something new, please think about joining us once again. Our Youth will have an extra ½ day on Tuesday February 6th. The youth had such a great time last year, we hope to have many more come join us this year! Attached you will find a registration form in case you are interested in joining us.

Washington State Grange Legislative Advisory Committee Meetings Set:

Wednesday, February 7 at 10am
Monday, February 19 at 10am
Monday, March 4 at 10am
Monday, March 18 at 10am

Please feel free to join us while we discuss current legislative activities in the 2024 Legislature.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98036971581>
Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581
One tap mobile +12532158782,,98036971581# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

How to Testify on Bills this Year

As a reminder you can easily participate in the lawmaking process by contacting your elected state representatives through the online legislative tools.

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

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

Committee: **Choose the committee where you 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

Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs (Senate) - SHR 3 and Virtual JACB - 1/23 @ 8:00am
• [SB 6219](#) - Public Hearing - Promoting agritourism. (Remote Testimony Available).

Agriculture and Natural Resources (House) - HHR B and Virtual JLOB - 1/23 @ 10:30am
• [HB 2302](#) - Public Hearing - Extending the pesticide application safety committee. (Remote Testimony Available).

Environment & Energy (House) - HHR C and Virtual JLOB - 1/23 @ 4:00pm
• [HB 2051](#) - Exec Session - Reducing emissions from small off-road engines.
• [HB 2201](#) - Exec Session - Facilitating linkage of Washington's carbon market with the California-Quebec carbon market.

Agriculture and Natural Resources (House) - HHR B and Virtual JLOB - 1/24 @ 8:00am
• [HB 2336](#) - Exec Session - Assessing the suitability of lands in Washington for agricultural and renewable energy purposes.

Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs (Senate) - SHR 3 and Virtual JACB - 1/25 @ 10:30am
• [SB 6140](#) - Exec Session - Concerning limited areas of more intensive rural development.

Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks (Senate) - SHR 3 and Virtual JACB - 1/25 @ 1:30pm
• [SB 6043](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning the authority of the department of natural resources to determine recreational use fees for activities on agency-managed public lands. (Remote Testimony Available).
• [SB 6143](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning local salmon habitat recovery planning in critical areas. (Remote Testimony Available).

Agriculture and Natural Resources (House) - HHR B and Virtual JLOB - 1/26 @ 10:30am
• [HB 2423](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning gray wolf management. (Remote Testimony Available).

Innovation, Community & Economic Development, & Veterans (House) - HHR C and Virtual JLOB - 1/26 @ 10:30am
• [HB 2257](#) - Exec Session - Supporting back country search and rescue organizations and volunteers through the creation of the back country search and rescue grant program.

WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE BILL TRACKING REPORT

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position	Priority
HB 2051	Small off-road engines	Reducing emissions from small off-road engines.	H Env & Energy	Walen		
HB 2147 (SB 6036)	Agriculture pests & diseases	Concerning agriculture pest and disease response.	H Ag&Nr	Dent		
HB 2165 (SB 6043)	Recreational use fees	Concerning the authority of the department of natural resources to determine recreational use fees for activities on agency-managed public lands.	H Ag&Nr	Kloba		
HB 2201 (SB 6058)	Carbon market linkage	Facilitating linkage of Washington's carbon market	H Env & Energy	Doglio		

		with the California-Quebec carbon market.				
HB 2232 (SB 6052)	Petroleum product supply	Concerning petroleum products supply and pricing.	H Env & Energy	Doglio		
HB 2257	Back country search & rescue	Supporting back country search and rescue organizations and volunteers through the creation of the back country search and rescue grant program.	H Innov, Comm &	Goehner		
HB 2258	Regional 911 funding	Providing funding for municipalities participating in the regional 911 emergency communications system.	H Local Govt	Ormsby		
HB 2288	Agriculture/water pollution	Promoting Washington agriculture through regulatory reforms.	H Env & Energy	Schmick		
HB 2291	Riparian programs review	Conducting a review of Washington's riparian programs.	H Ag&Nr	Wilcox		
HB 2302 (SB 6166)	Pesticide application comm.	Extending the pesticide application safety committee.	H Ag&Nr	Dent		
HB 2333	Carbon seq./state lands	Assessing the carbon sequestration potential of state-owned lands for the purpose of generating offset credits under the climate commitment act.	H Env & Energy	Reeves		
HB 2336	Suitability of lands	Assessing the suitability of lands in Washington for agricultural and renewable energy purposes.	H Ag&Nr	Morgan		
SB 5770	Property tax	Providing state and local property tax reform.	S Ways & Means	Pedersen		
SB 5784	Deer & elk crop damage	Concerning deer and elk damage to commercial crops.	S Ag/Water/Natura	Van De Wege	Support	Medium
SB 5813	Agricultural instruction	Mandating instruction on agricultural literacy for students in grades seven through 12.	S EL/K-12	Dozier		
SB 5915	Ag. crop products/tax ex.	Extending an existing hazardous substance tax exemption for certain agricultural crop protection products that are temporarily warehoused but not otherwise used, manufactured, packaged, or sold in the state of Washington.	S Ways & Means	Torres		

SB 5939	Livestock wolf predation	Protecting livestock from wolf predation.	S Ag/Water/Natura	Wagoner		
SB 5972	Neonicotinoid pesticides	Concerning the use of neonicotinoid pesticides.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Lias		
SB 6036 (HB 2147)	Agriculture pests & diseases	Concerning agriculture pest and disease response.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Muzzall		
SB 6043 (HB 2165)	Recreational use fees	Concerning the authority of the department of natural resources to determine recreational use fees for activities on agency-managed public lands.	S Ag/Water/Natura	Salomon		
SB 6052 (HB 2232)	Petroleum product supply	Concerning petroleum products supply and pricing.	S Environment, En	Nguyen		
SB 6058 (HB 2201)	Carbon market linkage	Facilitating linkage of Washington's carbon market with the California-Quebec carbon market.	S Environment, E	Nguyen		
SB 6112	Donated food items/B&O tax	Authorizing a business and occupation tax credit for the cost of donated food items by grocery stores and other food retailers.	S Ways & Means	Lovick		
SB 6121	Biochar production	Concerning biochar production from agricultural and forestry biomass.	S Environment, E	Van De Wege		
SB 6140	Intensive rural development	Concerning limited areas of more intensive rural development.	S Loc Gov, Land	Short		
SB 6143	Salmon habitat planning	Concerning local salmon habitat recovery planning in critical areas.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Salomon		
SB 6166 (HB 2302)	Pesticide application comm.	Extending the pesticide application safety committee.	S Labor & Comm	Saldana		

Legislative Department

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