

## Background

The 2017 Washington State Legislative Session starts tomorrow. As a reminder, the margins in the Legislature are close. The Senate Republicans, joined by one Democrat, have a majority of 25-24. The House Democrats have a majority of 50-48. The election resulted in several new Senate and House members. Additionally, appointments made during the last few weeks have resulted in the following changes:

- 45<sup>th</sup>—Republican Dino Rossi has been appointed to the late Senator Andy Hill’s seat.
- 48<sup>th</sup>—Democratic Representative Patty Kuderer will now move to the Senate to take Cyrus Habib’s seat, as he moves to the position of Lieutenant Governor. Bellevue City Council Democrat Vandana Slatter has been appointed to Rep. Kuderer’s House seat.
- 37<sup>th</sup>—Democrat Rebecca Saldana has been appointed to fill Pramila Jayapal’s seat as she moves to Congress.
- 31<sup>st</sup>—Republican Representative Phil Fortunato will move to the Senate to fill Pam Roach’s seat as she moves to the Pierce County Council. Republican Morgan Irwin from the Enumclaw City Council has been appointed to Rep. Fortunato’s seat.

The regular legislative session is 105 days, but the expectation is that multiple special sessions will be necessary for the Legislature to complete its work. Many predict that session will run through June of 2017.

Major challenges include complying with a Supreme Court order to develop a plan for fully funding basic education as required by the State Constitution, sufficiently funding mental health, addressing the recent Whatcom County v. Hirst State Supreme Court decision, and finding a path for sufficiently funding state collective bargaining agreements.

In addition to the hearings below, this first week of session will include swearing-in ceremonies, the Governor’s Inaugural Address and several educational work-sessions in various Legislative Committees.

## Upcoming Events

### **Environment (House) - HHR B, JLOB - 1/9 @ 2:00pm**

- HB 1014 - Public Hearing - Establishing a peer review process to ensure robust economic analysis of department of ecology administrative rules.

### **Appropriations (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 1/9 @ 3:30pm**

- HB 1067 - Public Hearing - Making 2017-2019 fiscal biennium operating appropriations.
- HB 1068 - Public Hearing - Making 2017 supplemental operating appropriations.

## **Agriculture and Natural Resources (House) – HHR B, JLOB – 1/10 @ 10:00am**

- Work Session – Department of Agriculture Updates

## **Agriculture, Water, Trade & Economic Development (Senate) - SHR 1, JAC - 1/12 @ 8:00am**

- SB 5010 - Public Hearing - Promoting water conservation by protecting certain water rights from relinquishment.
- SB 5005 - Public Hearing - Identifying certain water rights held by municipal water suppliers as water rights available for municipal water supply purposes.
- SB 5002 - Public Hearing - Requiring certain water banks to replace leased water rights provided for mitigation with water rights that will be permanently available.
- SB 5003 - Public Hearing - Clarifying the authority of the department of ecology regarding minimum flows.

## **Appropriations (House) - HHR A, JLOB - 1/12 @ 3:30pm**

- HB 1067 - Public Hearing - Making 2017-2019 fiscal biennium operating appropriations.
- HB 1068 - Public Hearing - Making 2017 supplemental operating appropriations.

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<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Position</u>
<a href="#"><u>HB 1005</u></a> <b>Agency rule-making authority</b> Creating accountability in agency rule-making authority. Prohibits rule making by state agencies except in certain specified instances.	H Prefiled	Taylor		
<a href="#"><u>HB 1008</u></a> <b>Nat. resources agencies/land</b> Concerning the acquisition of land by state natural resources agencies. Changes certain requirements of the department of fish and wildlife, the department of natural resources, and the parks and recreation commission with regard to the acquisition of real property.	H Prefiled	Shea		
<a href="#"><u>HB 1014</u></a> <b>Ecology rules/peer review</b> Establishing a peer review process to ensure robust economic analysis of department of ecology administrative rules. Requires the department of ecology to: (1) Before making available a preliminary cost-benefit analysis or finalizing a small business economic impact statement, solicit peer review of the draft economic analyses by qualified professionals; and (2) Incorporate both the optimistic and pessimistic economic impact scenarios into the final cost-benefit analysis. Prohibits the department of ecology from adopting a rule whose probable benefits are less than its probable costs.	H Prefiled	Shea		

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**REAL ID compliance**

H Prefiled Clibborn

Facilitating compliance with the federal REAL ID act by modifying driver's license and identocard design and fees.

[HB 1041](#)  
(SB 5008)

Requires the department of licensing to mark a driver's license or identocard issued under chapter 46.20 RCW, in accordance with the requirements of 6 C.F.R. Sec. 37.71, except for those issued under RCW 46.20.202 (licenses and identocards issued for Canadian border crossing).

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**Chehalis basin financing**

H Prefiled DeBolt

Concerning the financing of Chehalis basin flood damage reduction and habitat restoration projects.

[HB 1050](#)

Authorizes the state finance committee to issue general obligation bonds to provide funds to finance Chehalis basin flood damage reduction and aquatic species habitat restoration projects. Creates the Chehalis basin taxable account.

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**Infrastructure financing**

H Prefiled DeBolt

Concerning financing essential public infrastructure.

[HB 1051](#)

Improves access and reliability to low-cost financing for local government infrastructure projects by authorizing public works bonds when local governments can demonstrate: (1) The importance of the project; (2) Their difficulties accessing existing private credit markets for borrowings at reasonable interest rates; and (3) The ability to reliably repay their share of the state's total cost of retiring the public works bonds. Makes changes to the existing public works program and creates the public works financing assistance program. Creates the public works financing assistance account and the public works financing assistance bond repayment account. Takes effect January 1, 2018, if the proposed amendment to Article VIII, section 1 of the state Constitution, contained in House Joint Resolution No. .... (H-0423/17), is approved by voters at the next general election. Makes an appropriation from the public works assistance account to the department of commerce for the purpose of providing loans to local governments for infrastructure projects.

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[HB 1067](#)

**Operating budget 2017-2019**

H Prefiled Ormsby

Making 2017-2019 fiscal biennium operating appropriations.

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[HB 1068](#)

**Operating sup budget 2017**

H Prefiled Ormsby

Making 2017 supplemental operating appropriations.

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[HIM 4000](#)

**New state in E. Washington**

H Prefiled Shea

Petitioning for the creation of a new state in eastern Washington.

Petitions for the creation of a new state in eastern Washington.

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[SB 5002](#)

**Water banks/permanent avail.**

S Prefiled Honeyford

Requiring certain water banks to replace leased water rights provided for mitigation with water rights that will be permanently available.

Requires a county-operated water bank that leases water rights to offer for mitigation to replace the rights with rights that will be permanently available for mitigation before the expiration of the lease.

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**Minimum flows/ecology auth.** S Prefiled Honeyford

Clarifying the authority of the department of ecology regarding minimum flows.

[SB 5003](#)

Declares that the legislature: (1) Recognizes that the department of ecology has been given the responsibility to approve certain uses of water and that the state has enacted policies providing for the preservation of fish through the establishment of minimum flows; and (2) Intends to ensure that these broad objectives may be met by providing increased flexibility to allow for the use of water and preservation of fish.

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**Berry growers/burning waste** S Prefiled Honeyford

[SB 5004](#)

Concerning outdoor burning of organic waste derived from pruning by commercial berry growers.

Allows outdoor burning of organic waste derived from pruning by commercial berry growers.

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**Municipal water rights** S Prefiled Padden

[SB 5005](#)

Identifying certain water rights held by municipal water suppliers as water rights available for municipal water supply purposes.

Requires the department of ecology, if certain conditions are met and if requested by a municipal water supplier, to amend the water right documents and related records to identify irrigation purpose of use water rights or agricultural irrigation purpose of use water rights as being for municipal water supply purposes without reducing the amount of water available under the water rights.

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**Water rights relinquishment** S Prefiled Warnick

[SB 5010](#)

Promoting water conservation by protecting certain water rights from relinquishment.

Prohibits the relinquishment of certain water rights if the right is used for irrigation or agricultural purposes and is not exercised to the full extent of the right due to the implementation of water conservation or water use efficiency measures.

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**Groundwater supply avail.** S Prefiled McCoy

[SB 5024](#)

Concerning groundwater supply availability in areas with ground and surface water interaction.

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