



Session Watch

Monday, April 15, 2019 (day 85 of the 105-day session)

All committee cutoffs have now passed for this legislative session. Bills must be out of committee to remain alive at this point. But the legislative process is full of exceptions. Bills relating to taxes are considered necessary to implement the budget, so they are exempt from cutoffs.

Low Carbon Fuel Standard Bill

One bill that died in the most recent cutoff was ESSHB 1110, the low carbon fuel standard. However, ESSB 5116, Governor Inslee’s 100% clean energy bill, is still alive and moving. A new carbon bill that would tax all citizens, then give money back to some considered to be low income, is in the works as well.

Wildfire Funds

Other new tax bills have been introduced including one that would tax homeowner’s insurance policies to raise money to fight wildfires. Currently, money to fight wildfires comes out of the general fund. Capital gains and a graduated real estate excise tax are also still in play.

Maybe Some Good News For AG

A good bill for agriculture that has been tried many times in the past, appears to be more successful this year. SSB 5883 would allow vehicles carrying farm products to exceed total gross weight limits on occasion. Recognizing that it is difficult to weigh in

the field, this bill would allow each driver to exceed total gross weight limits by two thousand pounds twice a year.

Budget Negotiations

Budget negotiations are about to begin in earnest. The House and Senate have each passed three budgets – operating, capital and transportation. There are many differences between the two sides, some are large, some are small. For example, the Senate Capital budget includes \$2 million for health and safety grants for fairgrounds. The House budget does not. The House Capital budget includes \$1.2 million for fencing to keep elk out of farm crops. The Senate budget does not. Before the legislative session can adjourn, both sides must agree on all three budgets. The last constitutional day is this legislative session is April 28.

Quote of the Week

"Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does!! - William James

Trivia Question of the Week

Who is the National Grange Secretary?

Last Week’s Trivia Answer

Three

Selected Bills of Interest

High Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
3SHB 1498 (2SSB 5511) Broadband service Expanding affordable, resilient broadband service to enable economic development, public safety, health care, and education in Washington's communities.	S Rules 2	Hudgins	Support
ESHB 1839 (SB 5813) Arena projects/taxes Requiring eligible arena projects to fully pay the state and local sales tax within ten years of commencing construction. Includes additional funding for agricultural fairs beginning in 2020.	S Ways & Means	Sullivan	Support
ESHB 2097 Statewide wolf recovery	S 2nd Reading	Kretz	Support

Addressing statewide wolf recovery.

E2SSB 5438 (HB 1398)	Ag & seasonal workforce srv Establishing the office of agricultural and seasonal workforce services within the employment security department. Amended to remove fees.	H Passed 3rd	McCoy	Neutral
2SSB 5489	Environ. health disparities Establishing a healthy environment for all by creating a definition of environmental justice, directing agencies to address environmental health disparities, and creating a task force. Creates a task force to recommend how best to incorporate environmental justice principles into how state agencies discharge their responsibilities. Declares that the legislature establishes that state agencies will use all practicable means and measures to promote environmental justice and fair treatment, to ensure implementation and adherence to state policies of fostering and promoting the general welfare by assuring the people of this state have a safe and healthful environment and serving as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations. Requires the state agencies that are represented on the task force, after issuance of the task force report, to adopt rules as recommended in the report. Authorizes the state agencies to adopt interim guidelines and practices before the adoption of rules. Requires the department of ecology to adopt rules implementing the task force recommendations to provide uniform rules and guidelines to state agencies serving on the task force.	H 2nd Reading	Saldana	Oppose
2SSB 5511 (3SHB 1498)	Broadband service Expanding affordable, resilient broadband service to enable economic development, public safety, health care, and education in Washington's communities.	H Rules R	Wellman	Support
SSB 5550 (2SHB 1725)	Pesticide application safety Implementing the recommendations of the pesticide application safety work group.	H Passed 3rd	Saldana	Support
SB 5998	Grad. real estate excise tax Establishing a graduated real estate excise tax.	S Ways & Means	Nguyen	Oppose

Medium Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
SHB 1196 Perm. daylight saving time Allowing for the year round observation of daylight saving time.	S 2nd Reading	Riccelli	Neutral
SHB 1225 Domestic violence/law enf. Establishing policies and requirements regarding law enforcement response to domestic violence incidents to enhance the safety of domestic violence victims, families, and officers.	S Passed 3rd	Jenkins	Oppose
EHB 1465 Pistol sales or transfers Modifies the requirements of a firearms dealer regarding the delivery of a pistol to a purchaser.	S 2nd Reading	Goodman	
HB 1516 DFW dog training, nonlethal Requires the fish and wildlife commission to adopt by rule: (1) A process and criteria to select persons, who may act as agents of the state, for using one or more dogs to hunt or pursue black bear, cougar, or bobcat to protect livestock, domestic animals, private property, or the public safety; and (2) Requirements an applicant must comply with when applying for the program, including a criminal background check. Requires the department of fish and wildlife to administer a training program that provides dog training opportunities, for selected people, using nonlethal pursuit.	S Rules 2	Blake	Support

2SHB 1579	Chinook abundance Implementing recommendations of the southern resident killer whale task force related to increasing chinook abundance.	S Passed 3rd	Fitzgibbon	Oppose
ESHB 1622 (SB 5675)	Drought preparedness Concerning drought preparedness and response.	S Rules 2	Blake	Concerns
2SHB 1784	Wildfire prevention Concerning wildfire prevention.	S 2nd Reading	Kretz	Support
HB 2156	Taxes on asset sales, profit Investing in quality prekindergarten, K-12, and postsecondary opportunities throughout Washington with excise taxes on sales and extraordinary profits of high valued assets.	H Finance	Jinkins	Concerns
SSB 5010	Protected lands/fire levies Addresses parcels of land that do not pay the forest fire protection assessment or a local fire district levy.	H Passed 3rd	Rolfes	Support
E2SSB 5116 (2SHB 1211)	Clean energy Supporting Washington's clean energy economy and transitioning to a clean, affordable, and reliable energy future.	H Passed 3rd	Carlyle	Oppose
ESB 5273 (HB 1310)	Presidential primary Changes the dates for the presidential primary; and for the secretary of state to propose an alternative date for the primary, including to coordinate a regional primary with Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, or Utah. Prohibits the proposed date from being before the earliest date permitted by the national rules of the major political parties. Requires each party to determine which candidates are to be placed on the presidential primary ballot for that party. Requires a ballot, if requested by a party chair, to contain a place for a voter to indicate a preference for having delegates to the party's national convention remain uncommitted.	C 7 L 19	Hunt	Neutral
SSB 5502 (HB 1494)	Redistricting deadlines Changes the deadline, from January 1st of the year ending in two to November 15th of the year ending in one, in which the redistricting commission must submit a redistricting plan to the legislature.	H 2nd Reading	Zeiger	Support
SSB 5552	Pollinators Concerning the protection of native pollinators, including bees.	H 2nd Reading	Lias	Support
SSB 5883	Farm products/vehicle weight Authorizing vehicles or combinations of vehicles carrying farm products to exceed total gross weight limits.	H 2nd Reading	King	Support
SB 5991	Grad. real estate excise tax Increasing funding for education by establishing a graduated real estate excise tax.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes	Oppose

Low Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
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E2SHB 1114	Food waste reduction Reducing the wasting of food in order to fight hunger and reduce environmental impacts.	S Rules 2	Doglio	Support
HB 1187	Fish habitat projects Allows a fish habitat enhancement project to be approved by conservation districts as conservation district-sponsored fish habitat enhancement or restoration projects in order to receive a permit review and approval process.	S 2nd Reading	Dent	Support
HB 2166	Working forest license plate Creating special license plates that support working forests.	H Trans	Orcutt	Support
HR 4621	Remote testimony Requests formation on options and recommendations for a pilot remote testimony program.	H Adopted	Mead	Support
SSB 5063 (HB 1209)	Ballots, prepaid postage Requires the state to reimburse counties for the cost of return postage on mail and absentee ballots for elections. Requires return envelopes for election ballots to include prepaid postage.	H Passed 3rd	Nguyen	
ESSB 5148	Hunting/visible clothing Requires the fish and wildlife commission to adopt rules determining the times and manner when a person who is hunting must wear fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink clothing.	S Pres Signed	Wilson	
ESSB 5323 (2SHB 1205)	Plastic bags Reducing pollution from plastic bags by establishing minimum state standards for the use of bags at retail establishments.	H 2nd Reading	Das	Concerns
SSB 5723 (ESHB 1966)	Pedestrian, etc. safety Increasing safety on roadways for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other roadway users.	H Passed 3rd	Saldana	

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