



Session Watch

Monday, April 22, 2019 (day 92 of the 105-day session)

Almost all legislative deadlines have passed. For the most part, bills are either passed or dead. But this process is full of exceptions. Anything related to the budget can come back to life. New tax bills are still being introduced.

Last week I mentioned a new tax bill that would tax homeowner’s insurance policies to raise money to fight wildfires. This bill is still moving. It would be very damaging to Grange Insurance. Since Grange Insurance is headquartered in Washington, but sells policies in other states, those states would charge a retaliatory tax against Grange Insurance to make up the difference of the new tax being charged. If enacted, the bill would result in higher costs for those with Grange Insurance policies, reduced profits for the Grange Insurance company and do nothing to prevent wild fires.

Capital gains and graduated real estate excise tax bills are still alive. There are several different versions.

SB 5323, the proposed ban on plastic bags died. There was significant opposition from the pulp and paper industry over the mandatory fee on paper bags the bill required. Surveys showed customers would

not pay the eight cent per bag fee and the industry was concerned about job loss.

SHB 1196, which would create permanent daylight savings time, passed. This conflicts with Grange policy which opposed daylight savings time. However, it does eliminate changing clocks twice a year.

ESSB 5148 changes state law to allow hunters to wear either fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink clothing to ensure they are visible to others.

A new bill was introduced to create a special license plate supporting working forests. It was introduced too late to move this year but will be in position to move quickly during the 2020 legislative session.

Quote of the Week

"Nothing we achieve in this world is achieved alone. It is always achieved with others teaching us along the way".
- Lee J. Colan

Trivia Question of the Week

Where will the 2020 State Convention be held?

Last Week’s Trivia Answer

Judy Sherrod

Selected Bills of Interest

High Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
<u>ESHB 1839</u> (SB 5813) Arena projects/taxes Requiring eligible arena projects to fully pay the state and local sales tax within ten years of commencing construction. Provides additional funding for fairs starting in 2020.	S Ways & Means	Sullivan	Support
<u>ESHB 2097</u> Statewide wolf recovery Addressing statewide wolf recovery.	S Passed 3rd	Kretz	Support

E2SSB 5438 (HB 1398)	Ag & seasonal workforce srv Establishing the office of agricultural and seasonal workforce services within the employment security department. All fees have been removed from this bill.	H Passed 3rd	McCoy	Neutral
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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 Passed 3rd	Wellman	Support
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SSB 5550 (2SHB 1725)	Pesticide application safety Implementing the recommendations of the pesticide application safety work group.	H Passed 3rd	Saldaña	Support
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SSB 5998	Grad. real estate excise tax Establishing a graduated real estate excise tax.	S 2nd Reading	Nguyen	Oppose
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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 Passed 3rd	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 Passed 3rd	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.	H Spkr Signed	Blake	Support
2SHB 1579 Chinook abundance Implementing recommendations of the southern resident killer whale task force related to increasing chinook abundance.	H Passed FP	Fitzgibbon	Oppose
2SHB 1784 Wildfire prevention Concerning wildfire prevention.	H Passed FP	Kretz	Support
EHB 2009 Environ. health disparities Establishing a healthy environment for all by addressing environmental health disparities.	S Held	Reeves	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.	S Passed FP	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.	S Pres Signed	Zeiger	Support
SSB 5552	Pollinators Concerning the protection of native pollinators, including bees.	H Passed 3rd	Lias	Support
SSB 5883	Farm products/vehicle weight Authorizing vehicles or combinations of vehicles carrying farm products to exceed total gross weight limits.	H Passed 3rd	King	Support
ESSB 5959	Livestock identification Revising livestock identification law.	Del to Gov	Warnick	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
SSB 5996	Fires/prevent, suppress Funding fire prevention and suppression activities.	S WMDPS	Van De Wege	Oppose

Low Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
E2SHB 1114 Food waste reduction Reducing the wasting of food in order to fight hunger and reduce environmental impacts.	H Passed FP	Doglio	Support
HB 2166 Working forest license plate Creating special license plates that support working forests.	H Trans	Orcutt	Support
HR 4611 Washington FFA Association Recognizing Washington FFA Association.	H Adopted	Dye	Support
Remote testimony	H Adopted	Mead	Support

[HR 4621](#)

Requests formation on options and recommendations for a pilot remote testimony program.

[SSB 5063](#) (HB
1209)

Ballots, prepaid postage

S Passed FP

Nguyen

Neutral

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.

[ESSB 5148](#)

Hunting/visible clothing

Del to Gov

Wilson

Support

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.

[SSB 5723](#)
(ESHB 1966)

Pedestrian, etc. safety

H Passed 3rd

Saldaña

Neutral

Increasing safety on roadways for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other roadway users.

[SB 6017](#)

Compensation/excise tax

S Ways & Means

Nguyen

Concerns

Providing progressive tax reform by imposing an excise tax on annual compensation in excess of one million dollars.

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