



Session Watch

Sunday, April 28, 2019 (Final Day of the 105-Day Session)

Report as written on the Final Day of Session

It's almost over. It is anticipated that the legislature will pass a final budget and wrap up session by midnight tonight. However, there are still skirmishes happening over taxes, so the potential for a special session still looms.

As always, many interesting things can be found in the budget.

Read on for a few highlights:

The Conservation Commission and the Department of Agriculture are directed to produce a gap analysis reviewing existing conservation grant programs and completed voluntary stewardship program plans to identify what technical assistance and cost-share resources are needed to meet the goals of those programs. The agencies must develop recommendations for legislation to implement a sustainable farms and fields grant program that prioritizes funding based on net reduction of greenhouse gas emissions on farm, aquatic, or ranch lands, including carbon sequestration. The program must provide cost share benefits to existing and new programs designed to improve water quality, critical habitats, and soil health and soil-health research farm, aquatic or timber lands. The agencies must provide an update to the legislature by August 1, 2019, and final recommendations by November 1, 2019.

The Department of Agriculture also got funding for the following:

Electronic tracking of cattle for animal health and disease traceability. The expansion will allow cattle owners to register with the department and provide electronic reporting of cattle transactions.

Agricultural economic development in Southwest Washington including grant application assistance, permitting assistance and coordination, and development of a food hub.

To continue a shellfish coordinator position. The shellfish coordinator assists the industry with complying with regulatory requirements and will work with regulatory agencies to identify ways to streamline and make more transparent the permit

process for establishing and maintaining shellfish operations.

NE Washington Wolf-Livestock Management One-time funding is provided to maintain cost-sharing agreements with livestock producers to support non-lethal measures that can be used to minimize livestock loss from wolves and other carnivores. \$80,000 of the provided amounts is for grants to Ferry and Stevens county sheriff's office wolf support.

Other notable items:

\$400,000 for elk management in the Skagit valley went to the Department of Fish and Wildlife to work with tribes and landowners on elk fencing, replacement hay and other methods to mitigate the impacts of elk on agricultural crop production.

\$150,000 to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to create a series of articles, videos, and educational curriculum on the history of agriculture in Washington state, including the role and impact of indigenous and immigrant farmers. The materials must be made available for free to schools, educators, and students.

Washington State University - \$1,160,000 for the development of an organic agriculture systems degree program located at the university center in Everett.

Washington State University - \$500,000 for new soil health research and extension activities to develop, evaluate and incentivize best management practices across the agricultural systems in Washington. The initiative will build a network that must include the Mount Vernon Research Center.

Quote of the Week

"Knowledge is like money: to be of value it must circulate, and in circulating it can increase in quantity and, hopefully, in value".

-Louis L'Amour

Last Week's Trivia Answer

Walla Walla June 22-27

Selected Bills of Interest

High Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
ESHB 2097 Statewide wolf recovery Addressing statewide wolf recovery.	Del to Gov	Kretz	Support
E2SSB 5438 (HB 1398) Ag & seasonal workforce srv Establishing the office of agricultural and seasonal workforce services within the employment security department.	Del to Gov	McCoy	Neutral
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 Spkr Signed	Wellman	Support
SSB 5550 (2SHB 1725) Pesticide application safety Implementing the recommendations of the pesticide application safety work group.	Del to Gov	Saldana	Support
ESSB 5998 Grad. real estate excise tax Establishing a graduated real estate excise tax.	S Pres Signed	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.	Del to Gov	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.	Del to Gov	Jenkins	Oppose
EHB 1465 Pistol sales or transfers Modifies the requirements of a firearms dealer regarding the delivery of a pistol to a purchaser.	Del to Gov	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.	Del to Gov	Blake	Support
Chinook abundance	Del to Gov	Fitzgibbon	Oppose

2SHB 1579	Implementing recommendations of the southern resident killer whale task force related to increasing chinook abundance.			
2SHB 1784	Wildfire prevention Concerning wildfire prevention.	Del to Gov	Kretz	Support
E2SHB 2158	Workforce education Creating a workforce education investment to train Washington students for Washington jobs.	H Passed FP	Hansen	Neutral
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.	Del to Gov	Rolfes	Support
E2SSB 5116 (2SHB 1211)	Clean energy Supporting Washington's clean energy economy and transitioning to a clean, affordable, and reliable energy future.	Del to Gov	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.	Del to Gov	Zeiger	Support
SSB 5552	Pollinators Concerning the protection of native pollinators, including bees.	Del to Gov	Liias	Support
SSB 5883	Farm products/vehicle weight Authorizing vehicles or combinations of vehicles carrying farm products to exceed total gross weight limits.	S Pres Signed	King	Support
ESSB 5959	Livestock identification Revising livestock identification law.	C 92 L 19	Warnick	Support
SSB 5996	Fires/prevent, suppress Funding fire prevention and suppression activities.	S 2nd Reading	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.	Del to Gov	Doglio	Support

SSB 5063 (HB 1209)	Ballots, prepaid postage	Del to Gov	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	Del to Gov	Saldana	Neutral
Increasing safety on roadways for pedestrians, bicyclists, tractors and other roadway users.				

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