



Session Watch

Monday, February 4, 2019 (day 22 of the 105-day session)

AG Prevalent at The Capital Last Week

Last week was an incredibly busy week for agriculture in Olympia. In addition to the Washington State Grange, potato growers, wheat growers, tree fruit growers, dairy and conservation districts all held legislative days in Olympia.

Another Successful Grange Legislative Day

The Grange legislative day was possibly the best attended ever. We had a very active and involved group of members from across the state who met with legislators, attended hearings and actively engaged in a question and answer session with Senator Judy Warnick. I'd like to thank Senator Warnick, (R) Moses Lake, ranking member of the Senate Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks, for speaking to the group during lunch. Jim Jesernig also spoke about WSU's request for \$36.4 million in the capital budget to complete construction of the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (WADDL) at the WSU vet school. This facility is necessary for WSU vet school to retain its national certification. It allows for animal disease traceability, research, and control.

Action on bills of interest:

HB 1579 - Implementing recommendations of the southern resident killer whale task force related to increasing chinook abundance.

This bill was heard last week. Despite its name, the bill greatly expands the regulatory authority of the WA Department of Fish & Wildlife with respect to Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) permits. These are building permits for projects in and around water. If the bill passes, the department would have the authority to impose stop work orders, issue civil penalties for each violation found at a project site of up to \$10,000 each and obtain warrants to come onto your land anytime they think a violation may be occurring. The bill increases WDFW's regulatory authority statewide – not just in Puget Sound and along the coast where the orcas feed.

HB 1498 - Expanding affordable, resilient broadband service to enable economic development, public safety, health care, and education in Washington's communities.

This bill was also heard last week. It establishes a grant and loan program for public, private and non-profit entities for the purpose of installing broadband infrastructure to rural and unserved populations. It creates the Governor's Statewide Broadband Office. Authorizes public utility districts (PUDs) to temporarily provide retail Internet services. Authorizes port districts to provide wholesale Internet services outside of the district.

SB 5229 - Concerning the presidential primary.

By Request of the Secretary of State, Kim Wyman. Moves the presidential primary to the second Tuesday in March. Allows voters to declare no party affiliation when voting in the presidential primary, but such ballots counted and tabulated separately. The bill was heard, but no action was taken. It is not expected to move.

SB 5273 - Concerning the presidential primary.

Passed the Senate Floor. This is the version the legislature has chosen to move. Moves the presidential primary to the second Tuesday in March. Gives complete authority to major political parties to determine which candidates appear on the presidential primary ballot under the party's banner. Allows voters to indicate a preference for uncommitted delegates in the presidential primary.

Quote of the Week

"If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, then you are an excellent leader".

-Dolly Parton

Trivia Question of the Week

Who was the Washington State Grange Master stripped of his title and removed from the Order by the National Grange in 1922 for using his office for political purposes and his disloyalty to the National Grange?

Last Week's Trivia Answer

Okanogan County Fairgrounds June 26th-29th

Upcoming Hearings of Interest

Public Safety (House) - HHR D, JLOB - 2/4 @ 1:30pm

- HB 1025 - Public Hearing - Concerning the slaughter of horses and other equines for human consumption. (Oppose/Medium)

Environment, Energy & Technology (Senate) - SHR 1, - 2/5 @ 10:00am

- SB 5511 - Public Hearing - Expanding affordable, resilient broadband service to enable economic development, public safety, health care, and education in Washington's communities. (Support/High)

Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks (Senate) - SHR 3, - 2/5 @ 1:30pm

- SB 5580 - Public Hearing - Implementing recommendations of the southern resident killer whale task force related to increasing habitat and forage fish abundance. (Oppose/Medium)
- SB 5451 - Public Hearing - Concerning the definition of hydraulic project in relation to the hydraulic project approval permits. (Support/Medium)

Ways & Means (Senate) - SHR 4, - 2/5 @ 3:30pm

- SB 5063 - Public Hearing - Providing prepaid postage for all election ballots. (Low)

Transportation (Senate) - SHR 1, - 2/6 @ 3:30pm

- SB 5130 - Public Hearing - Increasing transportation revenues to help fund state fish barrier removal. (Oppose/Medium)

Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources (House) - HHR B, JLOB - 2/8 @ 10:00am

- HB 1516 - Public Hearing - Establishing a department of fish and wildlife directed nonlethal program for the purpose of training dogs. (Support/Medium)
- HB 1622 - Public Hearing - Concerning drought preparedness and response. (Concerns/Medium)

Selected Bills of Interest

High Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
<u>HB 1172</u> (SB 5314) Capital gains tax/prop. tax Creates a capital gains tax.	H Finance	Santos/Wellman	Oppose
<u>HB 1283</u> (SB 5277) Agricultural fair funding Ensuring the funding of agricultural fairs.	H Approps	Dent/Warnick	Support
<u>HB 1343</u> (SB 5129) Revenue Creates a capital gains tax and increases the business and occupation tax rate on certain services.	H Finance	Tarleton/Rolfes	Oppose
<u>HB 1498</u> (SB 5511) Broadband service Expanding affordable, resilient broadband service to enable economic development, public safety, health care, and education in Washington's communities.	H Inn, Tech & E	Hudgins/Wellman	Support
<u>HB 1611</u> (SB 5626) Cultivation of shellfish Ensuring the safe and productive cultivation of shellfish.	H Env & Energy	Blake/Takko	Support

SB 5349	Products identified as milk Prohibits the sale of a product that is identified by the word "milk" and, is intended for human consumption as food or drink, if the product is not milk or does not contain milk or milk products.	S Ag/Water/Natura	Ericksen	Support
SB 5550	Pesticide application safety Implementing the recommendations of the pesticide application safety work group.	S Labor & Commer	Saldana	Support
SB 5552	Native pollinators Concerning the protection of native pollinators, including bees.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Liias	Support
SB 5620	Elk fencing pilot project Establishing a pilot project to test elk fencing.	S Ag/Water/Natura	Wagoner	Support

Medium Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
HB 1025 Horse slaughter Prohibits a person from slaughtering a horse if the person knows or should know that the meat from the slaughtered animal is intended to be used for human consumption.	H Public Safety	Appleton	Oppose
SHB 1110 (SB 5412) Greenhouse gas/transp. fuels Reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with transportation fuels.	H ENVIDPS	Fitzgibbon/Saldana	Oppose
HB 1113 Greenhouse emission limits Reduces greenhouse gas emissions at a rate that is consistent with the intended nationally determined contribution submitted by the United States to the United Nations.	H Env & Energy	Slatter	Concerns
HB 1167 (SB 5476) Composting/nuisance lawsuits Confirms that composting activities are recognized as agricultural activities and protected from nuisance lawsuits.	H RDev, Ag&NR	Walen/Kuderer	Support
HB 1211 (SB 5116) Clean energy Establishes the Washington clean energy transformation act. Addresses the elimination of coal-fired electricity and the transition of the state's electricity supply to one hundred percent carbon neutral by 2030. Provides that it is the policy of the state that all retail sales of electricity to the state's customers be greenhouse gas neutral by January 1, 2030. Requires the department of commerce to convene an energy and climate policy advisory committee to develop recommendations to the legislature for the coordination of existing resources, or the establishment of new ones, to examine the costs and benefits of energy-related policies, programs, functions, activities, and incentives. Requires the department of health to conduct a cumulative impact analysis to designate the communities highly impacted by fossil fuel pollution and climate change.	H Env & Energy	Tarleton/Carlyle	Concerns
HB 1228 (SB 5130) Fish barrier removal funding Helps fund state fish barrier removal by implementing a graduated real estate excise tax and increasing in certain vehicle weight fees.	H Finance	Chapman/Rolfes	Concerns
HB 1262 (SB 5229) Presidential primary Changes the dates for the presidential primary.	H State Govt & T	Walsh/Zeiger	Support

HB 1287 (SB 5103)	Natural areas Requires the department of natural resources to recommend to the governor a prioritized list of all property acquisitions for the purpose of creating: (1) Washington natural resources conservation areas; and (2) A Washington natural area preserve. Authorizes the governor to remove projects from the list and submit the amended list in the capital budget request to the legislature. Prohibits acquisition without legislative approval and funding.	H Cap Budget	Griffey/Sheldon	Support
HB 1309	Studded tires Phasing out the use of studded tires.	H Trans	Ryu	Oppose
HB 1310 (SSB 5273)	Presidential primary Changes the dates for the presidential primary. 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.	H State Govt & T	Valdez/Hunt	Support
HB 1622	Drought preparedness Concerning drought preparedness and response.	H RDev, Ag&NR	Blake	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 Rules 2	Rolfes	Support
SB 5085	Broadband internet access Authorizes a unit of local government or other subdivision of the state to provide broadband services when approved by the utilities and transportation commission pursuant to certain requirements.	S Environment, E	McCoy	Support

Low Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
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.	H RDev, Ag&NR	Dent	Support
HB 1188 Rangeland fire associations Creates rangeland fire protection associations defined as a nonprofit that has entered into an agreement for the detection, prevention, or suppression of wildfires.	H RDev, Ag&NR	Dent	
HB 1209 (SB 5063) 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 State Govt & T	Hansen/Nguyen	
HB 1429 (SB 5447) Dairy milk assessment fee Extending the dairy milk assessment fee to June 30, 2025.	H RDev, Ag&NR	Shewmake/VanDeWege	

Parcel & planning boundaries	S Local Governme	Honeyford	Support
Concerning the placement of planning boundaries in conjunction with parcel boundaries. Requires, under the growth management act, urban growth area boundaries to follow existing parcel boundary lines and make reasonable efforts to avoid unnecessary divisions. Requires any changes to be made as part of the next comprehensive plan periodic update.			
<u>SB 5026</u>			
Cougar control pilot program	S Ag/Water/Natur	Sheldon	Support
Requires the department of fish and wildlife, in cooperation and collaboration with the county legislative authorities of Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille, Chelan, Okanogan, Mason, and Klickitat counties, to recommend rules to establish a five-year pilot program within select game management units of these counties, to pursue or kill cougars with the aid of dogs. Authorizes a county legislative authority to request inclusion in the pilot project after taking certain actions.			
<u>SB 5100</u>			
Daylight saving time	S State Govt/Tri	Honeyford	Oppose
Declares an intent to observe daylight saving time year-round, if authorized by the United States congress, Requires the department of commerce to review impacts the state time zone and daylight-saving time have on commerce in the state.			
<u>SB 5139</u>			
Hunting/visible clothing	S Rules 2	Wilson	
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.			
<u>SSB 5148</u>			
Road usage charges/rural	S Transportation	Sheldon	Support
Prohibits the state from imposing or collecting any new road usage charge, vehicle miles traveled fee, or other similar type of comparable charge, tax, or fee, in rural counties.			
<u>SB 5255</u>			
Productive farmland	S Ag/Water/Natur	Takko	Support
Retaining productive farmland.			
<u>SB 5543</u>			
Right to fish, hunt, etc.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Braun	Support
Proposes an amendment to the state Constitution to guarantee the right to fish, hunt, and otherwise harvest wildlife.			
<u>SJR 8204</u>			

Legislative Department

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