



Session Watch

Monday, February 17, 2020 (day 35 of the 60-day session)

Legislative Session Officially Halfway Through

Last week we hit the mid-point of the legislative session in terms of days left to go. This week, on Feb. 19, we hit the midpoint of the legislative session with House of Origin cutoff. That means all House bills must pass the House floor and all Senate bills must pass the Senate floor to remain alive. The tracking list has many changes as bills that died last year came back to life, bad bills were amended to neutral and new bills were added based on member interest. Monday and Tuesday, legislators will continue floor work, voting on bills. As of 5:00 Tuesday, another batch of bills will die.

SB 6518 Still Concerns

One bill that is expected to move and is of great concern to agriculture is SB 6518 dealing with the insecticide chlorpyrifos. The bill has been amended and would now be less harmful to many growers, but it still does an end run about the scientific based regulatory process and substitutes politics. Ag groups continue to work with the Department of Agriculture and the sponsor to help them understand the affects the bill could have on Washington tree fruit growers.

Energy Bills Taking on New Life

On the energy front, two bills that died last year appear to have new life. HB 1110 would create a low carbon fuel standard that would increase per gallon fuel prices in the state by as much as 57 cents. This bill passed the House last week and moved on to the Senate where it is expected to receive a cold shoulder. SB 5981 would implement a greenhouse gas emissions cap and trade program. This bill also died last year but came to life with a hearing in the Senate Environmental Committee. It is unlikely that either of these bills will pass this year, but the majority parties are clearly heading toward regulating carbon emissions. Either tactic will have a significant effect on the price of fuel.

Gun Legislation

Many bills related to guns have died, but others continue to move. HB 2240, Attorney General Ferguson's bill limiting "high capacity magazines" has been amended from allowing 10 rounds to allowing 15 rounds.) HB 1315 and SB 6294 which would require

training before being allowed to have a concealed pistol license have been added to the tracking list.

Legislative Day is this Thursday!

The Grange Legislative Day is just days away. Have you reserved your spot yet? Call us today!

Here is what's in store so far:

- 8am to 9:15 – Welcome, introductions and legislative briefing (at state headquarters)
- 9:30 to 12:00 – Meetings with your legislators, committee hearings, resolution writing and capitol tours.
- 12:00-1:30 – Lunch at the Capitol Campus with the following speakers:
 - Senator Judy Warnick – Moses Lake, Ranking Minority on Senate Ag Committee
 - Diana Carlen – WA Assn of Wheat Growers, Columbia and Snake River Dams
 - Kathleen Collins – WA Water Policy Alliance – Ag water issues
 - Mark Streuli – WA Cattlemen's Assn – Livestock issues
- 1:30-3:00 – Group photo, meetings with your legislators, committee hearings, resolution writing and capitol tours.
- 3:15 – Wrap up meeting at state headquarters

Quote of the Week

"The single biggest way to impact an organization is to focus on leadership development. There is almost no limit to the potential of an organization that recruits good people, raises them up as leaders and continually develops them."

-John Maxwell

Trivia Question of the Week

Who was WA State Grange Master in 1932?

Last Week's Trivia Answer

King of Prussia, PA

Upcoming Events

Ways & Means (Senate) - SHR 4, - 2/10 @ 10:00am

- SSB 6518 - Public Hearing - Reducing prenatal exposure and harm to children by limiting environmental exposure to certain pesticides. (Oppose/High)
- SSB 6545 - Public Hearing - Adding counties to the voluntary stewardship program. (Support/Low)

Transportation (House) - HHR B, JLOB - 2/10 @ 1:30pm

- HB 2166 - Exec Session - Creating special license plates that support working forests. (Support/Low)

Transportation (Senate) - SHR 1, - 2/10 @ 1:30pm

- SB 6586 - Exec Session - Implementing a per mile charge on electric and hybrid vehicles. (Oppose/Medium)

Ways & Means (Senate) - SHR 4, - 2/11 @ 10:00am

- SSB 6382 - Exec Session - Concerning a state-inspected meat and poultry inspection program. (Support/High)
- SSB 6518 - Exec Session - Reducing prenatal exposure and harm to children by limiting environmental exposure to certain pesticides. (Oppose/High)
- SSB 6545 - Exec Session - Adding counties to the voluntary stewardship program. (Support/Low)

Bill Tracking

High Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
SHB 2317 (SSB 6300) Animals Concerning animal welfare.	H Rules R	Orwall	Oppose
SHB 2427 (SB 6453) Climate change/GMA Tackling climate change as a goal of the growth management act.	H Rules R	Duerr	Oppose
HB 2624 Dept. of ag./examinations Concerning the authority of the director of the department of agriculture with respect to certain examinations and examination fees.	H Rules R	Shewmake	Support
SHB 2712 Beef country of origin Requiring retailers to indicate the country of origin on beef sold to the public.	H Rules R	Kretz	Support
2SSB 5947 (HB 2095) Sustainable farms and fields Establishing the sustainable farms and fields grant program.	H R Dev, Ag&NR	McCoy	Oppose
SSB 6300 (SHB 2317) Animals Concerning animal welfare.	S Rules 2	Rivers	Oppose
SSB 6382 Meat and poultry inspection Concerning state-inspected commercial custom meat facilities.	S Ways & Means	Ericksen	Support

SSB 6518	Pesticide, chlorpyrifos Reducing prenatal exposure and harm to children by limiting environmental exposure to certain pesticides.	S Ways & Means	Rolfes	Oppose
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Medium Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>	
SHB 2311 (SB 6272)	Greenhouse gas emissions Amending state greenhouse gas emission limits for consistency with the most recent assessment of climate change science.	H Approps	Slatter	Oppose
HB 2413	Wildfire activity funding Concerning funding for wildfire prevention and preparedness activities.	H Approps	Fitzgibbon	Oppose
SHB 2415	Special district elections Conforming elections for certain special districts with Title 29A RCW.	H Approps	Hudgins	Oppose
HB 2524	Ag. product negotiations Expanding the scope of agricultural products subject to requirements in chapter 15.83 RCW related to negotiation concerning production or marketing.	H Approps	Chandler	Support
SHB 2550	Net ecological gain Establishing net ecological gain as a policy for application across identified land use, development, and environmental laws.	H Approps	Lekanoff	Concerns
HB 2552	Salmon committee Creating a joint legislative salmon committee.	H Approps	Lekanoff	Support
SHB 2588	Special purpose districts Improving openness, accountability, and transparency of special purpose districts.	H Rules R	Pollet	Oppose
SHB 2696 (SSB 6329)	Meat and poultry misbranding Concerning the misbranding of meat and poultry products.	H Rules R	Dent	Support
SHB 2697 (SB 6401)	Noxious weeds Concerning noxious weeds.	H Approps	Dent	Support
SHB 2713	Compost procurement and use Encouraging compost procurement and use.	H Approps	Walén	Support
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 Env & Energy	Das	Concerns

SSB 6261	Farm labor contractor system Regulating farm labor contractors by removing an exemption for nonprofits, prohibiting retaliation and the use of farm labor contractors in certain circumstances, and establishing liability for related violations.	S Rules 2	McCoy	Oppose
SSB 6288	Office of firearm violence Creating the Washington office of firearm violence prevention.	S Ways & Means	Dhingra	Oppose
SSB 6306	Soil health initiative Creating the Washington soil health initiative.	S Rules 2	Lias	Support
SSB 6329 (SHB 2696)	Meat and poultry misbranding Concerning the misbranding of meat and poultry products.	S Rules 2	Warnick	Support
SB 6401 (SHB 2697)	Noxious weeds Concerning noxious weeds.	S Ways & Means	Warnick	Support
SSB 6514	Irrigation dist. elections Addressing irrigation district elections.	S Rules 2	Schoesler	Support
SB 6586	Electric vehicles/per mile Implementing a per mile charge on electric and hybrid vehicles.	S Transportation	Saldaña	Oppose

Low Priority Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>	
2SHB 1733 (SSB 5543)	Productive farmland Retaining productive farmland.	H Rules R	Gregerson	Support
HB 1983	Natural resource management Concerning natural resource management activities.	H 2nd Reading	Maycumber	Support
HB 2166	Working forest license plate Creating special license plates that support working forests.	H Trans	Orcutt	Support
HB 2228	State fire service deploy. Permitting early deployment of state fire service resources.	H Approps	Springer	Support
SHB 2603 (SSB 6494)	Trust water rights Concerning trust water rights.	H Rules R	Springer	Concerns
HB 2811 (SB 6124)	Environmental education Establishing a statewide environmental sustainability education program.	H Rules R	Johnson	Neutral
SHB 2816	School & classroom climates Nurturing positive social and emotional school and classroom climates.	H Rules R	Corry	Support

HB 2921	REET on undeveloped land Reducing the real estate excise tax for undeveloped land.	H Finance	Vick	Support
HR 4653	Agricultural producers Honoring Washington's agricultural producers.	H Adopted/Rule	Dent	Support
SB 5504 (HB 1363)	Peer-reviewed journal access Concerning state agency employee access to peer-reviewed journals. Directs the state institute for public policy to conduct a study that addresses potential funding, organizational structure, and policy mechanisms that would provide relevant state employees with comprehensive electronic access to peer-reviewed journals. Makes an appropriation from the general fund to the state institute for public policy for conducting the study. Expires June 30, 2021.	S Rules 2	Warnick	Support
SSB 6494 (SHB 2603)	Trust water rights Concerning trust water rights.	S Rules 2	Rolfes	Concerns
SSB 6545	Voluntary stewardship prog. Concerning the voluntary stewardship program.	S Ways & Means	Zeiger	Support

Legislative Department
 Heather Hansen, Legislative Lobbyist
legislative@wa-grange.org
 (360) 943-9911