



Session Watch

Tuesday, January 30, 2024 (day 23 of the 60-day Session)

Week three of the legislative session brought a feverish pace as we race towards the first milestone – policy committee cutoff. Wednesday, January 31st marks the day where bills have to be voted out of their policy committee in order to advance and stay “alive” this session. This only includes “policy” bills that do not require taxpayer dollars to implement. Fiscal bills have a longer timeline as they will be cutoff on February 5th. You can see the entire session cutoff calendar [here](#).

This week also happens to be the Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) legislative days. CTE student leaders participate in a training session Thursday night and will be around the capitol campus all day Friday, January 26th. The CTSO’s come to the capitol this time each year to spread awareness about their programs and advocate for any timely causes that might be appropriate and meet their local elected representatives.

Bill Highlights

Wolf Legislation

[HB 2424](#) - This bill charges the Department of Fish and Wildlife with engaging the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation on a government-to-government basis to align gray wolf management strategies in certain areas. We view this as a positive policy as the Colville Tribes have long had a progressive and effective wolf management plan. This bill is scheduled for a vote on January 31st.

[HB 2423](#) Requires the Department of Fish and Wildlife to convene a workgroup to develop a regional management plan for gray wolves in the portion of Eastern Washington where gray wolves are not federally listed as threatened or endangered. Again, this is viewed as a favorable proposal.

Agriculture Overtime

[SB 5476 - Authorizing agricultural employers to select 12 weeks a year to employ workers for up to 50 hours a week before overtime applies.](#)

This is a 2023 bill which was introduced in the last session and is scheduled for a public hearing in the Senate Committee on Labor & Commerce January 30th. The senate bill gives agricultural employers the

ability to designate 12 weeks each year as special circumstance weeks. During these special circumstance weeks, time-and-a-half overtime would come into effect after 50 hours of work in a week.

Firearms Legislation

[SB 5444 - Concerning firearm sensitive places.](#) -

This bill restricts where law abiding gun owners can carry weapons in specific areas. The bill makes it a crime to possess a gun in public places including: parks, zoo’s, aquariums, transit centers, all state and local public buildings, and transit centers serving passengers. These restrictions do not apply to individuals who maintain a valid conceal carry license or correctional personnel.

[HB 1902- Enhancing requirements for the purchase or transfer of firearms.](#)

This bill establishes that a dealer may not transfer a firearm to a purchaser or transferee unless the person has a valid permit to purchase firearms and establishes requirements for the application, issuance, and revocation of permits to purchase firearms. The bill also provides proof of completion of required firearms safety training must be provided to obtain a permit to purchase firearms, updates training program components, and requires the Washington State Patrol to certify training programs. This bill had a public hearing on January 16th and has not been scheduled for a vote as of January 26th.

[HB 1903 - Reporting lost or stolen firearms.](#)

Requires a person who suffers a loss or theft of a firearm to report the loss or theft to local law enforcement within 24 hours. Also requires law enforcement to enter information received in a report of the loss or theft of a firearm into the National Crime Information Center database. This bill was passed out of committee on January 19th on a party line vote and awaits a floor vote.

[HB 2021 - Concerning the disposition of privately owned firearms in the custody of state or local government entities or law enforcement agencies.](#)

Authorizes local governments and law enforcement agencies to dispose of forfeited firearms through a transfer to a museum or historical society. The bill

also charges the Washington State Patrol with disposing of forfeited firearms through a transfer to a museum or historical society, or destruction. This bill was voted out of committee on January 16th on a party line vote.

[HB 2054 - Concerning bulk purchases and transfers of firearms.](#)

This bill Prohibits firearms dealers from delivering more than one firearm to a purchaser or transferee within any 30-day period. The bill was heard on January 16th and has yet to have a vote.

[HB 2118 - Protecting the public from gun violence by establishing additional requirements for the business operations of licensed firearms dealers.](#)

This bill requires firearm dealer employees to be 21 or older, and to undergo fingerprinting and a background check prior to selling or transferring any firearms. It also requires dealers to adopt specified security features, alarm systems, safe storage practices, surveillance systems, and record keeping practices. Charges dealers to review and respond to trace requests within 24 hours; notify law enforcement of any loss, theft, or unlawful transfer within 24 hours; and provide an annual report to the Attorney General. This will was voted out of committee on January 19th and awaits a floor vote.

Interesting bill

[HB 2018- Improving student outcomes by restricting mobile device use by public school students.](#)

This bill requires OSPI to select pilot sites to implement a strategy to restrict student mobile device use during instructional hours and to report to the OSPI with certain information related to implementing the restriction. It also charges OSPI to report to the Legislature with a summary of research on policies and procedures restricting student mobile device use during instructional hours and recommendations for successful restriction strategies. This bill appears to be on track to clear the 1/31 cutoff as it had a favorable hearing on January 23rd and is scheduled for a vote on January 30th.

Understanding Hyper Links

In each week's Session Watch, you will find items in blue that are also underlined. This gives you what's called a hyper-link for you to click on and discover more information about the information provided. To do this, hover your mouse on the blue lined item, hit the CTRL key and then click on the hyper-link where it will

open a new web page to view the additional information.

Grange Legislative Day and Youth Legislative Experience

Join us this next Monday, February 5th at 8:00am for this years' Legislative Day. This should be another great year for Legislative Day! We will have a full day of meetings with legislators, interesting variety of speakers, hearings, capital tours, and maybe even some floor action. If you have never been, please think about joining us. If you have been before, you know there is always something new, please think about joining us once again.

Washington State Grange Legislative Advisory Committee Meetings Set:

Wednesday, February 7 at 10am

Monday, February 19 at 10am

Monday, March 4 at 10am

Monday, March 18 at 10am

Please feel free to join us while we discuss current legislative activities in the 2024 Legislature.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/98036971581>
Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

One tap mobile +12532158782,,98036971581# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
Meeting ID: 980 3697 1581

How to Testify on Bills this Year

As a reminder you can easily participate in the lawmaking process by contacting your elected state representatives through the online legislative tools.

Start here: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/csiremote/>

Select **House** or **Senate**

Committee: **Choose the committee where you bill is being heard**

Meetings: **Choose the date of the hearing**

Select the bill you want from the list.

Select:

I would like to submit written testimony.

I would like to testify live during the hearing.

I would like my position noted for the legislative record.

You may check to see who else has signed in to testify.

On the next screen, fill in all the blanks and submit.

You will receive an email with a link for the hearing. At the appropriate time, join the meeting and wait to be admitted.

When you are called to speak, introduce yourself and speak for 1-2 minutes.

To prepare, write down what you want to say. Read it aloud several times. Time yourself.

To find hearings not listed below, look here: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/committeeschedules/>

Things to Remember

If you do not know who your legislators are, find out here: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder>. Find your legislators e-mail address here: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/MemberEmail/Default.aspx?C>

hamber=H Legislator phone numbers and office addresses are available on the individual member pages. Links to the member pages can be found on the House site, the Senate site or on the Member Roster lists. If you would like to send a message to your legislators regarding a specific bill, you may use the Bill Comments form. Learn more here: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/>.

Toll-Free Hotline - 1-800-562-6000 allows you to leave a message for your legislators. When leaving a message with the Hotline, please be prepared to give your name and street address. During the Legislative session, the Hotline is open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Upcoming Events

Environment, Energy & Technology (Senate) - SHR 1 and Virtual J.A. Cherberg - 1/30 @ 1:30pm

- [SB 6052](#) - Exec Session - Concerning petroleum products supply and pricing.
- [SB 6121](#) - Exec Session - Concerning biochar production from agricultural and forestry biomass.

Environment & Energy (House) - HHR C and Virtual JLOB - 1/30 @ 4:00pm

- [HB 2051](#) - Exec Session - Reducing emissions from small off-road engines.

Environment, Energy & Technology (Senate) - SHR 1 and Virtual J.A. Cherberg - 1/31 @ 8:00am

- [ESHB 1589](#) - Public Hearing - Supporting Washington's clean energy economy and transitioning to a clean, affordable, and reliable energy future. (Hearing is on the Proposed Striking Amendment.) (Remote Testimony Available). (Oppose)

Ways & Means (Senate) - SHR 4 and Virtual JACB - 2/1 @ 1:30pm

- [SSB 5784](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning deer and elk damage to commercial crops. (Remote Testimony Available). (Support/Medium)
- [SSB 5972](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning the use of neonicotinoid pesticides. (Remote Testimony Available).
- [SB 6036](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning agriculture pest and disease response. (Remote Testimony Available).
- [SB 5915](#) - Exec Session - Extending an existing hazardous substance tax exemption for certain agricultural crop protection products that are temporarily warehoused but not otherwise used, manufactured, packaged, or sold in the state of Washington.

WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE BILL TRACKING REPORT

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor		
SHB 1044	Capital assistance/schools	Providing capital financial assistance to small school districts with demonstrated funding challenges.	S EL/K-12	McEntire		
ESHB 1589 (SSB 5562)	Clean energy	Supporting Washington's clean energy economy and transitioning to a clean, affordable, and reliable energy future.	S Environment, En	Doglio		
HB 1902 (SB 6004)	Firearms/purchase & transfer	Enhancing requirements for the purchase or transfer of firearms.	H Civil R & Judi	Berry		

SHB 1903	Lost or stolen firearms	Reporting lost or stolen firearms.	H Rules R	Berry		
SHB 2021 (SB 6001)	Firearm disposition	Concerning the disposition of privately owned firearms in the custody of state or local government entities or law enforcement agencies.	H Rules R	Senn		
HB 2051	Small off-road engines	Reducing emissions from small off-road engines.	H Env & Energy	Walen		
HB 2054	Firearm bulk purchases	Concerning bulk purchases and transfers of firearms.	H Civil R & Judi	Farivar		
SHB 2118 (SB 6266)	Firearms dealers	Protecting the public from gun violence by establishing additional requirements for the business operations of licensed firearms dealers.	H Rules R	Walen		
HB 2147 (SB 6036)	Agriculture pests & diseases	Concerning agriculture pest and disease response.	H Approps	Dent		
HB 2165 (SB 6043)	Recreational use fees	Concerning the authority of the department of natural resources to determine recreational use fees for activities on agency-managed public lands.	H Ag&Nr	Kloba		
SHB 2201 (SB 6058)	Carbon market linkage	Facilitating linkage of Washington's carbon market with the California-Quebec carbon market.	H ENVIDPS	Doglio		
HB 2232 (SB 6052)	Petroleum product supply	Concerning petroleum products supply and pricing.	H Env & Energy	Doglio		
HB 2257	Back country search & rescue	Supporting back country search and rescue organizations and volunteers through the creation of the back country search and rescue grant program.	H Exec Action	Goehner		
HB 2258	Regional 911 funding	Providing funding for municipalities participating in the regional 911 emergency communications system.	H Exec Action	Ormsby		
HB 2288	Agriculture/water pollution	Promoting Washington agriculture through regulatory reforms.	H Env & Energy	Schmick		
HB 2291	Riparian programs review	Conducting a review of Washington's riparian programs.	H Ag&Nr	Wilcox		
HB 2302 (SB 6166)	Pesticide application comm.	Extending the pesticide application safety committee.	H Ag&Nr	Dent		
HB 2333	Carbon seq./state lands	Assessing the carbon sequestration potential of state-owned lands for the purpose of generating offset credits under the climate commitment act.	H Env & Energy	Reeves		
SHB 2336	Suitability of lands	Assessing the suitability of lands in Washington for agricultural and renewable energy purposes.	H Cap Budget	Morgan		
HB 2423	Gray wolf management	Concerning gray wolf management.	H Ag&Nr	Kretz		
HJR 4210	Natural resources	Adding a new section to the Washington state Constitution regarding the conservation and protection of the state's natural resources.	H Env & Energy	Lekanoff		
2ESSB 5150	Beef commission	Concerning the beef commission's levied assessment. (REVISED FOR ENGROSSED: Concerning the beef commission.)	H Ag&Nr	Shewmake		

SSB 5444	Firearm sensitive places	Concerning firearm sensitive places.	S Ways & Means	Valdez		
SSB 5562 (ESHB 1589)	Clean energy	Supporting Washington's clean energy economy and transitioning to a clean, affordable, and reliable energy future.	S Ways & Means	Nguyen		
SB 5770	Property tax	Providing state and local property tax reform.	S Ways & Means	Pedersen		
SSB 5784	Deer & elk crop damage	Concerning deer and elk damage to commercial crops.	S Ways & Means	Van De Wege		
SB 5813	Agricultural instruction	Mandating instruction on agricultural literacy for students in grades seven through 12.	S EL/K-12	Dozier		
SB 5915 (HB 2454)	Ag. crop products/tax ex.	Extending an existing hazardous substance tax exemption for certain agricultural crop protection products that are temporarily warehoused but not otherwise used, manufactured, packaged, or sold in the state of Washington.	S Ways & Means	Torres		
SB 5939	Livestock wolf predation	Protecting livestock from wolf predation.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Wagoner		
SSB 5972	Neonicotinoid pesticides	Concerning the use of neonicotinoid pesticides.	S Ways & Means	Liias		
SB 6001 (SHB 2021)	Firearm disposition	Concerning the disposition of privately owned firearms in the custody of state or local government entities or law enforcement agencies.	S Law & Justice	Lovick		
SB 6004 (HB 1902)	Firearms/purchase & transfer	Enhancing requirements for the purchase or transfer of firearms.	S Law & Justice	Liias		
SB 6036 (HB 2147)	Agriculture pests & diseases	Concerning agriculture pest and disease response.	S Ways & Means	Muzzall		
SB 6043 (HB 2165)	Recreational use fees	Concerning the authority of the department of natural resources to determine recreational use fees for activities on agency-managed public lands.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Salomon		
SB 6052 (HB 2232)	Petroleum product supply	Concerning petroleum products supply and pricing.	S Environment, E	Nguyen		
SB 6058 (SHB 2201)	Carbon market linkage	Facilitating linkage of Washington's carbon market with the California-Quebec carbon market.	S Environment, E	Nguyen		
SB 6112	Donated food items/B&O tax	Authorizing a business and occupation tax credit for the cost of donated food items by grocery stores and other food retailers.	S Ways & Means	Lovick		
SB 6121 (HB 2483)	Biochar production	Concerning biochar production from agricultural and forestry biomass.	S Environment, E	Van De Wege		
SSB 6140	Intensive rural development	Concerning limited areas of more intensive rural development.	S Rules 2	Short		
SB 6143	Salmon habitat planning	Concerning local salmon habitat recovery planning in critical areas.	S Ag/Water/Natur	Salomon		
SB 6166 (HB 2302)	Pesticide application comm.	Extending the pesticide application safety committee.	S Rules 2	Saldana		

SB 6219	Agritourism	Promoting agritourism.	S Loc Gov, Land	Warnick		
SB 6259	Livestock market sales	Concerning special sales at public livestock markets.	S Ag/Water/N atura	Warnick		
SB 6266 (SHB 2118)	Firearms dealers	Protecting the public from gun violence by establishing additional requirements for the business operations of licensed firearms dealers.	S Law & Justice	Pedersen		
SB 6290	Agricultural real estate	Concerning ownership of agricultural real estate.	S Law & Justice	Wagoner		

Legislative Department

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