



Session Watch

Monday, January 28, 2025 (day 15 of the 120-day Session)

Legislative Session Officially Underway

The first weeks of the 69th Legislative Session are in the books and so far, things are off to a bustling start. The weather has been cold, but dry, around the capital as we get through the formalities of a legislative session after a gubernatorial election. Swearing-in ceremonies, formal balls, committee appointments, new staff, and new rules.

The 2025 legislative session is moving at a pace expected in a budget year.

We now have two weeks of committee hearings, votes and meetings behind us. To illustrate the pace of the session, so far 513 Senate bills and 698 House bills as well as hundreds of resolutions, memorials and Gubernatorial appointments have been introduced.

You can view the entire session committee schedule here [Committee Schedules](#), [Agendas](#), and [Documents](#). And you can always follow along with committee hearings at home or in your office by going to [TVW.Org](#).

Last session a large part of the Washington State Grange advocacy efforts was around many of the same topic areas.

In the bill list below, you will see several other bills of interest as well as others that we are tracking as well. There is policy around agriculture overtime relief, collective bargaining for cannabis agriculture workers, wolf/predator regulation, equipment tax exemptions, Firearm requirements and restrictions, benefits for striking employees, B&O tax among other topics. Over the course of the session please reach out to the Grange legislative team with policy topics of interest, bills of interest and anything you may be hearing.

For direct engagement with your legislators you can find your local representatives with this [online tool](#), and you can find their [contact information here](#) as well as their staff. Reach to me anytime at legislative@wa-grange.org

Capital “Improvement” Projects Update

The process for advocating for Grange capital budget requests has taken a slight change this year as we will go directly to our legislators for the asks as opposed to a “block grant” approach. A message has gone out to all Grange halls who originally applied through the State Grange process last year. The message included a link to the new portal where Grange’s can apply directly to their legislators via the online application.

This must be completed immediately if you are hoping for legislative grant monies from the 2025 legislative session. This should also be completed prior to legislative day, February 4th if you are planning to come to Olympia to meet.

If you sent a paper application into the Grange last year and were not included in that email, please reach out to us immediately for instructions on how to proceed.

Grange Legislative Day

Join us February 4th at 8:00am for this year’s Legislative Day. With already over 70 members signed up for the event, this should be our best yet legislative day. We will have a full day of speakers, meetings with legislators, hearings, capital tours, and much more. 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. Registration closes this Friday so please do not wait!

Washington State Grange Legislative Advisory Committee Meetings Set:

- Monday, February 3 at 6pm
- Monday, February 17 at 6pm
- Monday, March 3 at 6pm
- Monday, March 17 at 6pm
- Monday, April 7 at 6pm
- Monday, April 21 at 6pm

Please feel free to join us while we discuss current legislative activities in the 2025 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 your 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/>

Upcoming Events

Environment, Energy & Technology (Senate) - SHR 1 and Virtual J.A. Cherberg - 1/28 @ 1:30pm

•[SB 5284](#) - Public Hearing - Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes. (Remote Testimony Available).

Environment & Energy (House) - HHR B and Virtual JLOB - 1/28 @ 4:00pm

•[HB 1409](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning the clean fuels program. (Remote Testimony Available).

Environment, Energy & Technology (Senate) - SHR 1 and Virtual J.A. Cherberg - 1/29 @ 8:00am

•[SB 5058](#) - Public Hearing - Implementing strategies to achieve higher recycling rates within Washington's existing solid waste management system. (Remote Testimony Available).

Agriculture & Natural Resources (Senate) - SHR 1 and Virtual J.A. Cherberg - 1/30 @ 1:30pm

•[SB 5165](#) - Exec Session - Concerning compensation in frontier counties for deer and elk damage.

•[SB 5343](#) - Exec Session - Concerning the northeast Washington wolf-livestock management account.

Civil Rights & Judiciary (House) - HHR A and Virtual JLOB - 1/31 @ 10:30am

•[HB 1163](#) - Exec Session - Enhancing requirements relating to the purchase, transfer, and possession of firearms.

•[HB 1132](#) - Exec Session - Enhancing public safety by limiting bulk purchases and transfers of firearms and ammunition.

•[HB 1152](#) - Exec Session - Enhancing public safety by establishing secure storage requirements for firearms in vehicles and residences.

WASHINGTON STATE GRANGE BILL TRACKING REPORT

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position	Priority
HB 1071 (SB 5058)	Recycling rates	Implementing strategies to achieve higher recycling rates within Washington's existing solid waste management system.	H Env & Energy	Fey		
HB 1118	Firearm rights restoration	Concerning restoration of the right to possess a firearm.	H Civil R & Judi	Simmons		
HB 1132	Bulk firearm purchases	Enhancing public safety by limiting bulk purchases and transfers of firearms and ammunition.	H Civil R & Judi	Farivar		
SHB 1141 (SB 5468)	Ag. cannabis workers	Concerning collective bargaining for agricultural cannabis workers.	H Rules R	Ortiz-Self		
SHB 1149 (SB 5376)	Cruelty to animals	Preventing cruelty to animals.	H Rules R	Hackney		
HB 1150 (SB 5284)	Solid waste management	Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes.	H Env & Energy	Berry		
HB 1152	Firearm storage	Enhancing public safety by establishing secure storage requirements for firearms in vehicles and residences.	H Civil R & Judi	Doglio		
HB 1163 (SB 5140)	Firearm purchase	Enhancing requirements relating to the purchase, transfer, and possession of firearms.	H Civil R & Judi	Berry		
HB 1173 (SB 5447)	High-hazard facility wages	Concerning wages for journeypersons in high-hazard facilities.	H Rules R	Bronoske		
HB 1181	Labor standards	Concerning labor standards and the Washington minimum wage act.	H Labor & Workpl	Mena		
HB 1184	Overtime exemption	Creating a narrow exemption from overtime provisions for certain nonprofits and small businesses.	H Labor & Workpl	Schmidt		
HB 1197 (SB 5166)	Operating budget, supp.	Making 2023-2025 fiscal biennium second supplemental operating appropriations.	H Approps	Ormsby		
HB 1198 (SB 5167)	Operating budget	Making 2025-2027 fiscal biennium operating appropriations.	H Approps	Ormsby		
HB 1218	Competency eval. & restor.	Concerning persons referred for competency evaluation and restoration services.	H Civil R & Judi	Farivar		
HB 1311	Gray wolves	Concerning the implementation of the recommendations of the department of fish and wildlife regarding the gray wolf.	H Ag&Nr	Engell		
HB 1320	Business & occupation tax	Modifying business and occupation tax rates to fund programs and services to benefit Washingtonians.	H Finance	Street		
HB 1409	Clean fuels program	Concerning the clean fuels program.	H Env & Energy	Fitzgibbon		

HB 1442 (SB 5354)	Gray wolf management	Providing flexibility for the department of fish and wildlife to collaborate with local governments to manage gray wolves.	H Ag&Nr	Abell		
HB 1588 (SB 5474)	Organic, etc. agriculture	Expanding opportunities for organic, regenerative, climate-smart, and sustainable producers.	H Ag&Nr	Bernbaum		
HB 1597 (SB 5487)	Agricultural overtime	Authorizing agricultural employers to select 12 weeks a year to employ workers for up to 50 hours a week before overtime applies.	H Labor & Workpl	Dent	Support	
SB 5023 (HB 1561)	Domestic workers	Providing labor market protections for domestic workers.	S Labor & Comm	Saldana		
SB 5033	Biosolids/PFAS chemicals	Concerning sampling or testing of biosolids for PFAS chemicals.	S Environment, En	Wilson		
SB 5041	Unemp ins/strikes & lockouts	Concerning unemployment insurance benefits for striking or lockout workers.	S Labor & Comm	Riccelli		
SB 5055	Agritourism	Promoting agritourism in Washington.	S Loc Gov	Warnick	Support	
SB 5056	WSP firearms records system	Concerning Washington state patrol providing firearm background checks when state record systems are unavailable.	S Law & Justice	Wagoner		
SB 5057	Agricultural real estate	Concerning ownership of agricultural real estate.	S Law & Justice	Wagoner	Support	
SB 5058 (HB 1071)	Recycling rates	Implementing strategies to achieve higher recycling rates within Washington's existing solid waste management system.	S Environment, E	Chapman		
SB 5074	Turfgrass seed contracts	Concerning the payment of turfgrass seed contracts.	S Ag & Natural R	Boehnke	Support	
SB 5078	Agricultural real estate	Concerning ownership of agricultural real estate.	S Law & Justice	Boehnke	Support	
SB 5092	Farm machinery sales tax	Providing a sales and use tax exemption for qualifying farm machinery and equipment.	S Ag & Natural R	Boehnke	Support	
SSB 5098	Weapons in certain areas	Restricting the possession of weapons on the premises of state or local public buildings, parks or playground facilities where children are likely to be present, and county fairs and county fair facilities.	S Ways & Means	Valdez		
SSB 5099	Firearms dealers	Protecting the public from gun violence by establishing additional requirements for the business operations of licensed firearms dealers.	S Ways & Means	Lovick		
SB 5117	Agriculture impacts	Protecting agriculture.	S Ag & Natural R	Muzzall	Support	

SB 5140 (HB 1163)	Firearm purchase	Enhancing requirements relating to the purchase, transfer, and possession of firearms.	S Law & Justice	Lias		
SB 5165	Deer and elk damage	Concerning compensation in frontier counties for deer and elk damage.	S Ag & Natural R	Short		
SB 5166 (HB 1197)	Operating budget, supp.	Making 2023-2025 fiscal biennium second supplemental operating appropriations.	S Ways & Means	Robinson		
SB 5167 (HB 1198)	Operating budget	Making 2025-2027 fiscal biennium operating appropriations.	S Ways & Means	Robinson		
SB 5171	Wolf predation	Concerning livestock damage due to wolf predation.	S Ag & Natural R	Short		
SB 5284 (HB 1150)	Solid waste management	Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes.	S Environment, E	Lovelett		
SB 5343	NE WA wolf-livestock account	Concerning the northeast Washington wolf-livestock management account.	S Ag & Natural R	Short		
SB 5350	Firearm background checks	Concerning background check system for firearms transfers.	S Law & Justice	Fortunato		
SB 5354 (HB 1442)	Gray wolf management	Providing flexibility for the department of fish and wildlife to collaborate with local governments to manage gray wolves.	S Ag & Natural R	Short		
SB 5384	Riparian programs review	Conducting a review of Washington's riparian programs.	S Ag & Natural R	Dozier		
SB 5385 (HB 1641)	Definition of timberland	Amending the definition of timberland for purposes of determining the real property excise tax for a governmental entity.	S Ag & Natural R	Chapman		
SB 5443	Fund-raising events	Concerning requirements for fund-raising events of bona fide charitable or nonprofit organizations.	S Business, Fin	Cortes	Support	
SB 5447 (HB 1173)	High-hazard facility wages	Concerning wages for journeypersons in high-hazard facilities.	S Labor & Comm	Saldana		
SB 5474 (HB 1588)	Organic, etc. agriculture	Expanding opportunities for organic, regenerative, climate-smart, and sustainable producers.	S Ag & Natural R	Lias		
SB 5485	Livestock identification	Concerning livestock identification.	S Ag & Natural R	Warnick	Support	
SB 5487 (HB 1597)	Agricultural overtime	Authorizing agricultural employers to select 12 weeks a year to employ workers for up to 50 hours a week before overtime applies.	S Labor & Comm	King	Support	

Legislative Department

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