



Whatcom County Legislative Report

February 22, 2025

SESSION CUTOFF CALENDAR

February 21, 2025	Policy Committee Deadline
February 28, 2025	Fiscal Committee Deadline
March 12, 2025	Chamber-of-Origin Deadline
April 2, 2025	Opposite Chamber Policy Committee Deadline
April 8, 2025	Opposite Chamber Fiscal Committee Deadline
April 16, 2025	Opposite Chamber Deadline
April 27, 2025	Session adjourns - Sine Die

Introduction

Friday, February 21 marked the Legislature’s first cutoff deadline. Bills that were not approved by a policy committee prior to the cutoff are no longer under consideration unless they have been deemed “necessary to implement the budget” (NTIB), which means they are exempt from cutoff deadlines. [A list of bills that have died at cutoff can be found later in this report.](#) Bills with fiscal implications have already been or will be under consideration in the House Appropriations Committee, the House Capital Budget Committee, the House Finance Committee, the House Transportation Committee, the Senate Ways & Means Committee, and the Senate Transportation Committee. Fiscal committees have until Friday, February 28 to consider bills prior to the fiscal committee cutoff deadline.

Once bills pass through the policy committee and, if applicable, the fiscal committee, they are referred to the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee serves as a gatekeeping and prioritization function. Members of the Rules Committee select which bills are placed on the floor calendar to potentially be voted on. The merits of bills are not debated within the Rules Committee.

If you would like to keep track of bill action in real-time, some of our partner organizations offer online bill tracking for bills that they are following. You can find the Washington State Association of Counties bill tracker [here](#), and the Association of Washington Cities bill tracker [here](#).

County Priorities

Funding for Indigent Defense

[HB 1592](#) - Concerning public defense services is WSAC's proposed legislation that would enact a 50% cost share between the State and counties. The bill was voted out of the House Civil Rights and Judiciary Committee this week and moved to the Appropriations Committee. It remains unclear whether the Legislature intends to provide the funding necessary to implement this bill and further movement of the bill may not be indicative of the Legislature's intent on the topic.

Swift Creak Cleanup

Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Ecology are under a consent decree to mitigate asbestos at Swift Creek. The County is in partnership with Ecology on the next stage of project planning. This week Josh had a conversation with Ecology's Legislative Liaison about the request and agreed to work together when proposed budgets are released.

Nooksack Basin Water Rights Adjudication

State-mandated water rights adjudication for the Nooksack basin has created administrative, financial and capacity burdens on Whatcom County. The County requests the legislature to fund the following: construction of courthouse space and expanded court administrative costs; establishment of federal settlement framework (collaborative solutions table); technical assistance for affected water users; and funding for technical studies and collaborative process.

This week the capital budget request for additional courthouse space was submitted to Sen. Shewmake, Rep. Timmons and Rep. Ramel.

Regulatory Framework and Operating Funds for Crisis Relief Center

The County is collaborating with community partners to develop the design and operating model for one of the first such crisis relief centers in the State. [HB 1813](#), which creates a carve-out of Medicaid dollars for the behavioral health crisis system which could be used to fund services at 23-hour centers, was voted out of committee with only one negative vote. The bill has been scheduled for a hearing next week in the Appropriations Committee on Wednesday.

Behavioral Care Center – Prosecutorial Division Program

Whatcom County is planning for a Behavioral Care Center to divert individuals from jail into secured therapeutic care as an alternative to incarceration. This week the capital budget request was submitted to Sen. Shewmake and Rep. Ramel.

Youth Co-Occurring Treatment Facility

The County is exploring multiple opportunities to specifically address the critical need for youth-focused co-occurring treatment services, integrating mental health and substance use care. This week the County sent a letter to the House members representing the 40th and 42nd Legislative Districts asking them to support a budget proviso directing the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization to complete an assessment of the need and possible options. Josh spoke with Rep. Lekanoff, Rep. Ramel, and Rep. Rule following that letter. We will be following up with specific budget language.

Other Priorities

We are tracking bills that have been introduced relating to the County’s other priorities, as well as budget items for which we do not have additional updates at this time.

Bill Priorities

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
<p>County treasurer costs Authorizing cost recovery for county treasurers.</p> <p><u>HB 1042</u> Allows county treasurer to retain a portion of the revenue collected on behalf of other taxing districts to compensate for the cost of administration. WACO priority bill.</p>	H Finance	Wylie	Support
<p>County REET admin. fees Concerning county fees for administration of the real estate excise tax.</p> <p><u>HB 1044</u> Increases REET fees to support County Assessor and Treasurer. These revenues are placed into two new county funds, which are not subject to appropriation by the county legislative authority. The bill was passed out of the committee.</p>	H Finance	Wylie	Support
<p>County ferry contracts Concerning county ferry maintenance and repair contracts.</p> <p><u>HB 1054</u> Allows unit priced contracts for the repair of county ferries to be for a term of 10 years, rather than limited to 1 year. The bill was unanimously voted off the House floor on February 12.</p>	S Loc Gov	Leavitt	Support
<p>Criminal justice assistance Concerning the county criminal justice assistance account and municipal criminal justice assistance account.</p> <p><u>HB 1428</u> The bill increases funding for the County and Municipal Criminal Justice Assistance Accounts annually. This is an AWC priority, and WSAC supports the bill as well.</p>	H Approps	Rule	Support

Public defense services H Approps Peterson Support
Concerning public defense services.

[SHB
1592](#)
(SB
5404)

This is a WSAC priority and AWC supports. Starting in 2026, funding for public defense services will be shared by the state, counties, and cities. The state will be responsible for 50 percent of the cost, and eligible counties shall not be responsible for public defense services costs that exceed the five-year average stated in the bill. Counties with a population density of less than 50 persons per square mile may request that the Office of Public Defense assume responsibility for providing all or a designated portion of the public defense services. A substitute bill was passed by the committee that requires the state to also fund public defense for cities. The bill has been referred to the Appropriations Committee.

Crisis co-response H Rules R Salahuddin Support
Enhancing crisis response services through co-response integration and support.

[SHB
1811](#)

Develops a statewide internal peer support program to assist co-response professionals who have faced life-threatening or traumatic incidents on the job. A substitute bill was passed by the committee. WSAC supports.

Medical assist reprocurement H Approps Macri Support
Concerning the reprocurement of medical assistance services, including the realignment of behavioral health crisis services for medicaid enrollees.

[SHB
1813](#)

A substitute bill passed out of the committee with numerous changes to the original bill. WSAC priority.

Affordable housing REET H Finance Ramel Support
Allowing counties or cities to impose a real estate excise tax for the purpose of developing affordable housing, subject to the will of the voters.

[HB
1867](#)

If a county has not imposed the excise tax by January 1, 2027, the legislative authority of a city within that county may impose an excise tax on the purchase and sale of real property in the city at the rate of 0.5 percent of the selling price. The proceeds of the tax must be used exclusively for the development of affordable housing. WSAC supports the bill.

Water adjudication in WRIA 1 H Ag&Nr Shewmake Support
Concerning filing of adjudication claims for precode uses of groundwater and surface water in the water resource inventory area 1 water rights adjudication.

[SSB
5212](#)

Notwithstanding existing time restrictions for registering an existing water right, filing an adjudication claim form for an adjudication filed in WRIA 1 after June 1, 2023, satisfies the statement of claim filing requirements under current law. An amended bill was passed by the committee.

This Week's Hearings

Short descriptions of these bills can be found in the bill lists that follow. Please tell us if you would like us to take action at any of these hearings.

Monday, February 24

[HB 1044](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning county fees for administration of the real estate excise tax. (Support)

[HB 1996](#) - Public Hearing - Authorizing a qualified county to impose a tax for the funding of behavioral health diversion from the criminal justice system.

[2SHB 1102](#) - Public Hearing - Increasing support and services for veterans.

[SSB 5098](#) - Public Hearing - 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.

[SSB 5296](#) - Public Hearing - Improving outcomes for individuals adjudicated of juvenile offenses by increasing opportunities for community placement options and refining procedural requirements.

[SSB 5284](#) - Public Hearing - Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes.

[SSB 5502](#) - Public Hearing - Concerning recycling and waste reduction.

Notable Dead Bills

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Sponsor
HB 1158 (SB 5428)	Community inclusion services	Improving community inclusion services for individuals with developmental disabilities.	Leavitt
HB 1206 (SB 5679)	Multifamily tax exemption	Expanding eligibility to utilize the multifamily tax exemption program to all counties required or choosing to plan under RCW 36.70A.040.	Low
HB 1436 (SB 5285)	Law enf. officers/increase	Incentivizing cities and counties to increase employment of commissioned law enforcement officers.	Abell
HB 1478	Death cert./subst. homicide	Modifying the manner of death listed in a death certificate following a conviction of controlled substance homicide.	Lekanoff
HB 1630	Livestock methane emissions	Concerning livestock methane emissions.	Parshley
HB 1654	International fire code	Concerning the administration of the international fire code.	Donaghy

HB 1835	Cannabis licensing/zoning	Aligning cannabis licensing decisions by the liquor and cannabis board with local zoning ordinances.	Burnett
HB 1920	Juvenile access to attorneys	Concerning juvenile access to attorneys when contacted by law enforcement.	Mendoza
HB 1987	Food security strategy	Developing a statewide food security strategy.	Reeves
SB 5087	CTC legal education programs	Establishing legal education programs at community and technical colleges.	Torres
SB 5154	County auditor duties	Clarifying the duties of county auditors.	Goehner
SB 5230	Juvenile attorney exceptions	Providing exceptions for juvenile access to attorney.	Wagoner
SB 5285 (HB 1436)	Law enf. officers/increase	Incentivizing cities and counties to increase employment of commissioned law enforcement officers.	Holy
SB 5384	Riparian programs review	Conducting a review of Washington's riparian programs.	Dozier
SB 5428 (HB 1158)	Community inclusion services	Improving community inclusion services for individuals with developmental disabilities.	Harris
SB 5475	Salmon recovery maintenance	Concerning maintenance for salmon recovery projects.	Dozier
SB 5699	Intensive rural development	Concerning limited areas of more intensive rural development.	Goehner
SB 5732	Housing supply/GMA	Creating greater accountability for increasing the supply of housing consistent with growth management.	Braun

WSAC Legislative Agenda Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
HB 1206 (SB 5679)	Multifamily tax exemption Expanding eligibility to utilize the multifamily tax exemption program to all counties required or choosing to plan under RCW 36.70A.040.	H Finance Low
HB 1345	Detached ADU limits Establishing limitations on detached accessory dwelling units outside of urban growth areas.	H Rules R Low

[HB 1763](#) **Affordable housing funding** H Finance Parshley
 (SB 5576) Providing state funding for essential affordable housing programs.

[SHB 1813](#) **Medical assist reprocurement** H Approps Macri
 Concerning the reprocurement of medical assistance services, including the realignment of behavioral health crisis services for medicaid enrollees.
 A substitute bill passed out of the committee with numerous changes to the original bill. WSAC priority.

[SSB 5470](#) **Detached ADUs** S Rules 2 Goehner
 Establishing limitations on detached accessory dwelling units outside urban growth areas.
 Allows counties to have detached accessory dwelling units outside of urban growth areas meeting certain requirements. The bill was passed by the Ways and Means Committee.

[ESB 5471](#) **Middle housing** S Passed 3rd Goehner
 Authorizing middle housing in unincorporated growth areas and unincorporated urban growth areas, certain limited areas of more intensive rural development, and fully contained communities.
 This is a WSAC priority bill. This bill passed off the Senate floor unanimously with floor amendments. The amendments separates requirements for counties authorizing middle housing in limited areas of more intensive development and in UGAs into respective sections; requires that middle housing in designated UGAs be served by water and sewer services; and specifies that counties planning under the GMA may authorize middle housing types on each parcel that permits single family residences in designated UGAs

[SB 5576](#) **Affordable housing funding** S Ways & Means Lovelett
 (HB 1763) Providing state funding for essential affordable housing programs.

Bills of Interest

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Position</u>
<u>HB 1002</u> PTSD/coroners & examiners	H Rules R	Abbarno		

Recognizing posttraumatic stress disorder as an occupational disease for county coroners, examiners, and investigative personnel.

Increasing occupational diseases increases health care costs borne by county budget. The bill was passed out of the committee.

Gov. services/tribal lands S Loc Gov Abbarno

Concerning extending governmental services from cities to tribal lands.

[HB](#)
[1039](#)
[\(SSB](#)
[5301\)](#)

The Legislature is providing a clear statement of the authority for a city and tribal government to mutually agree to contract for urban governmental services beyond the urban growth boundary of the city to tribal lands with urban development and be in compliance with the provisions of the GMA. The bill was unanimously voted off the House floor on February 13.

Rangeland fire pilot H Approps Dent

Concerning a rangeland fire protection association pilot project.

[SHB](#)
[1048](#)

Allows DNR to implement a five-year pilot project in Eastern Washington in order to assess the effectiveness of rangeland fire protection associations in. The bill passed out of the committee with an amendment that recommends a minimum level of training level.

Access to federal funds H Approps Barnard

Promoting economic development by increasing support for local communities to access federal funds.

[SHB](#)
[1057](#)

Amends 2024's "Match Act" so that local communities are eligible to apply for state grant funding to satisfy federal grant match requirements, rather than only associate development organizations (ADOs) only being eligible. Changes the grant criteria Commerce must use in making match grants. WSAC supports.

Law enforcement funding H Finance Walen

Incentivizing cities and counties to attract and retain commissioned law enforcement officers.

[HB](#)
[1095](#)

County local roads H Rules R Low

Concerning county local roads.

[SHB](#)
[1098](#)
[\(SB](#)
[5544\)](#)

Requires county matching funds, to be determined by the county road administration board. Creates a new program through the motor vehicle county local road trust account. WSAC supports this bill. The boards priority considerations, would be: (a) Investment in overburdened communities; (b) Environmental health disparities as identified in the environmental health disparities map (c) Location on or providing direct access to a federally recognized Indian reservation; (d) Sustaining the structural, safety, and operational integrity of the road; (e) Vehicle and pedestrian collision experience; (f) Access improvements

to a community facility; and (g) Identified need in a state, regional, county, or community plan. (2) Proposed projects must be included in the respective county's six-year program. An amended bill passed out of the committee that adds tribal lands to the preexisting requirements.

Veteran support and services

H Finance

Shavers

Increasing support and services for veterans.

[2SHB
1102](#)

This bill will expand the Veterans Officer Service Program, which assists veterans with applying to available veteran's services. It would also focus on underserved counties, where the percentage of the veteran population receiving federal disability or pension compensation is below the national average. The bill passed out of the committee.

[SHB
1125
\(SB
5269\)](#)

Sentence modification

H Approps

Simmons

Providing judicial discretion to modify sentences in the interest of justice.

WSAC is opposed.

Solid waste management

H Approps

Berry

Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes.

[SHB
1150
\(SSB
5284\)](#)

The bill requires producers to participate in Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) by January 1, 2026, to manage the lifecycle of packaging and paper products, from design to disposal. Key provisions include setting performance targets for recycling and composting, establishing an advisory council, and conducting statewide needs assessments and equity studies. AWC is supportive. A substitute version of the bill passed out of the committee that makes numerous changes to the original bill.

Local gov. design review

H Rules R

Walén

Concerning local government design review.

[SHB
1160](#)

Local governments may not require more than one architectural drawing for housing development permit applications.

Property tax exemptions

H Finance

Shavers

Expanding access to the property tax exemption program for seniors, people retired due to disability, and veterans with disabilities.

[HB
1165](#)

Exemptions are done by adjusting income thresholds based on county median household income.

Building codes

H Approps

Duerr

[SHB
1183](#)

Concerning building code and development regulation reform.

The bill eases certain requirements for building affordable housing but also prohibits specific design and parking requirements for affordable housing projects. WSAC concerned.

Housing & shelters

H Rules R

Peterson

Concerning compliance with siting, development permit processes and standards, and requirements for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, or indoor emergency shelters.

[2SHB
1195
\(SB
5497\)](#)

An amended bill was passed out of the committee. The amended bill prohibits a local comprehensive plan or development regulation from denying or precluding a permit application for STEP housing only if the project is located in a residential or commercial zone within an UGA that includes or is contiguous with a city. The substitute bill also prohibits a city from approving a permit application for STEP housing in any area zoned for industrial use. The substitute bill requires a city or county to review for compliance, rather than approve, any permit application for STEP housing using an administrative process only. It also extends the time by which a city or county must amend a zoning ordinance or development regulation after a Commerce finding of noncompliance with STEP housing requirements from 60 to 120 days. The Appropriations Committee passed the bill out with an additional amendment that makes the dispute resolution services subject to appropriations. AWC remains opposed. WSAC is neutral.

Multifamily tax exemption

H Finance

Low

Expanding eligibility to utilize the multifamily tax exemption program to all counties required or choosing to plan under RCW 36.70A.040.

[HB
1206
\(SB
5679\)](#)

The bill will expand the multifamily tax exemption program's eligibility to more counties in Washington State by broadening the definition of "county" to include any that are required or choose to plan under the GMA. The bill simplifies the criteria for designating residential targeted areas by removing specific conditions. This is a WSAC priority.

Salmon recovery projects

H Approps

Tharinger

Extending a program to streamline the environmental permitting process for salmon recovery projects.

[HB
1208
\(SSB
5155\)](#)

The bill makes the Habitat Recovery Pilot Program a permanent program and creates an expedited review process for applications. The bill passed out of the committee.

Wildland urban interface

H Rules R

Duerr

Implementing the International Wildland Urban Interface Code.

[SHB
1254](#)

The bill allows the adoption of the IWUIC's technical provisions, in portions or in its entirety, upon the completion of statewide wildfire hazard and risk maps,

removing previous limitations and detailed construction requirements. A substitute version of the bill was passed out of the committee.

Document recording fee admin H 2nd Reading Schmidt

Concerning administrative costs associated with the document recording fee.

[SHB 1260](#)

Allows cities, meeting certain criteria, to a portion of document recording fee surcharge. A substitute bill was unanimously passed by the committee. The substitute restructures the language related to the distribution of the homelessness document recording surcharge, and makes certain changes depending on if cities within a county do or do not operate their own homeless housing program.

[SHB 1261](#)
(SB 5479)

Open space incidental use H Rules R Low

Providing tax relief for certain incidental uses on open space land.

Adds agrotourism land to the list of open space land that can receive tax relief. A substitute bill was passed out of the committee

[SHB 1303](#)
(SB 5380)

Environmental justice H Approps Mena

Increasing environmental justice by improving government decisions.

The Department of Ecology shall add environmental justice as an element of the environment within their rules and as a component of the environmental checklist. A substitute version of the bill passed out of the committee.

[SHB 1322](#)
(SSB 5296)

Juvenile offenses H Approps Goodman

Improving outcomes for individuals adjudicated of juvenile offenses by increasing opportunities for community placement options and refining procedural requirements.

A substitute bill was passed by the committee that made significant changes to the underlying bill. The bill has been referred to the Appropriations Committee. WSAC has concerns.

[HB 1334](#)

Property tax revenue growth H Finance Pollet

Modifying the annual regular property tax revenue growth limit.

Changes property tax revenue growth limits by incorporating inflation and population changes into the calculation, with a maximum cap of 3 percent. The bill redefines "inflation" as the annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for urban consumers in the western region and introduces a new definition for "population change" based on official estimates. The bill

removes the prior mechanism allowing taxing districts to adopt lower limit factors starting in 2026. This is an AWC priority bill.

Even-numbered year elections H Rules R Gregerson

[SHB 1339](#)
[\(SB 5373\)](#) Shifting general elections for local governments to even-numbered years to increase voter participation.

Allows cities, towns, and certain special purpose districts to move elections to even-numbered years. The bill was passed out by the Appropriations Committee.

Respite care H Approps Barnard

[SHB 1344](#) Increasing access to respite care for those with intellectual or developmental disabilities and their caregivers.

The bill passed out of the committee with an amendment that limits the scope to apply only to the Basic Plus waiver, and caps the portion of the Basic Plus aggregate service budget that may be used for respite care. WSAC supports.

Detached ADU limits H Rules R Low

[HB 1345](#) Establishing limitations on detached accessory dwelling units outside of urban growth areas.

Authorizes detached ADUs outside of UGAs under certain circumstances. The bill passed out of the policy committee. This is a WSAC priority bill.

Criminal insanity H Approps Thai

[SHB 1359](#) Reviewing laws related to criminal insanity and competency to stand trial.

A substitute version of the bill was passed out of the committee that added members to the task force and additional technical changes. WSAC supports.

Senior citizens local tax H Finance Orcutt

[HB 1373](#) Imposing a local sales tax wholly credited against the state sales tax to support programs for senior citizens.

Public property regulations H Approps Gregerson

[HB 1380](#) Allowing objectively reasonable regulation of the utilization of public property.

Allows individuals to sue any city or county for injunctive or declaratory relief to challenge the objective reasonableness if that city or county that has a law that regulates the acts of sitting, lying, sleeping, or keeping warm and dry outdoors on public property that is open to the public must be objectively reasonable as to time, place, and manner. The bill was passed out of the committee. AWC and WSAC are opposed.

[SHB 1391](#)
[\(SSB 5426\)](#) **Court alternatives/youth** H Approps Cortes
Improving developmentally appropriate alternatives for youth outside the formal court process.

[HB 1397](#)
Local property tax levies H Finance Orcutt
Imposing local property tax levies wholly credited against the state property tax to provide support and services for veterans' assistance and for persons with developmental disabilities or mental health needs.

The levy must be deducted from the amount of tax otherwise required to be collected or paid to the department of revenue for the state levy at no cost to the county. WSAC supports the bill.

[HB 1400](#)
[\(SB 5224\)](#) **Officer certification** H Rules R Goodman
Concerning officer certification definitions, processes, and commissioning.

WSAC supports.

[SHB 1427](#)
Peer support specialists H Approps Davis
Concerning certified peer support specialists.

A substitute bill was passed out of the committee on February 18. WSAC supports.

[HB 1435](#)
[\(SSB 5060\)](#) **Law enf. hiring grants** H Approps Abell
Creating a law enforcement hiring grant program.

Creates a grant program for local and tribal law enforcement hiring. WSAC supports. This is an AWC priority bill.

[HB 1436](#)
[\(SB 5285\)](#) **Law enf. officers/increase** H Finance Abell
Incentivizing cities and counties to increase employment of commissioned law enforcement officers.

Allows cities and counties to impose a sales and use tax to hire law enforcement officers. It also allows the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission to expand basic law enforcement training classes. WSAC and AWC support this bill.

[SHB 1443](#)
[\(SSB 5332\)](#) **Mobile dwellings** H Approps Gregerson
Concerning mobile dwellings.

Any city or county must allow at least one home on wheels on each lot zoned for residential use if the certain conditions are met. A substitute bill was passed out of

the committee that removed certain language requiring cities and counties to use standard permitting and inspection procedures for new utility hookups for mobile dwellings and allows a city or county to prohibit mobile dwellings located in designated critical areas, natural resource lands, or shorelines of the state.

[SHB
1448](#)

Local elections H Approps Gregerson
Increasing representation and voter participation in local elections.

Creates an opt-in option for ranked choice voting in local elections. It also creates a uniformed ranked choice process if implemented. A substitute bill was passed out of the committee which makes numerous changes to the original bill

[HB
1454](#)

Drug task force funding H Approps Griffey
Funding multijurisdictional drug task forces.

Appropriates \$7 million from the general fund to the Criminal Justice Training Commission for the purpose of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to administer a grant program for multijurisdictional drug task forces.

[SHB
1488
\(SSB
5510\)](#)

Conservation district limits H 2nd Reading Berg

Concerning conservation district revenue limitations.

Counties would be limited to deducting either the actual costs incurred, or 1 percent of the total amount collected, whichever is lower.

[HB
1494](#)

Multiple-unit dwellings/tax H Finance Ramel

Concerning the property tax exemptions for new and rehabilitated multiple-unit dwellings in urban centers.

Modifies property tax exemption criteria for multi-unit housing. It maintains existing exemption periods of 8, 12, and 20 years but imposes stricter affordability requirements, particularly for 12- and 20-year exemptions, and includes provisions for covenants or deed restrictions to ensure compliance.

[SHB
1497](#)

Waste material management H Approps Doglio

Improving outcomes associated with waste material management systems.

Among the various aspects of the bill, the Department of Agriculture must develop an education and outreach program focused on residential organics, participation and contamination reduction; requirements regarding the distribution of certain grants; creates container and collection consistency across the state, with certain exceptions; and establishes waste collection rules for private and public entities. A substitute bill passed out of the committee that numerous changes to the original bill.

<u>SHB 1499</u>	Legal financial obligations	H Approps	Reed
	Concerning legal financial obligations.		
<u>SHB 1529</u>	Cities/county road resources	H Rules R	Griffey
	Increasing opportunities for cities to utilize county resources for road construction and maintenance.		
	Counties, through agreements with cities and towns, can provide repairs, striping, maintenance, and construction work on roads throughout the county in order to keep the highway system in a state of good repair. The bill was passed out of the committee with an amendment that narrows the exemption from public works requirements.		
<u>SHB 1543</u> (SSB 5514)	Clean buildings standard	S Environment, En	Doglio
	Increasing compliance pathways for the clean buildings performance standard.		
	This would expand compliance options for clean building performance standards by introducing alternative metrics, conditional compliance pathways, and flexibility for building owners. Allows the Department of Commerce to adopt alternative metrics for energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, provides extensions for compliance deadlines under specific conditions, and ensures that energy efficiency requirements do not compromise the historical integrity of registered historic buildings. Penalties incurred from non-compliance may not be passed along to tenants. AWC supports the bill. The bill was unanimously voted off the House floor.		
<u>SHB 1607</u> (SSB 5502)	Recycling & waste reduction	H Approps	Stonier
	Concerning recycling and waste reduction.		
	This would create a statewide recycling refund program. The bill requires producers of glass, plastic, and metal beverage containers to join a nonprofit Recycling Refund Producer Responsibility Organization to implement and finance the program. A substitute bill was passed by the committee that made numerous changes to the original bill. WSAC and AWC supports the bill.		
<u>SHB 1625</u> (SB 5631)	Back country search & rescue	H Approps	Stuebe
	Supporting back country search and rescue organizations and volunteers through the creation of the back country search and rescue grant program.		
	In addition to the grant program, the bill allows counties, cities, and towns to		

recover back country search and rescue costs that are not reimbursed through other sources. A substitute bill passed out of the committee unanimously.

[HB
1631](#)

State marine forest H Rules R Nance
Establishing the state marine forest.

Designates bull kelp forests as the official marine forest of the state of Washington. The bill passed out of the committee on February 7.

[SHB
1690](#)

Water and sewer systems H Approps Wylie
Assessing the state's existing water and sewer systems.

Requires the Department of Ecology and the Department of Health to jointly conduct and produce a continuing and comprehensive assessment of the maintenance and upgrade needs for water and sewer systems throughout the state. A substitute bill was unanimously passed out by the committee.

[HB
1694](#)

City & county REET revenues H Finance Thai

Concerning revenues from the excise tax on real estate transactions imposed by cities and counties under RCW 82.46.035.

Allows REET revenues generated by the tax may be used towards planning, acquisition, construction, reconstruction, repair, replacement, rehabilitation, or improvement of facilities for those experiencing homelessness and affordable housing projects that are supported through an interlocal housing collaboration. AWC supports this bill.

[HB
1702](#)

Public utility tax, counties H Finance Wylie

Authorizing counties to impose a public utility tax.

Allows the legislative authority of any county to impose an excise tax on the privilege of engaging in business as a utility. WSAC supports.

[HB
1704](#)

Cannabis revenue/local gov. H Approps Schmidt

Increasing cannabis revenue distributions to local governments.

Increases the cannabis revenue distributions for cities and counties, and decreases the revenue for the state general fund.

[HB
1717
\(SB
5591\)](#)

Affordable housing/sales tax H Finance Leavitt

Creating a sales and use tax remittance program for affordable housing.

The program allows eligible organizations to apply for a 50% remittance of state and local sales and use taxes paid on qualifying affordable housing projects, provided at least 50% of residential units are dedicated to low-income households for a minimum of 40 years. Local governments may adopt the program through a public process, and remitted funds must be used for affordable housing-related activities. AWC and WSAC support this bill.

	Affordable housing funding	H Finance	Parshley
<u>HB 1763</u> <u>(SB 5576)</u>	Providing state funding for essential affordable housing programs.		
	Beginning January 1, 2026, there is levied and collected a special excise tax of six percent on each retail sale of the furnishing of lodging constituting a short-term rental subject to tax to help fund affordable housing projects. This is a WSAC priority.		

	Local real estate excise tax	H Finance	Paul
<u>HB 1791</u>	Increasing the flexibility of existing funding sources to fund public safety and other facilities by modifying the local real estate excise tax.		
	Expands the permissible uses of local REET revenues to include affordable housing, homelessness facilities, and community services, in addition to traditional capital projects. AWC supports this bill.		

	Children services/local tax	H Finance	Tharinger
<u>HB 1805</u>	Creating a local sales and use tax to fund services for children and families that enhance well-being, promote mental health, and provide early interventions.		
	Authorizes counties in Washington to impose a local sales and use tax of up to 0.01 percent to fund services for children and families.		

	Local law enf. officers	H Finance	Abell
<u>HB 1896</u>	Increasing local law enforcement officers by authorizing a local sales and use tax credited against the state portion to hire additional officers and increasing the number of basic law enforcement courses offered by the criminal justice training commission.		
	Allows a county or city to impose a sales and use tax to hire additional law enforcement officers and increases the basic law enforcement courses for 2026 and 2027. This is an AWC priority bill.		

	Transp. project permitting	H Transportation	Richards
<u>HB 1902</u>	Convening a work group regarding the streamlining of permitting for transportation projects.		

The DOT, in consultation with the Department of Ecology, shall convene a work group to develop recommendations to streamline the permitting of transportation projects. WSAC supports.

Court unification task force H Approps Taylor

Establishing the court unification task force.

[SHB 1909](#)

Creates the Court Unification Task Force to study the inefficiencies and inequities resulting from disparate local court rules, funding, and technology. The bill was passed out of the committee with amendments that modify the makeup of the task force as well as technical changes.

Juvenile rehabilitation H Approps Callan

Concerning management of individuals who are placed in juvenile rehabilitation institutions.

[SHB 1917](#)

The bill would develop rules related to the safe operational capacity of juvenile rehabilitation institutions and revise those rules as necessary. It also prohibits DCY from transferring an individual to a Department of Corrections facility. The committee passed a substitute bill that made various changes to the original bill.

Transportation revenue H Transportation Fey

Establishing new sources of transportation revenue based on motor vehicle use of public roadways.

[HB 1921 \(SB 5726\)](#)

This would establish a road usage charge that would be phased in over a period of years. This is a WSAC and AWC priority bill.

Project permit definition H Rules R Duerr

Concerning the definition of project permit and project permit application.

[SHB 1935](#)

"Project permit" or "project permit application" does not include building permits. WSAC supports the bill.

Group B public water systems H Rules R Engell

Reducing satellite management agency requirements for simple group B public water systems.

[HB 1947](#)

No new group B public water systems may be approved or created unless it is owned or operated by a satellite system management agency consistent with the requirements applicable to group A public water systems. The bill was unanimously voted out of the committee. WSAC supports the bill.

[HB 1996](#) **Behavioral health diversion** H Finance Farivar
Authorizing a qualified county to impose a tax for the funding of behavioral health diversion from the criminal justice system.

[SSB 5005](#) **Jail system** S Ways & Means Saldana
(HB 1424)
Concerning transparency, public safety, and independent oversight of the city, county, and regional jail system in Washington state.
Establishes the Jail Oversight Board within the Office of the Governor. The Board is tasked with monitoring jails, publishing compliance reports, and maintaining a public database of jail data. An amended version of the bill passed out of the policy committee. The amended version changes the Jail Oversight Board to the Washington Jail Council (WJC) and makes other changes to the duties and requirements of the WJC.

[SSB 5014](#) **Election security** S 2nd Reading Boehnke
Concerning election security.
Request legislation from the Secretary of State. The bill would create greater cybersecurity protections. A substitute version was passed by the committee.

[SSB 5031](#) **Confinement health coord.** S Ways & Means Wilson
Concerning health care coordination regarding confined individuals.
Creates the Council of Health Care Coordination for Youth and Adults in Facilities of Confinement within the Department of Health. The Council will review current law and practices and provide a report of recommendations to the Legislature. The bill was passed out of the committee.

[SSB 5052](#) **Law enf. juvenile contact** S Rules 2 Salomon
Modifying law enforcement ability to contact juvenile witnesses and victims not suspected of criminal involvement or activity.
This bill expands the circumstances in which law enforcement can question a juvenile without a lawyer present. A substitute bill was passed by the committee that prohibits law enforcement from questioning a juvenile who is detained based on probable cause unless they have been given access to counsel and adds clarifying language.

[SSB 5055](#) **Agritourism** S Rules 2 Warnick
Promoting agritourism in Washington.
Allows cities and counties to permit agritourism and agritourism activities as accessory uses on agricultural lands, such as direct sales, educational activities,

and seasonal outdoor events. A substitute version of the bill passed out of the committee with clarifying language and removes certain provisions from the original version of the bill.

<p><u>SSB 5060</u> (HB 1435)</p>	<p>Law enforcement personnel</p>	<p>S Ways & Means</p>	<p>Holy</p>	<p>Creating a law enforcement hiring grant program.</p>
<p>Creates a grant program for local and tribal law enforcement hiring. WSAC supports and this is an AWC priority. The substitute bill passed out of the committee unanimously and will allow the grants to cover co-responders, and it now contains additional criteria a city must meet to qualify for funding.</p>				
<p><u>SSB 5098</u></p>	<p>Weapons in certain areas</p>	<p>S Transportation</p>	<p>Valdez</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>This expansion aims to reduce firearms in areas where children and public employees are likely to be present, while allowing exemptions for law enforcement officers, and guns shows held at county grounds. WSAC opposes this bill. An amended bill passed out of the committee that exempts individuals who maintain a valid concealed pistol license from the weapons prohibitions.</p>				
<p><u>SSB 5117</u></p>	<p>Agriculture impacts</p>	<p>S Ways & Means</p>	<p>Muzzall</p>	<p>Protecting agriculture.</p>
<p>The Office of Financial Management must establish a mechanism for the determination of the fiscal impact of proposed legislation that would change regulatory costs for those engaged in agriculture. A substitute bill was by the committee.</p>				
<p><u>SSB 5147</u></p>	<p>Criminal insanity</p>	<p>S Ways & Means</p>	<p>Torres</p>	<p>Reviewing laws related to criminal insanity and competency to stand trial. WSAC supports.</p>
<p><u>SSB 5148</u> (HB 1235)</p>	<p>GMA housing element</p>	<p>S Ways & Means</p>	<p>Bateman</p>	<p>Ensuring compliance with the housing element requirements of the growth management act. The Department of Commerce must review whether the housing element or housing development regulations comply with the laws and regulations. A county</p>

or city that is required or chooses to plan under the GMA must submit any housing element required and any housing development regulations adopted or amended on or after the effective date of this proposed new section to the Department. AWC is concerned, trying to fix it. A substitute version was passed by the committee that allows a city or county to submit any housing element or development regulations to Commerce for review. It also allows cities and counties 60 days to amend their housing element and regulations to address any deficiency noted by Commerce in its compliance decision.

[SSB 5155](#)
(HB 1208)

Salmon recovery projects S Ways & Means Salomon

Extending a program to streamline the environmental permitting process for salmon recovery projects.

The bill makes the Habitat Recovery Pilot Program a permanent program and creates an expedited review process for applications. An amended bill was passed out of the committee. The amended version clarifies that the habitat restoration permit pathway program is an optional permit pathway, and it adds projects under regional recovery organizations or regional salmon recovery organizations.

[ESSB 5184](#)
(HB 1299)

Minimum parking requirements S Passed 3rd Bateman

Concerning minimum parking requirements.

The bill limits mandatory parking requirements with certain exemptions. The Senate passed the bill off the floor with several amendments. These amendments include allowing a county to require off-street parking if the county's roads are not developed to the standards for streets; if a city or county believes the parking limitations will be unsafe, they can submit to Commerce to review to be exempt from the bill; and the bill only applies to cities with a population of over 20,000. WSAC has concerns.

[SSB 5197](#)

Local government planning S Rules 2 Salomon

Ensuring that local government planning complies with the growth management act.

Establishes that the GMHB may not issue a finding of compliance unless the county or city has amended the portion of the plan or regulations that were found noncompliant, and the resulting plan or regulations subject to the noncompliance order are compliant with the requirements of the GMA. The substitute bill passed out of the committee.

[SSB 5215](#)

Vehicle debris escape S Rules 2 Shewmake

Concerning debris escaping from vehicles on public highways.

Modifies existing law regarding that all vehicles on public highways in Washington

state must secure and cover their loads to prevent debris-related accidents. An amended bill was passed by the committee that, among other things, restores the current law language around cleaning the public highway of all fallen and current penalty law language.

[SB 5224](#)
(HB 1400)

Officer certification

H Community
Safet

Lovick

Concerning officer certification definitions, processes, and commissioning.

WSAC supports.

[SSB 5284](#)
(SHB 1150)

Solid waste management

S Ways &
Means

Lovelett

Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes.

The bill requires producers to participate in Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) by January 1, 2026, to manage the lifecycle of packaging and paper products, from design to disposal. Key provisions include setting performance targets for recycling and composting, establishing an advisory council, and conducting statewide needs assessments and equity studies. A substitute bill that makes numerous changes to the original version was passed by the committee.

[SSB 5296](#)
(SHB 1322)

Juvenile offenses

S Ways &
Means

Wilson

Improving outcomes for individuals adjudicated of juvenile offenses by increasing opportunities for community placement options and refining procedural requirements.

The bill makes various changes for juvenile placement options and refining procedural requirements. A substitute bill passed out of the committee with numerous changes.

[SSB 5301](#)
(HB 1039)

Gov. services/tribal lands

S Rules 2

Braun

Concerning extending governmental services from cities to tribal lands.

The Legislature is providing a clear statement of the authority for a city and tribal government to mutually agree to contract for urban governmental services beyond the urban growth boundary of the city to tribal lands with urban development and be in compliance with the provisions of the GMA. The bill passed out of the committee with an amendment that removed the provision that the city be located in a county touching the Columbia River with a population of greater than 500,000.

[SB 5317](#)

EFSEC/services by local gov.

S 2nd Reading

Goehner

WSAC priority. Exempting local governments providing certain services for projects under the jurisdiction of the energy facility siting evaluation council from certain appeals.

The bill passed out of the committee with no amendments. WSAC priority bill

[SSB 5332](#)
(SHB 1443)

Mobile dwellings

S Ways &
Means

Shewmake

Concerning mobile dwellings.

Any city or county must allow at least one home on wheels on each lot zoned for residential use if the certain conditions are met. An amended bill was passed by the committee.

[SB 5389](#)

Liquor revenue/local gov.

S Ways &
Means

Wagoner

Restoring liquor sales revenue distributions to local governments.

Changes how liquor sales revenue is distributed. The amount remaining after distributions is 50 percent to the general fund of the state, 10 percent to the counties of the state, and 40 percent to the incorporated cities and towns of the state.

[SSB 5426](#)
(SHB 1391)

Court alternatives/youth

S Ways &
Means

Wilson

Improving developmentally appropriate alternatives for youth outside the formal court process.

[SB 5461](#)

Intensive rural dev. areas

S Rules 2

Lovelett

Concerning residential development in limited areas of more intensive rural development.

A county may authorize development of four units or six units if at least two units are affordable housing on lots zoned for residential use in limited areas of more intensive rural development. WSAC supports this bill. The bill was passed out of the committee.

[SSB 5470](#)

Detached ADUs

S Rules 2

Goehner

WSAC priority. Establishing limitations on detached accessory dwelling units outside urban growth areas.

Allows counties to have detached accessory dwelling units outside of urban growth areas meeting certain requirements. The bill was passed by the Ways and Means Committee.

[ESB 5471](#)
(HB 1840)

Middle housing

S Passed 3rd

Goehner

Authorizing middle housing in unincorporated growth areas and unincorporated urban growth areas, certain limited areas of more intensive rural development, and fully contained communities.

This is a WSAC priority bill. This bill passed off the Senate floor unanimously with floor amendments. The amendments separates requirements for counties authorizing middle housing in limited areas of more intensive development and in UGAs into respective sections; requires that middle housing in designated UGAs be served by water and sewer services; and specifies that counties planning under the GMA may authorize middle housing types on each parcel that permits single family residences in designated UGAs

[SB](#)
[5479](#)
(SHB
1261)

Open space incidental use

S Ways & Means

Lias

Providing tax relief for certain incidental uses on open space land.

Adds agrotourism land to the list of open space land that can receive tax relief. The bill was passed out of the committee.

[SSB](#)
[5502](#)
(SHB
1607)

Recycling & waste reduction

S Ways & Means

Robinson

Concerning recycling and waste reduction.

This creates a statewide beverage container recycling refund program. The program mandates a 10-cent refund for beverage containers, including glass, plastic, and metal containers of one gallon or less, with producers required to join a nonprofit Recycling Refund Producer Responsibility Organization (RRPRO) to implement and finance the system by 2026. A substitute bill that makes numerous changes to the original version was passed by the committee. AWC supports the bill.

[SSB](#)
[5510](#)
(SHB
1488)

Conservation district limits

S Rules 2

Shewmake

Concerning conservation district revenue limitations.

The bill eliminates the maximum annual per-parcel rate charge for conservation districts. A substitute bill was passed out of the committee. The substitute limits the maximum annual per parcel amount for conservation district rates based off of population. It also and removes the requirement that a county treasurer and a county assessor must retain the lesser of one percent or actual costs incurred for collecting conservation district rates and charges and instead reverts the provision back to current law.

[SSB](#)
[5514](#)
(SHB
1543)

Clean buildings standard

S Rules 2

Shewmake

Increasing compliance pathways for the clean buildings performance standard.

This would expand compliance options for clean building performance standards by introducing alternative metrics, conditional compliance pathways, and flexibility for building owners. Allows the Department of Commerce to adopt alternative metrics for energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, provides extensions for compliance deadlines under specific conditions, and ensures that energy

efficiency requirements do not compromise the historical integrity of registered historic buildings. A substitute bill was passed out of the committee. AWC and WSAC support the bill.

[SB 5544](#)
(SHB 1098)

County local roads	S Transportation	Liias
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Concerning county local roads.

[SB 5547](#)

Cannabis revenue/local gov.	S Ways & Means	Wagoner
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WSAC priority. Increasing cannabis revenue distributions to local governments.

The bill would increase cannabis revenue distribution to cities and counties every two years, while decreasing the amount for the state general fund. This is a WSAC priority bill and AWC supports.

[SB 5567](#)
(HB 1925)

Natural resources careers	S Ways & Means	Nobles
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Expanding secondary training for careers in natural resources and conservation.

The OSPI can partner with private and nonprofit partners to expand training for careers in sustainable natural resource conservation for youth aged 14-17. The bill passed out of the committee unanimously and was referred to the Ways & Means Committee.

[SB 5576](#)
(HB 1763)

Affordable housing funding	S Ways & Means	Lovelett
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Providing state funding for essential affordable housing programs.

Beginning January 1, 2026, there is levied and collected a special excise tax of six percent on each retail sale of the furnishing of lodging constituting a short-term rental subject to tax to help fund affordable housing projects. This is a WSAC priority and AWC supports this bill too.

[SSB 5587](#)

Affordable housing dev.	S Ways & Means	Cleveland
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Concerning affordable housing development in counties not closing the gap between estimated existing housing units within the county and existing housing needs.

The bill modifies \reporting elements to include an analysis of estimated existing housing units and needs, as well as county progress in meeting certain housing goals. A substitute bill was passed out of the committee that removed the provision related to prohibiting the denial of an affordable housing development and added alternative data thresholds to be used.

Land use permitting workload S Rules 2 Salomon

Streamlining and clarifying local governments' land use permitting workloads.

[SSB 5611](#)

Expands the definition of "commercially zoned property", prohibits additional land use requirements for condominiums or cooperatives. It also restricts local governments from denying or imposing conditions on permits for residential housing in UGAs if required timelines are not met, with certain exceptions. A substitute version was passed by the committee that modifies the conditions under which a local government may deny or approve project permits, and the time periods for certain local government actions.

Residential development S Ways & Means Salomon

Concerning the development of clear and objective standards, conditions, and procedures for residential development.

[SSB 5613](#)

Requires cities and counties to adopt clear and objective standards, conditions, and procedures for residential development under the GMA.

Impact fees S Rules 2 Salomon

Concerning impact fees.

[SSB 5614](#)

Revises the framework for deferring impact fees for single-family residential construction by replacing the existing lien system with a promissory note requirement. The bill passed out of the committee with an amendment that removed the annual report requirement. WSAC has concerns.

Cannabis local excise tax S Ways & Means Wagoner

Authorizing a local excise tax on cannabis.

[SB 5650](#)

Counties and cities in Washington can impose a local excise tax of up to two percent on retail cannabis sales, subject to voter approval. Counties have the initial authority to impose the tax, but if they fail to do so by, cities within those counties may enact the tax under similar conditions.

Housing shortage/local share S Ways & Means Goehner

Eliminating each local government's proportional share of Washington's housing shortage.

[SB 5659](#)

Local jurisdictions can approve sufficient housing construction to eliminate their proportional share of the statewide housing shortage. The Department of Commerce will determine each jurisdiction's proportional share. The bill passed out of the committee unanimously.

Utility relocation S MacEwen
Transportation

Concerning utility relocation.

[SB
5690](#)

DOT is directed to adopt and maintain agency procedures to proactively provide utility providers with information about planned state fish barrier removal projects with at least one year of advance notice whenever feasible. The DOT is also directed to request any available federal funding for fish barrier removal projects and to include utility relocation costs within the request for federal funds.

Mental health treatment/tax S Ways & Means King

[SB
5696](#)

Concerning the sales and use tax supporting chemical dependency and mental health treatment programs.

Allows for sales and use tax to support chemical dependency and mental health treatment programs, including for new construction of facilities.

Local gov. hearing examiners S Rules 2 Salomon

Concerning local government hearing examiners.

[SSB
5719](#)

Requires all counties, cities, and code cities in Washington to adopt a hearing examiner system for quasi-judicial land use decisions. A substitute version of the bill was passed by the committee that restores provisions allowing the local legislative authority to vest in a hearing examiner the power to hear and decide those issues it believes should be reviewed and decided by a hearing examiner. WSAC has concerns.

Transportation revenue S Ramos
Transportation

[SB
5726
\(HB
1921\)](#)

Establishing new sources of transportation revenue based on motor vehicle use of public roadways.

This would establish a road usage charge that would be phased in over a period of years. This is a WSAC and AWC priority bill.

Housing permitting S Rules 2 Gildon

Encouraging construction of affordable housing by streamlining the permitting process.

[SB
5729](#)

Allows building permit applications submitted with plans, computations, or specifications prepared, stamped, and signed by a professional engineer or architect, is deemed complete by the city or county building department. The bill was unanimously passed out of the committee with no amendments. WSAC opposes the bill.

Invol. treatment counsel S Ways & Means Dhingra

Concerning appointed counsel for individuals detained under the involuntary treatment act.

[SSB 5745](#)

Counties where someone is detained must administer appointed counsel services, the bill also allows counties to seek reimbursement for legal service costs and authorizes the Health Care Authority to contract with the Office of Public Defense for public defense services at the county's request. A substitute bill passed out of the committee with clarifying language.

[SB 5762](#)

988 line tax S Ways & Means Orwall

Increasing the statewide 988 behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention line tax.

Delegation Bills

<u>Bill Details</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Position</u>
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<u>SHB 1144</u>	Superior court judge/Skagit	H Rules R	Lekanoff
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Adding an additional superior court judge in Skagit county.

There would be a total of five judges on the Skagit Superior Court. The bill passed out of the committee.

<u>HB 1287</u>	Health info./coordination	S Health & Long-T	Rule
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Addressing the disclosure of health information for care coordination.

<u>SHB 1291</u>	Maternity services costs	H 2nd Reading	Rule
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Concerning cost sharing for maternity services.

<u>HB 1318</u>	Children's diapers sales tax	H Finance	Rule
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Providing a sales and use tax exemption for children's diapers.

<u>HB 1330</u> (<u>SB 5086</u>)	PEBB & SEBB consolidation	H Approps	Lekanoff
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Consolidating the public employees' benefits board and the school employees' benefits board.

<u>SHB 1353</u>	ADU self-certification	H Rules R	Ramel
	Establishing a self-certification program for accessory dwelling unit project permit applications.		
<u>HB 1379</u> (SB 5084)	Health carrier reporting	H Rules R	Lekanoff
	Concerning health carrier reporting.		
<u>SHB 1418</u>	PTBA governing body members	H Rules R	Timmons
	Adding two voting members that are transit users to the governing body of public transportation benefit areas.		
<u>SHB 1514</u>	Low carbon thermal energy	H Approps	Ramel
	Encouraging the deployment of low carbon thermal energy networks.		
<u>HB 1540</u> (SB 5304)	Homelessness/tribal colleges	S Higher Ed & Wor	Timmons
	Expanding eligibility for the students experiencing homelessness and foster youth program to an accredited tribal college.		
<u>SHB 1544</u>	Child abuse risk assessment	H Rules R	Rule
	Improving the risk assessment process used when investigating alleged child abuse and neglect referrals.		
<u>HB 1554</u> (SB 5543)	College bound scholarship	H Approps	Timmons
	Providing equity in eligibility for the college bound scholarship.		
<u>SHB 1566</u> (SSB 5395)	Prior authorization/health	H Approps	Rule
	Making improvements to transparency and accountability in the prior authorization determination process.		
<u>HB 1570</u> (SB 5119)	Academic employee bargaining	H Approps	Timmons
	Concerning collective bargaining for certain employees who are enrolled in academic programs at public institutions of higher education.		
<u>SHB 1583</u>	Traditional health/medicaid	H Approps	Lekanoff
	Concerning medicaid coverage for traditional health care practices.		

<u>HB 1667</u>	Cancer education programs Concerning comprehensive cancer education programs.	H Approps	Rule
<u>SHB 1673</u> <u>(SSB 5466)</u>	Electric transmission system Improving reliability and capacity of the electric transmission system in Washington state. Creates the Washington Electric Transmission Authority (WETA) within the Department of Commerce to address the need for expanded and modernized electric transmission infrastructure in support of the state's clean energy and decarbonization goals. A substitute bill was passed by the committee with numerous changes to the roles and responsibilities of the Department of Commerce in relation to WETA.	H Approps	Ramel
<u>HB 1734</u>	Outdoor learning grants Concerning outdoor learning grants to expand and improve the delivery of outdoor learning opportunities.	H Cap Budget	Rule
<u>SHB 1736</u>	Missing persons Concerning procedures and requirements for reporting and investigating missing persons.	H Approps	Lekanoff
<u>HB 1751</u>	Course materials sales tax Establishing a sales and use tax exemption for required course materials at public institutions of higher education. Creates an exemption from sales and use tax for sales of required course materials purchased by a student enrolled at an institution of higher education. WSAC opposes.	H Finance	Timmons
<u>SHB 1768</u>	Manuf. housing purchases Preserving manufactured housing communities by limiting purchases by certain entities.	H Approps	Lekanoff
<u>SHB 1829</u> <u>(SB 5585)</u>	Tribal warrants Concerning tribal warrants. Allows tribal courts to file warrants with state superior courts. A substitute version of the bill was passed by the committee.	H Rules R	Lekanoff
<u>HB 1836</u>	Local news journalism Supporting local news journalism.	H Finance	Ramel

(SSB
5400)

[HB
1910](#)

Teacher-librarian funding	H Approps	Rule
Increasing funding for teacher-librarians.		

[SHB
1926](#)

Home care aides	H Approps	Timmons
Regarding training and testing of home care aides.		

[HB
1960](#)

Renewable energy	H Finance	Ramel
Encouraging renewable energy in Washington through tax policy and investment in local communities.		

[HB
1965](#)

Bullion tax preference	H Finance	Ramel
Modifying the tax preferences for precious metal bullion and monetized bullion.		

[SSB
5174](#)

Wood burning devices	S Ways & Means	Shewmake
Concerning wood burning devices.		

[SSB
5175](#)

(HB
1789)

Photovoltaic modules	S Ways & Means	Shewmake
Concerning the photovoltaic module stewardship and takeback program.		

[SSB
5214](#)

(SHB
1388)

Mobile market programs	H EL & Human Svc	Shewmake
Concerning mobile market programs.		

[SB
5234](#)

Snowmobile registration fees	S Rules 2	Shewmake
Concerning snowmobile registration fees.		

[SSB
5252](#)

Assembly halls/property tax	S Rules 2	Shewmake
Removing the acreage limit on the property tax exemption for nonprofit public assembly halls and meeting places.		
Removes the acreage limit on the property exemption for nonprofit assembly halls and meeting places. WSAC opposes.		

[SB
5259](#)

Commercial fishing bait tax	S Ways & Means	Shewmake
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Creating a sales and use tax exemption for bait purchased for commercial fishing.

[SB](#)
[5319](#)
([HB](#)
[1647](#))

Surface mine reclamation S Rules 2 Shewmake

Establishing surface mine reclamation permit fees.

[SSB](#)
[5359](#)
([HB](#)
[1328](#))

Clean energy development S Ways & Means Shewmake

Accelerating the development of clean energy and transmission.

The bill creates a framework for the State to provide the information, planning, and support needed to accelerate the pace of development for clean energy projects and electrical transmission facilities. A substitute bill was passed by the committee. The substitute bill removed the creation of the Clean Energy Development Office and instead establishes clean energy siting and development as a priority for the Department of Commerce, and it also creates a work group.

[SSB](#)
[5548](#)
([SHB](#)
[1788](#))

Workers' compensation S Ways & Means Shewmake

Concerning workers' compensation benefits.

[SB](#)
[5559](#)

UGA subdivision process S 2nd Reading Lovelett

Streamlining the subdivision process inside urban growth areas.

Streamlines the subdivision process in urban growth areas by establishing a framework for a "unit lot of subdivisions." The bill was passed out of the committee.

[SB](#)
[5581](#)
([HB](#)
[1992](#))

Safe system approach strat. S Transportation Shewmake

Implementing safe system approach strategies for active transportation infrastructure.

[SR](#)
[8607](#)

Public works board S Adopted Lovelett

Celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the public works board and public works assistance account.