

**CITY OF SEATTLE
2007 STATE LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN**

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SESSION PRIORITIES

Business & Occupation Apportionment Fix

SHB 2368 passed out of the Finance Committee on March 5. It is now in the Rules Committee. This bill would make technical changes to the municipal B & O model ordinance and change the apportionment allocation formula for services. Seattle is projecting a \$21 million loss due to the new apportionment methods and this fix would decrease the loss by approximately 25%. **Seattle supports this bill.**

Education

SHB 1663 defines key Early Learning components of Washington Learns. SHB 1663 is in Appropriations. The Senate companion bill, **SB 5828**, is in the Rules Committee awaiting consideration by the full Senate. **Seattle supports these bills.**

Annexation Incentives

SHB 1139 provides an incentive for Seattle to annex the North Highline area, assuming the voters approve a future measure. This bill would provide up to approximately \$5.6 million per year with 20% going to the City of Burien. This bill passed out of the Finance Committee on March 5 and is now in the Rules Committee. **Seattle supports this legislation.**

Civil Rights

HB 1472 creates an Advisory Committee to study disproportionality in the Children's Welfare System and to make recommendations to end it. The bill passed in the House and is scheduled for a public hearing in the Senate. **Seattle supports this bill.**

SB 5336, protecting individuals in domestic partnerships by granting certain rights and benefits, passed out of the Senate by a vote of 28 to 19. The House Judiciary Committee will hear the bill on March 16. **Seattle supports this measure.**

SSB 5530, changing requirements for the restoration of the right to vote for people convicted of felonies, passed out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee and is now in Rules. **Seattle supports this measure.**

Environment

ESSB 6001, mitigating the impacts of climate change, passed the Senate by a vote of 35-13. This bill sets the State up to begin the reduction of greenhouse gas. Disappointingly, in an administrative mistake on the Senate Floor, an amendment was adopted that restricted the offset program to be used only for the electricity generation, which is more limited than our program. We will work with members of the House to restore the language. **Seattle supports this measure.**

E2SHB 1303, encouraging the use of cleaner energy, passed the House by a vote of 79-18. This bill promotes the use of clean fuels, including expediting the replacement of school buses. **Seattle supports this measure.**

Infrastructure/Finance

2SHB 1825 was heard and passed out of the Appropriations Committee and is on the floor calendar. This bill has been amended to remove the dedicated funding for public health. This will be an ongoing budget discussion item. **SSB 5729** did not pass out of the Ways & Means Committee. **Seattle supports these bills.**

HB 1430, allowing jurisdictions greater access to New Market Tax Credits, passed out of the House unanimously and has been referred to the Senate Economic Development, Trade & Management Committee. The companion bill, **SB 5630**, is in the Rules Committee.

SSB 5089, which would implement the Streamlined Sales Tax provisions, passed out of the Senate on Feb. 2. It received a hearing in the House Finance Committee on Feb. 14, and passed out of committee on Feb. 23. It is now in the House Rules Committee. **Seattle supports this bill.**

Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness

HB 1201 extends Medicaid to youth in foster care through age 21. The bill was passed the House by a vote of 95-1 and is scheduled for a public hearing in the Senate Health & Long-Term Care Committee. **Seattle supports this bill.**

E2SHB 1359 provides affordable housing. This bill passed the House by a vote of 57-39.

2SHB 1922 provides housing to youth in transition, including those in foster care. The bill passed out of the House by a vote of 64-32 and is scheduled for a public hearing in the Senate Human Services & Corrections. **Seattle supports this bill.**

HB 1921 provides funds to Transitional Housing Operations and Rent (THOR). The funds provide case management and rental assistance to homeless families and individuals, or to those at-risk of becoming homeless. The bill did not pass out of the Appropriations Committee. **Seattle supports this bill.**

HB 1115 provides comprehensive planning at the local level funded by an additional \$10 document recording fee. The bill did not pass out of the Appropriations Committee. **Seattle supports this bill.**

Transportation

SHB 1858 would amend the Transportation Benefit District statute to provide councilmanic authority over the first \$20 of the vehicle license fee. This bill is eligible for a floor vote. **Seattle supports this bill.**

SSB 5803 was amended and would create an 11-member Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) consisting of eight elected and three County Executive appointed officials. The RTC would be responsible for creating a regional investment mobility plan, which must include highway and public transportation projects as well as sufficient revenues to finance the project. This plan would be put to the local voters for approval. The Commission would also become the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The timing of this legislation would allow for the joint Sound Transit/RTID vote in November 2007. This bill is eligible for a floor vote.

SHB 1588, which provides mobility education to students in driver training programs, passed out of the House by a vote of 67-30.

SHB 1396, which provides a single ballot proposition for regional transportation investment districts and regional transit authorities at the 2007 general election, passed out of the House by a vote of 96-1. It has been referred to the Senate Transportation Committee.

POLICY ISSUES

Elections & General Government

SHB 1551, allowing the use of public funds to finance campaigns for local office, passed out of the State Government & Tribal Affairs Committee and is now eligible for a floor vote. **SSB 5278** is also eligible for a floor vote. **Seattle supports these bills.**

Energy

SSB 5881, modifying water power license fees, passed the Senate 39 to 9 (1 excused). This bill increases the fee to cover the expenses by state agencies during the federal licensing process. This fee was established in 1929 and has not been raised since. **Seattle supports this measure.**

ESHB 1251, addressing the issue of stolen metal property, passed the House unanimously. This bill addresses the increased theft of metal (such as copper wire and guard rails). **Seattle supports this measure.**

Growth Management, Land Use and Annexation

ESSB 5558, regulating house-banked social card games, passed out of the Senate unanimously. The companion bill, **HB 1477**, did not make it out of the House Commerce & Labor Committee.

Health Care

SB 5093 provides health care to all children up to 300% of the federal poverty level by 2010. The House passed the bill by a vote of 68-28 and it will be signed by the Governor this next week. **Seattle supports this bill.**

HB 1088 improves mental health services to children. The House passed the bill by a vote of 92-4 and it will move to the Senate Human Services & Corrections Committee. **Seattle supports this bill.**

Libraries

HB 2058, administering the Washington talking book and Braille library, did not make it out of the House Capital Budget Committee. **Seattle opposed this bill.**

Public Safety

SSB 5718, imposing penalties for engaging in the commercial sexual abuse of minors, passed out of the Senate unanimously. **Seattle supports this measure.**

ESHB 1030, enhancing the penalty for eluding a police vehicle, passed the House unanimously. **Seattle supports this measure.**

2SHB 1811, regarding automatic sprinkler systems in nightclubs, passed the House unanimously. This bill pushes the date to have sprinklers installed to December 2009. It also provides the tax incentive to the lessee if they are not the owners of the property. **Seattle supports this measure.**

Water Stewardship

E2SSB 6117, regarding reclaimed water, passed the Senate by a vote of 31-14. This bill states reclaimed water would be a fundamental use of water. Seattle is not taking a position on this bill.