



## CITY OF SEATTLE 2013 STATE LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

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### Week Overview

The legislature continued to hear and pass bills in committees, in anticipation of the April 3<sup>rd</sup> cutoff date next week for bills to be moved out of the policy committees of the opposite house. On March 28<sup>th</sup>, Governor Inslee released his budget priorities. The document proposes extending some taxes, eliminating the out of state sales tax exemption and making some cuts, while allocating \$1.3 billion in additional funding for K-12 education and early learning. Also, on March 28<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Sean Whitcomb with the Seattle Police Department spoke during a work session on concerns related to the federal Secure Communities program.

### Areas of Primary Focus

**Protecting the most vulnerable families and individuals**

#### Affordable Housing

**[HB 1563](#): Concerning the disposition of surplus property for the development of affordable housing.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Jessyn Farrell

**Co-Sponsors:** Wylie, McCoy, Orwall, Seaquist, Bergquist, Springer, Pedersen, O'Ban, Kochmar, Moeller, Fitzgibbon, Appleton, Ryu, Stanford, Maxwell, Jinkins, Hunt, Fey, Pollet, Goodman, Habib, Santos

**Summary:** HB 1563 would allow surplus property to more easily be used for the development of affordable housing. The bill was amended in the Senate committee so that it only applies to local transit agencies and removes the ability to donate the land.

**Status:** HB 1563 passed out of the House in a 51-46 (1 excused) vote on March 6<sup>th</sup>. The bill was voted out of the Senate Financial Institutions, Housing, and Insurance Committee on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### Education

**[HB 1680](#): Implementing strategies to close the educational opportunity gap, based on the recommendations of the educational opportunity gap oversight and accountability committee.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos

**Co-Sponsors:** Upthegrove, Maxwell, Ryu, Bergquist

**Summary:** HB 1680 adopts policies and programs to help close the educational opportunity gap in early learning, third grade reading, and attendance.

**Status:** HB 1680 passed the House 54 to 44. The Senate heard the bill in the Early Learning & K-12 Committee on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**[HB 1505](#)**: Raising the minimum state funding assistance percentage for the school construction assistance program.

**Sponsor:** Representative Jamie Pedersen

**Co-Sponsors:** Carlyle, Warnick, Lytton, Pollet, Maxwell, Santos, Dunshee, Farrell, Sullivan, Hunter, Fitzgibbon, Cody, Kagi, Van De Wege, Tharinger, Bergquist, Hudgins, Tarleton, Goodman, Pettigrew, Springer, Ryu, Morrell

**Summary:** HB 1505 would assist local school districts with construction capacity by requiring the Superintendent of Public Instruction to set the minimum funding assistance percentage at 30 percent of project costs for the School Construction Assistance Program, instead of the current 20 percent.

**Status:** HB 1505 is still in committee.

**Companion Bill:** [SB 5642](#)

**Sponsor:** Senator David Frockt

**Co-Sponsors:** Murray, Nelson, Kohl-Welles, Hasegawa, Chase, Kline

**Status:** SB 5642 is still in committee.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

**[HB 1723](#)**: Concerning early learning opportunities.

**Sponsor:** Representative Ruth Kagi

**Co-Sponsors:** Walsh, Farrell, Maxwell, Roberts, Freeman, Goodman, Sawyer, Sullivan, Jinkins, Seaquist, Lytton, Haigh, Hunter, Morrell, Sells, Ryu, Morris, McCoy, Reykdal, Tarleton, Tharinger, Pollet, Fey, Moscoso, Bergquist, Ormsby, Santos

**Summary:** HB 1723 addresses funding for home visits to expectant mothers and parents of newborns, increasing subsidies for high quality child care, and expanding preschool education. **Status:** HB 1723 passed out of the House 59-38 (with one excused). The bill was voted out of in the Senate Early Learning & K-12 Committee on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

**City Position:** Seattle supports the policy of this legislation.

## **Transportation, Economic Development, and Infrastructure**

### Transportation Revenue

**[HB 1954](#)**: Proposes a statewide transportation package.

**Sponsor:** Representative Judy Clibborn

**Co-Sponsors:** Moscoso, Fey, Ryu, Riccelli, Farrell, Lias, Pollet, Ormsby, Tarleton, Roberts, Wylie, Morris, Bergquist, Moeller

**Summary:** This transportation proposal would raise approximately \$10 billion over the next ten years, primarily through a gas tax and a statewide MVET. The package would primarily fund large state projects with some revenue going to towards maintenance, transit, and local needs.

**Status:** This bill has not yet been heard and would be necessary to implement the budget.

### Local Transportation Options

**[HB 1959](#)**: Concerning local transportation options.

**Sponsor:** Representative Jessyn Farrell

**Co-Sponsors:** Fitzgibbon, Kagi, Pedersen, Bergquist, Pollet, Tarleton, Cody, Ryu, Fey

**Summary:** HB 1959 provides for a 1.5% MVET in King County and councilmanic authority for TBDs to increase vehicle fees from \$20 to \$40. The legislation would help preserve essential bus service in King County and provide needed resources to repair and maintain local roads and bridges.

**Status:** HB 1959 is considered necessary to implement the budget.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

## Capital Budget

### **HB 1089: Governor Gregoire's proposed capital budget.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Hans Dunshee

**Co-Sponsors:** Warnick

**Summary:** AWC testified on behalf of cities about the need to continue to fully fund MTCA. Governor Gregoire's proposed budget swept a significant portion of MTCA, which would result in fewer toxic cleanup projects being funded.

**Status:** This budget bill is in House Capital Budget Committee and will continue to be worked on through the session.

**Companion Bill:** **SB 5035**

**Sponsor:** Senator Jim Honeyford

**Co-Sponsors:** Nelson, Shin

**Status:** This budget bill is in Senate Ways and Means Committee and will continue to be worked on through the session.

## **Public Safety**

### **HB 1114: Addressing criminal incompetency and civil commitment.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Jamie Pedersen

**Co-Sponsors:** Rodne, Morrell, Nealey, Green, Jinkins

**Summary:** In previous iterations, these bills would have, in part, ensured that a state hospital evaluates defendants charged with serious non-felony crimes who have been found to be not competent to stand trial. On both bills, the City has testified to the need to make all resources for beds available for conducting these evaluations and potential treatments.

Due to fiscal concerns, this portion of the bill was removed in the substitute version that was passed out of the House Appropriations Committee, and the bill is currently silent on this issue. However, work on the fiscal note continues.

**Status:** HB 1114 passed out of the House in an 87-11 vote. The bill was heard in the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Companion Bill:** **SB 5176**

**Sponsor:** Senator Jim Hargrove

**Summary:** Due to fiscal concerns, this portion of the bill was removed in the version of the bill that was passed out of the House Judiciary Committee, and the bill is currently silent on this issue. However, work on the fiscal note continues.

**Status:** SB 5176 passed out of the Senate in a 49-0 vote. The bill was voted out of the House Judiciary Committee on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **HB 1045: Authorizing certain local authorities to establish maximum speed limits on certain non-arterial highways.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Cindy Ryu

**Co-Sponsors:** Angel, Moscoso, Clibborn, Upthegrove, Fitzgibbon, Lias, Pedersen, Stanford, Farrell, Morrell, Pollet, Bergquist, Fey

**Summary:** HB 1045 would allow cities to lower the speed limits on certain streets to 20 MPH.

**Status:** HB 1045 passed the House on a vote of 86 to 10 (with 2 excused). HB 1045 passed out of the Senate Transportation Committee on March 20<sup>th</sup> and is now in the Rules Committee.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

### **HB 1047: Concerning photographs, microphotographs, and electronic images from traffic safety cameras and toll systems.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Cathy Dahlquist

**Co-Sponsors:** Hurst, Magendanz

**Summary:** HB 1047 would allow images from traffic safety cameras to be used for prosecuting crimes if a warrant is obtained. Deputy Police Chief Nick Metz joined King County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Satterberg to give public testimony in support of this bill.

**Status:** The bill passed the House 78-18 and was referred to the Senate Law and Justice Committee.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

#### Human Trafficking

**SB 5488: Establishing an enhanced penalty for the use of an internet advertisement to facilitate the commission of a sex-trafficking crime.**

**Sponsor:** Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles

**Co-Sponsors:** Padden, Kline, Darneille, Fraser, Ranker, Keiser, Delvin, Carrell, McAuliffe, Chase, Conway

**Summary:** SB 5488 requires an additional fee of five thousand dollars per offense to be assessed on a person convicted of commercial sexual abuse of a minor, promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor, or promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor, when the court finds that an internet advertisement in which the victim of the crime was described or depicted was instrumental in facilitating the commission of the crime. Assistant Chief Dick Reed and Detective Todd Novidsedlak from SPD both testified on this bill in the Senate and House hearings.

**Status:** SB 5488 passed out of the Senate in a 49-0 vote. The bill was voted out of the House Public Safety Committee on March 21<sup>st</sup> and is now in Rules.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

**HB 1292: Vacating Prostitution Convictions.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Tina Orwall

**Co-Sponsors:** Goodman, Roberts, Appleton, Green, Hope, Kochmar, Moscoso, Jinkins, Uptegrove, Ryu

**Summary:** HB 1292 would allow victims to vacate prostitution convictions.

**Status:** This bill passed out of the House 91 to 1 with 6 excused. The bill has been referred to the Senate Law & Justice Committee.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

**SB 5308: Establishing the commercially sexually exploited children statewide coordinating committee.**

**Sponsor:** Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles

**Co-Sponsors:** Carrell, Darneille, Padden, Kline, Hargrove, Fraser, Chase, Keiser, Conway, Cleveland, Tom

**Summary:** SB 5308 will establish a committee to work on this issue.

**Status:** The bill passed the Senate 49 to 0. The bill was heard in the House Public Safety Committee on March 12<sup>th</sup> and is scheduled for a committee vote next week.

**SB 5563: Regarding training for school employees in the prevention of sexual abuse.**

**Sponsor:** Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles

**Co-Sponsors:** Litzow, Rolfes, Keiser, McAuliffe, Kline

**Summary:** SB 5563 requires the office of the superintendent of public instruction to develop and implement a training program for school employees regarding prevention of sexual abuse, commercial sexual abuse of a minor and sexual exploitation of a minor.

**Status:** SB 5563 passed out of the chamber in a 49-0 vote. The bill passed out of the House Education Committee on March 26<sup>th</sup> and is now in Rules.

**HB 1291: Concerning Services for Victims of the Sex Trade.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Tina Orwall

**Co-Sponsors:** Kochmar, Hope, Parker, Goodman, Jinkins, Uptegrove, Ryu, Stanford, Roberts, Hurst, Morrell, Tarleton, Wylie, Bergquist, Ormsby

**Summary:** HB 1291 directs current offender fees towards services for victims.

**Status:** HB 1291 passed the House 97 to 0, with 1 excused. The bill was heard in the Senate Law & Justice Committee on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **City Fiscal Health**

**HB 1368:** Concerning the distribution of state liquor revenues to cities and counties.

**Sponsor:** Representative Steve Tharinger

**Co-Sponsors:** Springer, Orcutt, Ryu, Fey, Zeiger, Moscoso, Kochmar, Magendanz, Hayes, Sells, Hargrove, Morrell, Freeman

**Summary:** HB 1368 would restore the growth in liquor revenues to cities and counties.

**Status:** This bill is currently in the House Appropriations Committee. This bill could be considered necessary to implement the budget.

**Companion Bill:** [SB 5703](#)

**Sponsor:** Senator Steve Hobbs

**Status:** SB 5703 has been referred to Senate Ways & Means. This issue could be considered necessary to implement the budget.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

### **Local Revenue Authority**

**SB 5688:** Simplifying definitions and classifications concerning state and local tax systems.

**Sponsor:** Senator John Braun

**Co-Sponsors:** Carrell, Dammeier, Rivers, Sheldon, Hobbs

**Summary:** SB 5688 was amended on the Senate floor and turned into a study bill. It would have representatives from cities, the business community and DOR meet through the interim to discuss and make recommendations regarding state and local B&O tax uniformity, business classifications, apportionment, and nexus. DOR would submit a report detailing recommendations in December.

**Status:** SB 5688 was voted out of the Senate in a 35-14 vote. The bill has been referred to the House Finance Committee.

**City Position:** Seattle opposes this legislation.

**SB 5656:** Revising Business Licensing Systems.

**Sponsor:** Senator John Braun

**Co-Sponsors:** Carrell, Rivers, Sheldon, Hobbs, Fain

**Summary:** SB 5656 was amended on the Senate floor to require cities to join either the state's business licensing system or the five-cities-portal system then was subsequently amended in the House Local Government Committee. The new version delays the deadline for when cities must join either system and to provide cities and DOR with off-ramps from the requirements.

**Status:** SB 5656 passed the Senate in a 33-16 vote. The bill passed the out of the House Local Government Committee and is now scheduled for a hearing in Appropriations.

**City Position:** Seattle opposes this legislation.

### **Other Issues of Significant Interest**

#### **Disabled Parking Placards**

**HB 1946:** Concerning Special Parking Privileges for Persons with Disabilities.

**Sponsor:** Representative Sam Hunt

**Co-Sponsor:** Reykdal

**Summary:** HB 1946 would help reduce disabled parking placard abuse by improving enforcement of illegal use of placards and by establishing a work group that will develop recommendations for other ways to curtail abuse.

**Status:** HB 1946 passed the House 98-0. The bill was voted out of the Senate Transportation Committee on March 21<sup>st</sup> and is now in Rules.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

#### Towing

**[HB 1625](#): Concerning limitations on certain tow truck operator rates.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Gerry Pollet

**Co-Sponsors:** Clibborn, Kagi, Pedersen, Hunt, Ricelli, Appleton, Hudgins, Moscoso, Fitzgibbon, Morrell, Sells, Bergquist

**Summary:** The bill would establish statewide maximum rates on private impound tows. The bill was amended on the floor to clarify that Seattle would retain the ability to set rates and related charges should the City prevail in pending litigation.

**Status:** HB 1625 passed the House 91-7. The bill passed out of the Senate Transportation Committee on March 27<sup>th</sup> and is now in Rules.

**Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

#### Energy Efficiency

**[HB 1017](#): Creating new efficiency standards.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Jeff Morris

**Co-Sponsors:** Fitzgibbon, Fey, Liias, McCoy, Hudgins, Farrell, Morrell, Ormsby, Upthegrove, Pollet

**Summary:** HB 1017 establishes minimum energy efficiency standards for battery charger systems, quartz halogen lamps, and minimum water conservation performance standards for faucets.

**Status:** HB 1017 was voted out of the House in a 59-38 vote, with 1 excused. The bill is scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Energy, Environment, and Telecommunications Committee on April 2nd.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

**[SB 5438](#): Using conservation achieved by a qualifying utility in excess of its biennial acquisition target under the energy independence act.**

**Sponsor:** Senator Doug Eriksen

**Co-Sponsor:** Senator Maralyn Chase

**Summary:** SB 5438 revises the energy independence act to allow conservation achieved by a qualifying utility in excess of its biennial acquisition target to be used to meet its subsequent biennial target. Seattle City Light's Director of Conservation Resources Division, Glenn Atwood testified in support of the legislation.

**Status:** SB 5438 passed out of the Senate in a 31-18 vote. The bill was heard in the House Environment Committee on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**[E2SSB 5802](#): Developing recommendations to achieve the state's greenhouse gas emissions targets.**

**Sponsor:** Senator Kevin Ranker

**Co-Sponsors:** Litzow, Frock, Cleveland, Billig, Kohl-Welles, Murray, McAuliffe

**Summary:** This legislation was requested by Governor Inslee, and it creates the Climate Legislative and Executive Work Group and commissions a report to evaluate approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**Status:** 5802 has passed out of the House and Senate Chambers with the Speaker and President signing off, respectively. The bill was delivered to the Governor on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### Product Stewardship

**[HB 1364](#): Adopting the Washington Small Rechargeable Battery Stewardship Act.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Steve Tharinger

**Co-Sponsors:** Zeiger, Moscoso, Crouse, Liias, McCoy, Fitzgibbon, Upthegrove, Maxwell, Morrell, Pollet, Fey

**Summary:** HB 1364 would help standardize, facilitate and reduce barriers to battery stewardship programs and hold all battery suppliers to the same stewardship obligations.

**Status:** HB 1364 was passed out of the House in a 57-40 vote, with 1 excused. The bill was heard in the Senate Energy, Environment, and Telecommunications Committee on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**[SB 5658](#): Concerning mercury-containing lights.**

**Sponsor:** Senator Doug Eriksen

**Co-Sponsors:** McAuliffe, Hobbs

**Summary:** SB 5658 repeals the product stewardship program and the product stewardship programs account. Requires producers of mercury-containing lights sold in this state to pay a registration fee and an administration fee to the department of ecology for reimbursement of documented costs for recycling and transportation of unwanted product from covered entities and for administration and enforcement costs.

**Status:** SB 5658 passed out of the Senate in a 26-23 vote. The bill was heard in the House Environment Committee on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

**City Position:** Seattle **opposes** this legislation.

Reducing Toxins

**[HB 1294](#): Concerning Flame Retardants.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Kevin Van de Wege

**Status:** HB 1294 passed out of the House in a 53-44 vote, with 1 excused. HB 1294 was heard in the Senate Energy, Environment, and Telecommunication Committee on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Summary:** This bill will ban the manufacture, sale, and distribution of children's products with high levels of TDCPP or TCEP flame retardant chemicals.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

Sick Leave

**[SB 5726](#): Placing geographic limitations on local paid sick leave and paid safe leave programs.**

**Sponsor:** Senator John Braun

**Co-Sponsors:** Tom, Bailey, Schoesler, Padden, Benton

**Summary:** SB 5726 would place limits on Seattle's current law.

**Status:** SB 5726 passed out of the Senate in a 29-20 vote, with some amendments. SB 5726 is now in the House where it has been assigned to the Labor and Workforce Development Committee.

**City Position:** Seattle **opposes** this legislation.

Public Works Contracting

**[HB 1466](#): Revising Alternative Public Works Contracting Procedures.**

**Sponsor:** Representative Kathy Haigh

**Co-Sponsors:** Warnick, Dunshee, Fey, Kristiansen, Reykdal

**Summary:** HB 1466 reauthorizes the alternative public works contracts and makes other changes recommended by the Capital Projects Advisory Review Board (CPARB).

**Status:** HB 1466 passed the House unanimously, with 3 excused. The bill passed out of the Senate Governmental Operations Committee on March 26<sup>th</sup> and has been referred to Ways & Means.

**Companion Bill:** **[SB 5349](#)**

**Sponsor:** Senator Bruce Dammeier

**Status:** SB 5349 passed out of the Senate in a 49-0 vote. The bill was heard in the House Capital Budget Committee on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Infrastructure

**[SB 5378](#): Creating a six-year time frame for substantial building code amendments.**

**Sponsors:** Benton, Schoesler, Bailey, Carrell, Becker, Holmquist Newbry, Sheldon, Erickson, Dammeier

**Summary:** 5378 extends the time requirements so that substantial revisions to the building codes occur every six years instead of every 3 years.



**Status:** SB 5378 passed out of the Senate in a 33-14 vote. The bill had a public hearing in the House Local Government Committee on March 19<sup>th</sup>, where a member of Seattle’s Department of Planning and Development spoke.

**City Position:** Seattle opposes this legislation.

#### Extended Foster Care Services

##### **[SB 5405](#): Concerning Extended Foster Care Services.**

**Sponsor:** Senator Ed Murray

**Co-Sponsors:** Tom, Kohl-Welles, Darneille, Hobbs, Harper, Frockt

**Summary:** SB 5405 helps young people aging out of the foster care system who still face numerous and serious challenges by allowing them to choose to extend foster care services until they are 21 years old.

**Status:** SB 5405 passed out of the chamber unanimously with 1 excused. The bill was heard in the House Early Learning & Human Services Committee on March 26<sup>th</sup> and has been scheduled for a committee vote on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Companion Bill:** **[HB 1302](#)**

**Sponsor:** Representative Mary Helen Roberts

**Status:** HB 1302 passed the House 91 to 6, with 1 excused. HB 1302 was heard in the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

#### Tenant Screening

##### **[SB 5568](#): Concerning the disclosure of certain information when screening tenants.**

**Sponsor:** Senator Steve Hobbs

**Co-Sponsors:** Kohl-Welles, Billig, Frockt, Chase, Harper, Hasegawa, Keiser, Shin, Kline, Nelson

**Summary:** This bill continues work that has been done previously on tenant screening to ensure that screening service providers may not disclose an applicant's status as a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking as part of the screening process.

**Status:** SB 5568 passed the Senate 46 to 3. The bill had a hearing on March 20<sup>th</sup> in the House Judiciary Committee and is scheduled for a vote on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**City Position:** Seattle supports this legislation.

#### **Looking Ahead**

Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> is the cutoff for bills to be voted out of the policy committees of the opposite house. The Senate Majority Coalition is expected to release their budget proposal next week. The House Transportation Committee is working on a proposed new revenue package, and details may begin to emerge soon. The Senate Trade and Economic Development Committee is holding a work session on local B&O taxes, particularly focused on nexus and apportionment issues. Seattle is participating along with other cities.